

Minutes of the Senior/Community Facilities Building Committee Special Meeting of July 23, 2025, 7pm

Town Hall Council Chambers

Present: Lori Hayes-O'Brien, Chair; Dawn Cantafio, Co-Chair; Dean Fabrizio; Dave Gallo; Ron Foligno; Richard Croll; Mike Buswell; Matt Sather

Absent: Kelly Mallozzi; Christine El Eris; Tony Silber

Also present: Vicki Tesoro, First Selectman; Daniel Schopick, Town of Trumbull Attorney; Cindy Katske, Chief Administrative Officer; Kathy McGannon, Chief Administrative Officer; Phil Meagher, IT Technician; Joanne Glasser Orenstein, Clerk

Residents: Robert Abercrombie, 10 Pleasant Street

The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by Lori Hayes-O'Brien and Roll Call completed.

A moment of silence for a Trumbull Family who suffered an unimaginable loss was observed and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment: Robert Abercrombie thanked everyone for getting the project to referendum. Public Comment was closed at 7:03pm.

A motion to approve the minutes of June 25 was made by Dave Galla, seconded by Ron Foligno. Richard Croll noted the total of the invoice to QA&M Architects was \$102,033.99. VOTE: All approved the minutes as corrected.

Referendum Discussion: Ms. Hayes O'Brien is grateful and excited about the referendum.

Mr. Schopick was called up and explained the referendum process. It will be a yes or no question on the November ballot, to spend \$27,215,000 for construction of a Senior/Community Center. Prior to the election, Town Council will prepare a Statement explaining what the referendum is, and that will be available to all voters, posted at voting places and on absentee ballots.

There is an opportunity for informational community meetings, but the Committee cannot advocate for the Center, nor can any department of Town, or any group financed by Town funds. Individuals and candidates may advocate for it; it can be in campaign literature. There is some gray area of what are Town funds. The Town can post on the website that Town Council has approved it for referendum but cannot endorse voting for it.

There will be opportunity for a Public Meeting, with the architects, with Ms. Hayes-O'Brien, with pictures. And it can be arranged to have the committee at other community meetings, but only for information, not advocacy.

The Town Clerk has until September 19 to get the explanatory text to the Secretary of State.

Pictures and renderings are part of the public record and can therefore be posted.

The Committee only need to schedule a meeting if an agenda item comes up. The architects will probably add more detail to their drawings, but will make no design changes.

The next item is where and when to hold the informational meeting — ideally in one of the schools in September.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Cantafio, seconded by Mr. Galla; VOTE:
All in favor at 7:23pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Glasser Orenstein, Clerk
July 27, 2025