

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN – PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 17, 2016  
“Subject to Approval”**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

**Sean Askham**, Chairman called the Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Subcommittee to order at 7:03 a.m. on Thursday, March 17, 2016 in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices located at 933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT. The following members were also present: **Chief James Baldis**, Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department, **Michael Berry**, Emergency Management, **Lucy Bowman**, Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association, **Thomas Cooke**, Director of Administrative Services, **Michael Delehanty**, Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association, **Christopher Kelly**, Board of Selectmen, **Kevin Kowalski**, Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department, **Burke LaClair**, Board of Education, Business Manager, **Mickey Lecours-Beck**, Director, Town of Simsbury Social Services, **Thomas Roy**, Director of Public Works, **Fred Sifodaskalakis**, Lieutenant, Simsbury Police Department, **Gary Wilcox**, President, Simsbury Fire District and **Kevin Witkos**, CL&P and State Senator. Also in attendance were Jennifer Kertanis and Melissa Marquis, Farmington Valley Health District, Nancy Scheetz, Visiting Nursing Association and Leslie Brigham, Clerk.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

**PUBLIC AUDIENCE**

No one spoke at Public Audience.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a) Approve Minutes from Regular Meeting on January 21, 2016

Minutes were approved as submitted.

**2. UPDATES AND REPORTS**

- **Ambulance** – Mr. Delehanty noted that their third ambulance is on-line and in service.
- **Board of Education** –Mr. LaClair thanked the Fire Marshall’s office and Health District for their support on the roof project. He also noted that Mr. Sullivan, Human Resources Director, is involved with the planning for the Town wide exercises.

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- **Civil Preparedness** –Mr. Kowalski noted the Town wide exercise that will be done at the end of this meeting. He also stated that that WFIM will be playing Irish tunes all day at 103.5 FM.
- **Fire** – Chief Baldis discussed The Hartford building, which is in the process of being torn down. He noted that, before it is torn down, the new owners have given them the building to train inside the building. Chief Baldis stated that they will be doing search and rescue for large areas and forcible entry work. They will be there for the next two months.

Chief Baldis discussed the cut backs proposed by the state and noted that a Grant funding to help at the Fire Schools in the Hartford County is proposed to be cut to \$0. These cuts would put additional financial pressure back to the Fire District. Chief Baldis noted that that cost could go from \$850 up to \$1,500 per student.

- **Farmington Valley Health District** –Jennifer Kertanis noted that they are keeping an eye on the Zika virus and discussed what is being done, which including trapping. She stated that the regional exercise for infectious disease of significant concern will be held on April 11, 2016. Most of the activity will be taking place in West Hartford and Bloomfield.
- **Police** – Lieutenant Sifodaskalakis was pleased to announce that, after a considerable time, they are fully staffed. Mr. Askham noted that body cameras for officers were approved by the Board of Selectmen last night.
- **Social Services** – Ms. Lecours-Beck discussed the Tall Cop presentation that was held on Monday night, which discussed alcohol and drugs to students and parents. She noted that on March 29<sup>th</sup>, there will be another presentation to the students and invited anyone to attend.

Ms. Lecours-Beck noted that there will be a community forum on heroin in Windsor on March 28<sup>th</sup>. She also wanted to thank Simsbury Fire Department and Chief of Police for donating their washer and dryer to a local family that was in need.

- **Public Works** – Mr. Roy discussed an area of erosion in the Hazel Meadow area and that they are keeping an on it every day. This area contains a critical pipeline and, if necessary, they can bypass the flow that is in this pipeline. The repairs are planned for the Spring when the water level is low, however, if conditions worsen, they will do an emergency repair sooner.

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- Other Updates –

Senator Witkos noted that the state is winding up public hearings and discussions will begin for passage of bills.

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Fire and Ambulance Tax Ordinance

Mr. Askham discussed the proposed Ordinance to defer taxes on resident volunteers once they hit a certain amount of years. He noted they are looking to amend this policy to make it more consistent with neighboring communities. He stated that there will be a public hearing to discuss this issue.

**4. EMERGENCY RESPONSE EXERCISE**

- a) Table top Review of Town Wide Exercise

Mr. Kowalski distributed and reviewed the Table Top Town Wide Exercise to all members. He instructed everyone to contact any of the team leaders if they had any questions on this exercise.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Cooke made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. LaClair seconded the motion and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Brigham