

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN – PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 15, 2016
“Subject to Approval”**

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CALL TO ORDER

Sean Askham called the Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Subcommittee to order at 7:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 15, 2016 in the Board of Education conference room located at 933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT. The following members were also present: **James Baldis**, Chief, Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department, **Lucy Bowman**, Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association, **Michael Delehanty**, Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association, **Christopher Kelly**, Board of Education, **Kevin Kowalski**, Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department, **Burke LaClair**, Business Manager, Board of Education, **Mickey Lecours-Beck**, Director, Town of Simsbury Social Services, **Thomas Roy**, Director of Public Works, **Nicholas Boulter**, Captain, Simsbury Police Department and **Gary Wilcox**, President, Simsbury Fire District. Also in attendance were Ed LaMontagne, Executive Director, Simsbury Housing Authority, Melissa Marquis, Farmington Valley Health District, Tony Uanino, Chamber of Commerce, Kevin Witkos, State Senator and Eversource 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 July 21, 2016

Thomas Cooke made a motion to approve the minutes for the Public Safety Sub-committee on July 21, 2016. Mickey Lecours Beck seconded the motion. The motion passed.

2. INTRODUCTION OF SIMSBURY LIONS CLUB –

- Sylvia Jennings

Ms. Jennings was unable to attend this meeting.

3. UPDATES AND REPORTS

- **Ambulance** – Mr. Delehanty discussed a meeting with Sean Askham and Lisa Heavner where they discussed some challenges faced by the volunteer ambulance folks.
- **Board of Education** –Mr. LaClair noted that the annual opening of schools went well and there was positive feedback. He stated that inspections took place before school opened. He thanked the Police Department for their support on opening day.
- **Civil Preparedness** –Mr. Kowalski reported that they will continue to work with the private schools on emergency preparedness. He noted that they will be having an open house on October 9th and will again push awareness to visitors.
- **Fire** – Chief Baldis discussed the recent mountain rescue and all the first responders who assisted in the rescue. He stated that they are working on additional signage to help responders up the mountain.

Chief Baldis noted that the Simsbury Fly-In is on Sunday and they will be there in support of fire protection. He stated that this will also be a good opportunity to educate visitors on working detectors in their homes.

Gary Wilcox discussed the recent home fire caused by a fire in a barrel near the home. He noted that this home did not have detectors and a neighbor, who saw the flames, woke up the family.

- **Farmington Valley Health District** – Melissa Marquis noted that they are training new staff members after a few have left. She discussed some items these new members will be trained in.

Melissa also discussed the new outreach program for Veterans. She stated that this was a new Grant from the State to help identify and improve Veteran’s health. Ms. Marquis noted that the program will start in East Granby due to the high population of Veterans.

Ms. Marquis also noted that they are also working with a therapy dog.

- **Police** – Captain Boulter noted that they are looking to fill an officer vacancy from an officer who retired after 20 years of service.

Captain Boulter also noted that they are having a micro-chip clinic from 10:00 to 2:00 at the Simsbury Public Library. He stated that the Simsbury Fly-In on Sunday will bring in a lot of traffic and it may get backed up.

- **Social Services** – Ms. Lecours-Beck thanked the Police Department for their assistance at the Senior Picnic. She stated that they had approximately 180 seniors at the event.

Mickey stated that she has been appointed as the Veterans Advocate for Simsbury.

- **Public Works** – Mr. Roy discussed the issue with downed trees and the response time to remove these trees. He noted that the Town will be able to respond to these trees in time of need.

Mr. Roy stated that when a traffic light is out, Public Works will place stop signs at these intersections until the light can be repaired.

Mr. Roy was happy to report that his staff has been trained in CPR. He also noted that the Town will be purchasing the street lights in Town. He would like to see that any lights broken, are fixed before they are purchased.

- **Other Updates** – Ed LaMontagne discussed the small city Grant awarded to the Housing Authority for \$800,000. He distributed and discussed the Roadway Sidewalk Improvement Project Timeline Phase One and Phase Two to members.

4. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Lecours-Beck discussed the fire department responding to Eno Hall due to the overheating of the Kiln. She noted that it has been shut off until it can be inspected.

Members discussed how long before the Town was notified of the alarm.

Kevin Witkos discussed the funds decreasing to the Towns and stated he will keep the First Selectmen's office updated.

Kevin Kowalski stated that an additional 10% has been reduced from the fire training classes. He noted that in the last two years it has been reduced by 40%.

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5. EMERGENCY RESPONSE EXERCISE

No exercise was discussed at this meeting.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Mickey Lecours-Beck made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Cooke seconded the motion and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Brigham
Clerk