

From: Susan Mazurski January 24, 2011 4:14:26 PM  
Subject: Public Safety Sub-Committee Minutes 01/20/2011 DRAFT  
To: SimsburyCT\_SafetyMin  
Cc:

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE  
January 20, 2011

#### CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Sub-Committee for January 20, 2010 was called to order at 7:07 a.m. in the Main Meeting Room at the Simsbury Town Hall. The following members of the sub-committee were present: Peter Ingvertsen, Geoff Giddings, Kevin Kowalski, Mickey Lecours-Beck, Lucy Bowman, John Hampton (Chairman), Tom Cooke, Tom Roy and Burke LeClair.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

#### PUBLIC AUDIENCE

There were none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Review, discuss and possibly approve minutes from the Regular Meeting on November 18, 2010

Ms. Lecours-Beck made a motion to approve the November 18, 2010 minutes as written. Chief Ingvertsen seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

#### UPDATES AND REPORTS

Ambulance

There was no report.

Civil Preparedness

There was no report.

## Fire

Regarding calls about down wires, Mr. Kowalski stated that these calls have been extensive this year because of the weather and tree trimming. Once they respond to this type of call, they do an initial determination to make sure the area is safe. He stated that it is then up to the power company to fix the problem. This situation requires having two road blocks installed. He stated that he does not believe this is the best use of resources because it is very expensive. He would like to see if they can come up with a policy stating that barricades be brought out automatically when this type of situation arises. He also suggested the possibility of pre-staged barricades. Mr. Kowalski stated that the Fire Department would like to work with Public Works to make this happen. Mr. Roy stated that most Police Officers could make sure the barricades are done correctly. Mr. Roy stated that he would like some time to think about this issue but that a meeting should be set up to discuss this issue.

Mr. Roy stated that CL&P did a lot of tree trimming, although they do only around the power lines and not other wires. This creates problems with the branches that are left in place. Mr. Kowalski stated that CL&P needs permission from the homeowners; they trim only a minimum amount to protect their power lines and do not do landscape trimming.

Regarding fire hydrants, Mr. Kowalski stated that this problem occurs with snow storms. They now require a pickaxe because of the ice on the snow banks. He stated that information is currently on SCTV in order to make people aware of this problem. Also, people have called to see who is responsible for clearing the hydrants. Mr. Kowalski stated that the neighborhood is responsible; it is not the Fire Department's responsibility. He asked that if there are hydrants on Town property, that these be cleared.

Mr. Kowalski stated that a "No Parking" sign in front of Eno Memorial Hall near the hydrant would also be helpful. Ms. Lecours-Beck stated that if this no parking sign is placed near the hydrant, the seniors may think that there is no parking anywhere in that area. She suggested that the sign state, "No Parking From Here to Corner".

## Farmington Valley Health District

There was no report.

## Police

There was no report.

## Social Services

Ms. Lecours-Beck stated that on New Year's weekend, there was a fire in Town that involved a hoarder. Hoarding is a complicated issue. She stated that she would like to form a Hoarding Advisory Team. She would like to have representatives from the Police Department, Fire Department, Health Department and possibly the Building Department for this resource team. She would like to keep this team informal and confidential. This would be on a case by case basis because every case is unique. Ms. Lecours-Beck stated that she has also asked the Junior Women's Club to form a volunteer committee to come in and help talk to people who have these issues.

Mr. Kowalski stated that the Fire Department deals with scenarios of agitated hoarders because they are throwing things out because they are burning. He stated that they need to be careful; people have rights in their homes. He believes it is a good idea to educate people instead of enforcement only.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Overview of the Emergency Operations Plan – Kevin Kowalski

Mr. Kowalski distributed the release of the EOP, which was approved by the State. The State has indicated that their Commissioners accepted the plan and that the plan exceeded the requirements of the standard. He stated that this is the first electronic document. He stated that Mr. Giddings did a great job to make sure all of the issues were addressed based on the drill that was done.

Mr. Kowalski stated that if any changes need to be made to the plan to please inform him. The changes that will be made in the next several months regarding this document include a more extensive plan for the Board of Education as well as a better DPW Annex.

### Recap of Storms – 2010/2011 – Kevin Kowalski

Mr. Kowalski stated that the Fire Department has not had any issues except regarding down wires. They have also had calls regarding ice and snow on roofs, although they cannot do anything about that. They have been giving people contact information of contractors that may be able to help.

Mr. Kowalski stated that he has been sending out weather related information. The two sources that he uses are NOAA as well as the State DOC information.

Mr. Roy stated that he is concerned with flat roofs because of the snow and

ice. He stated that they need to make sure that drains are working properly. Mr. Kowalski stated that an advisory was sent out to the Chamber this week. He stated that there have been issues at Henry James and the high school in the past. He stated that icicles are also an issue that hang over the exits and entrances of buildings.

Regarding the budget, Mr. Roy stated that it is interesting when comparing the different types of storms. He stated that the 2 foot storm event costs less and the freezing rain event, although it was the same number of man hours. He stated that the use of materials makes the difference.

Mr. Roy stated that they are trying to keep the roads wide and the intersection site lines better, although they are running out of places to put the snow.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Lecours-Beck made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 a.m. Ms. Bowman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.