

**TOWN OF SIMSBURY - PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - MARCH 15, 2018  
“SUBJECT TO APPROVAL”**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

**Chris Peterson** called the Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Subcommittee to order at 7:04 A.M. in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices, 933 Hopmeadow Street. Present were: **James Baldis**, Chief, Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department; **Nicholas Boulter**, Interim Police Chief; **Lucy Bowman**, Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association; **Michael Delehanty**, Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association; **Chris Kelly**, Deputy First Selectman; **Kevin Kowalski**, Deputy Chief, Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department; **Burke LaClair**, Business Manager, Board of Education; **Thomas Roy**, Director, Public Works; and **Gary Wilcox**, President, Simsbury Fire District. Also in attendance were Jack Arsego, Community Relations Manager, Eversource; Michael Berry, Assistant Emergency Management Director, Simsbury Fire District; Maria Capriola, Town Manager; Jeff Cochran, Eversource Town Liaison/Legal; Mark Fangiullo, Emergency Preparedness Manager, Eversource; Kristen Formanek, Director of Community and Social Services; Ed LaMontagne, Executive Director, Housing Authority; Sarah Nielsen, Simsbury Main Street Partnership; Jamie Rabbit, Director of Planning and Development; Nancy Scheetz, Visiting Nurse Association; Kevin Witkos, CT State Senator; and Karen Haberlin, Commission Clerk.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC AUDIENCE**

No one spoke at Public Audience.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a) Approve Minutes from the Regular Meeting on November 16, 2017

The Minutes were approved as presented.

**2. UPDATES AND REPORTS**

**Ambulance** - Mr. Delehanty reported that during the recent winter storms, they were well prepared and were not called upon, thankfully. He updated the committee on Car 17, noting they are on track with about 260 calls per year.

**Board of Education** - Mr. LaClair referenced the shooting in Florida as being on people's minds. He noted they have recently done an updated, outside review of school security and have been looking at those recommendations and continue to work with the Police Department. He also noted a capital request in this year's budget for improvements to our buildings. Mr. Kowalski reported the Safety Committee is planning a large-scale exercise with over 100 participants which will include a development portion and a table-top exercise.

**Civil Preparedness** - Mr. Kowalski reported a new plan has been completed by Mr. Berry which will be submitted to Ms. Capriola and will transfer responsibilities from the First Selectman to the Town Manager.

- Discuss Eversource Response from March 3, 2018 Storm

Mr. Kowalski began the discussion by noting several items of concern regarding the Eversource response to the March 3 storm, notably better cooperation and communication. He noted the response created a very difficult situation. Mr. Witkos gave an overview of the enormity of the three successive storms that were back-to-back and detailed the number of outages, as well as, Eversource's response. He noted he and Jeff Cochran act as Eversource liaisons for the Town of Simsbury. Mr. Witkos then introduced Jack Arsego, Community Relations Manager, Eversource, who noted they are always there from a communications standpoint. Mark Fangiullo, Emergency Preparedness Manager, Eversource, was introduced and spoke about the deployment of crews.

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Discussion ensued regarding how to improve crew coordination, communication and response. Also discussed was access to an outage management system. It was decided that Mr. Arsego and Mr. Fangiullo would come to a future meeting for further discussion.

**Farmington Valley Health District - No Report**

**Fire** - Chief Baldis thanked the Police and Public Works for their cooperation with the storm. He reported a serious fire that occurred at the Tan Wong Restaurant on March 14, adding there were no injuries.

**Police** - Mr. Boulter reported on the Narcan/Naloxone use for the year. In 2016 it was used seven times and in 2017 it was used eight times. So far for 2018, it has been used three times. He noted there will be a medication drop box in the lobby of the Police Department. He reminded people to lock their cars and close their car windows. He noted Community for Care did a presentation on March 14 on vaping which will be available for viewing on SCTV. Lastly, he thanked the Fire Department and the DPW for their efforts during the storms.

**Public Works** - Mr. Roy reported that coordination between Fire, Police and Ambulance during the recent storms went very well. He also noted there will be a hazardous waste collection in Farmington on April 21.

**Social Services** - Ms. Formanek reported there was good communication during the storms and they did not need to open a shelter. She also reported on the vaping presentation made on March 14 and provided a brief overview of the presentation. Further, she noted National Prevention Week is the week of May 13 and they are working with Community for Care on a series of efforts for that. Mr. Kowalski noted that the Congregational Church was asked to be available as an emergency shelter if needed.

**Other Updates** - Mr. LaMontagne reported the new generator will be installed at the Virginia Connelly Residence next week. He also noted a couple of additional outlets were added in the room used as a shelter.

Mr. Kowalski inquired about the status of the Verizon antenna being installed in the center of Town.

There was also discussion about the Fire Department testing AT&T for its First Net Program.

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

None

**4. EMERGENCY RESPONSE EXERCISE**

a) School Safety - discussed in **Board of Education** (above)

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Peterson adjourned the meeting at 8:58 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Haberlin  
Commission Clerk