

From: Susan Mazurski July 23, 2012 8:55:41 AM  
Subject: Public Safety Sub-Committee Minutes 05/17/2012 Approved  
To: SimsburyCT\_SafetyMin  
Cc:

PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE - ADOPTED MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING - MAY 17, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. John Hampton, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Public Safety Subcommittee to order on Thursday, May 17th, at 7:00 a.m., in the Main Meeting Room at the Town Offices. The following members were also present: Chief Ingvertsen, Simsbury Police Department, Kevin Kowalski, Fire Marshall, Lucille G. Bowman, SVAA, Mickey Lecours-Beck, Social Services, Tom Cooke, Director of Administrative Services, Tom Roy, Director of Public Works, Chief James Baldis, Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department, William Ketchabaw, SVFD, Michael Delehanty, Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association, Burke LaClair, Board of Education and Sean Askham, Board of Selectmen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

There was no public audience.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 15, 2012 (REGULAR MEETING)

Ms. Lecours-Beck made a motion to approve the March 15, 2012 Regular Meeting minutes, with changes presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roy and was passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF SECOND STATUS REPORT ON GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS INITIATIVE

Mr. Kowalski updated the subcommittee by saying the Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative has been passed through the House and the Senate. He stated that a key item that came out of this is to make utility companies more responsible financially in terms of power outages. Mr. Kowalski did say that the item this subcommittee is concerned with, that was not addressed, is the issue regarding bedridden folks in need of assisted care during an emergency situation. He said that issue is still being reviewed. When asked about any wide-scale emergency drill, Mr. Kowalski said there will be a State-wide hurricane drill conducted on the

last weekend in July. Mr. Kowalski spoke on potential duration of the testing. Mr. Cooke commented that the necessary responses to these emergencies are so situation specific that it could be wasteful to conduct testing for an extended period of time.

#### REPORTS

Kevin Kowalski, Fire Marshall - Mr. Kowalski spoke about the Connecticut Emergency Management Symposium and some things that were picked up at the symposium that will be incorporated into our Emergency Operations Plan. He asked everyone to re-evaluate their current plan, note any changes they would like to make and then pass their comments along to him. Mr. Kowalski announced the Fire Department was awarded their reimbursement for Irene and Albert (totaling approximately \$79,000). Those funds, Mr. Kowalski noted, will be put towards Emergency Operation items, pursuant to the passed resolution. Part of that includes the potential for an AM or FM radio system, which is challenging due to Simsbury's geographic make-up. This topic was discussed further by the subcommittee members.

Chief James Baldis, Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department - Chief Baldis mentioned the new Fire District approved mill rate of 1.03Mills, representing a 1% increase, which allows for continued funding in important areas. Chief Baldis noted that all of the Fire Department annual reports are on the web, available to the public. He mentioned the increase in call-outs for the year (40% increase), which he noted was mostly weather related. Chief Baldis reported the unfortunate news of the passing of Fred Cosgrove, a longtime member of Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department.

Mickey Lecours-Beck, Social Services - Ms. Lecours-Beck spoke of the shelter training, held in April, saying the Red Cross put on very good training. She then mentioned changing some shelter registration information and working on a waiver enabling parents to leave kids at the shelter. Ms. Lecours-Beck said that the High School has provided a closet to keep some of their shelter items in, which is quite helpful. The topic of kids left unsupervised at the shelter was discussed by the subcommittee members. Lastly, Ms. Lecours-Beck mentioned the Senior Showcase at Eno Hall, which will be held on May 31st.

Chief Ingvertsen, Simsbury Police Department - Chief Ingvertsen announced a new officer candidate, who is scheduled to go to the Academy mid-July, as a replacement for Officer Saavedra. He also noted Officer John Durkin will be retiring by July 3rd, so they will be looking to find another replacement officer. The Regional Dispatching Report, Chief Ingvertsen said, is being finalized, but ultimately since Simsbury offers a unique scope of services, along with regionalizing would come a loss of certain services currently offered. In addition, Chief continued, there is no financial savings for Simsbury with Regional Dispatching. He spoke on this topic further,

describing some specific items covered in the Report. The process was discussed further in terms of what next steps will be taken. The problematic effects of Regional Dispatching, in the event of another big storm, were also discussed. Chief Ingvertsen stressed how important this topic is to Simsbury, especially in an emergency situation.

Chief Baldis made a motion to request the Board of Selectmen refer the item of Regional Dispatching to the Public Safety Subcommittee, prior to taking action on that item, in order to receive input from the subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ketchabaw and was passed unanimously.

Chief Ingvertsen said, due to the storm, they will be purchasing three (3) all-wheel drive vehicles, which should be in by July. He noted there is increased room in the vehicles as well as they will increase mobility during inclement weather and save time by skipping the process of putting on chains.

Tom Roy, Director of Public Works - Mr. Roy thanked the Fire Department for their support regarding the removal of trees along Owens Brook. Mr. Roy then said he has been working on Simsbury's FEMA application, ultimately, looking at getting approximately \$2.6-\$3MM reimbursed. Mr. Roy spoke of the high level of detail that has been requested and provided, which has placed a large burden on his staff. Mr. Roy reminded everyone that Simsbury's grant application is one of the largest in the State and therefore, will take longer than other Towns. Mr. Cooke commended Mr. Roy on his exceptional efforts on this task. The FEMA reimbursement process was discussed further by the subcommittee members.

Michael Delehanty, Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association - Mr. Delehanty told the subcommittee members they had received some reimbursement for water damage to their building from Irene, but that the reimbursement for Alfred is still in process. He also said the Annual Fund Drive Appeal was sent out this week. Mr. Delehanty sadly noted the passing of Mr. Joseph Bellino, a volunteer EMT in Simsbury for 20 years. It was discussed how Mr. Bellino was also a highly active member of the Simsbury Airport where he was the lead "Air Boss" for the Simsbury Fly-in for the last 15 years. The future of the Fly-In was discussed.

Burke LaClair, Board of Education - Mr. LaClair spoke about the emergency training sessions he had recently attended. Mr. Kowalski asked about the status on funding for the Tariffville generator. In response, Chief Ingvertsen said he believes Mr. Sawitzke, Town Engineer, has to complete an engineering study to ensure the generator will operate as needed. Mr. Kowalski asked if that could be pushed forward, as it is a real need for Tariffville.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kowalski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05AM. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bowman and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mr. John Hampton, Chairman  
Clerk

Leslie U. Faraci,