

From: Susan Mazurski September 21, 2012 11:49:51 AM  
Subject: Public Safety Sub-Committee Minutes 09/20/2012 DRAFT  
To: SimsburyCT\_SafetyMin  
Cc:

PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE - DRAFT MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING - SEPTEMBER 20, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. John Hampton, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Public Safety Subcommittee to order on Thursday, September 20, at 7:03 a.m., in the Main Meeting Room at the Town Offices. The following members were also present: Kevin Kowalski, Fire Marshall, Mickey Lecours-Beck, Social Services, Lucille G. Bowman, SVAA, Chief James Baldis, Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department, Tom Roy, Public Works, Michael Delehanty, Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association, Geoffrey A. Giddings, Civil Defense, William Ketchabaw, Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department, Sean Askham, Board of Selectmen, and Edward J. LaMontagne, Simsbury Housing Authority. Also in attendance was Jeff Cochran, CL&P.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

There was no public audience.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY 19, 2012 (REGULAR MEETING)

Ms. Lecours-Beck made a motion to approve the July 19, 2012 Regular Meeting minutes with a change presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bowman and was passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Michael Delehanty, Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association - Mr. Delehanty announced the delivery of a new ambulance. He then said the EMT Classes are beginning October 16th and are filling up quickly. Mr. Delehanty then introduce Karen Stewart, Paramedics, who spoke to the group about the HEARTSafe Community Program and getting Simsbury to participate. Ms. Stewart said they are making an effort to educate people on CPR and described the different elements of the program. Ms. Stewart said it is no cost to the town but they need the Town's approval to proceed in Simsbury. Ms. Stewart explained that documenting where all of the AEDs (Automated External Defibrillators) are located throughout town is a big part of the

program. The topic of public education regarding the AEDs was discussed. Mr. Hampton said he would give the head's up to the First Selectmen's office to let them know this would be coming in front of them for approval in the near future.

Mr. Kowalski made a motion to accept HEARTSafe as a program to be implemented in Simsbury. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bowman and was unanimously approved.

Kevin Kowalski, Civil Preparedness - Mr. Kowalski said the end of summer storm was not as severe as anticipated and there were approximately 100-200 power outages, mostly resulting from trees coming down. Mr. Kowalski spoke briefly about ongoing tree trimming efforts. He then updated the subcommittee on the low-power FM Radio system, saying it is something they are still working on and it is an ongoing item. Mr. Kowalski then mentioned they should invite the new Executive Director of the FVHD to participate in the Public Safety Subcommittee meetings.

Chief James Baldis, Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department - Chief Baldis reported that they took delivery of a 6-wheel off-road vehicle designed for off-road rescue purposes and he spoke about the features the vehicle.

Mr. Kowalski said there is a Simsbury Volunteer Fire Company Open House scheduled for October 7th, (11:00AM-2:00PM at the Main Station Fire House) which will feature information on fire prevention and emergency management preparation. He said "Readiness at Home" will be the theme of the emergency management portion.

Mr. Kowalski then spoke about a workforce solution program from CT Fire Chiefs (statewide recruitment program for volunteer firefighters) and gave some details of the campaign. Mr. Kowalski spoke about the methods of targeting potential volunteers in order to recruit in a more efficient manner. Mr. Hampton asked if our numbers are down and Mr. Kowalski said, no, but we want to recruit when the numbers are good in order to keep numbers up. Mr. Kowalski spoke further about the specifics of the recruiting methods that will be used.

Mickey Lecours-Beck, Social Services - Ms. Lecours-Beck spoke about the distribution of the Emergency Information magnets. She said as a result of what was learned after the October 2011 storm, they have developed new forms for shelter registration and waivers for people who leave their children at a shelter (children must be 16 and over). Ms. Lecours-Beck then spoke of the supplies she has purchased for the shelter that will be held at a closet at the High School. She then referenced of the neighbor-to-neighbor program that will help with reaching seniors during any kind of emergency situation.

Ed LaMontagne, Simsbury Housing Authority - Mr. LaMontagne addressed the committee saying they are updating their emergency notification system at Murphy House. Mr. Kowalski said they would like to encourage management to look at grants for sprinkler systems, as it would help tremendously at that location. Mr. Kowalski also spoke about temperature controlled heat-tops that will not start a fire. He said they are not very expensive and can be swapped out with a regular stove.

Jeff Cochran, CL&P - Mr. Cochran said he had no official news, but commented that they were fortunate with the most recent storm, which had a lot less outages than were expected. He echoed Mr. Kowalski's previous comments regarding the trees, saying they are the cause of a majority of the outages.

Tom Roy, Director of Public Works - Mr. Roy spoke about the tree work they are currently doing, saying there are still a lot of limbs/hangers and small trees that are not coming back upright after last year's storm. Mr. Kowalski asked about canopy heights and Mr. Roy said they are cutting the canopies as high as they can, but this is really a 5 or 6-year program to get where they want to be. Mr. Roy spoke about their priority list they are working off of and also mentioned they are being as aggressive as they can with the road-side mowing as a prevention measure. Mr. Roy spoke about the fact that the Town cannot go onto residents' private property in order to remove trees. Mr. Roy said he attended a meeting regarding a DEEP microgrid grant and described the purpose of the grant and where in Town it could be applicable.

There was a discussion regarding citizens who loose power and do not have a cell phone or other means of communication during an emergency situation. Mr. Hampton then suggested another community debrief in the future in order to address this issue and also said it could be a topic of discussion at the upcoming Open House. Mr. Kowalski said when people transfer to CPU systems, their fire alarms will not send an automatic notice to the department and they need to check with their alarm company to let them know they changed phone systems so they can make the necessary adjustment. Chief Baldis suggested sending out a notice on this topic to those with registered alarms in town.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Simsbury Fly-In- Chief Baldis reminded everyone that Simsbury Fly-In is coming up (Sunday, Sept 23) and spoke about the road patterns that will be in place, similar to past years. He said the Fire Department will have an incident commander on scene, an engine and support crew.

Simsbury Celebrates! - Chief Baldis spoke about the concern of public

safety during the parade event and said they have a representative working with Simsbury Celebrates! folks in order to educate the public about parade etiquette.

GOODEX 2012 - Mr. Kowalski said they are taking part of GOODEX on October 25th which takes place every five (5) years. The subcommittee members spoke about notification of a dam break and potential consequences to Simsbury.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kowalski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:14AM. The motion was seconded by Chief Baldis and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mr. John Hampton, Chairman  
Clerk

Leslie U. Faraci,