

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN – PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 17, 2015
“Subject to Approval”**

Page | 1

CALL TO ORDER

Christopher Kelly, Chairman, called the Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Subcommittee to order at 7:00a.m. on Thursday, September 17, 2015 in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices located at 933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT. The following members were also present: **Sean Askham**, Board of Selectmen, **Chief James Baldis**, Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department, **Nicholas Boulter**, Captain, Simsbury Police Department, **Thomas Cooke**, Director of Administrative Services, **Michael Delehanty**, Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association, **Kevin Kowalski**, Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department, **Burke LaClair**, Board of Education, Business Manager, **Mickey Lecours-Beck**, Director, Town of Simsbury Social Services, **Jeff Cochran**, Eversource Town Liaison, **Sarah Nielson**, Main Street Partnership, **Thomas Roy**, Director of Public Works and **Gary Wilcox**, President, Simsbury Fire District. Also in attendance were Melisa Marquis, Farmington Valley Health District, Michael Long, Chairman, Police Commission, Nancy Scheetz, Visiting Nursing Association 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 16, 2015

Changes to the July 16, 2015 minutes are:

Call to Order: Chief James Baldis was not in attendance at this meeting. Gary Wilcox, President, Simsbury Fire District should be listed in attendees.

Mark Massaro, Eversource should be changed to Jeff Cochran for attendees.

Page 2 under Fire should be changed from Chief Baldis to Gary Wilcox.

Page 3 first paragraph should be changed from Chief Baldis to Gary Wilcox.

Ms. Lecours-Beck made a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting on July 16, 2015. Chief Baldis seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed. Mr. Askham abstained.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN – PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 17, 2015
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Page | 2

2. UPDATES AND REPORTS

- **Ambulance** – Mr. Delehanty stated that the EMT class will start on Monday, October 5, 2015 and noted that additional information can be found on the SimsburyEMS.com website. He updated members on the Car 17 program, which has not yet completed a full year.
- **Board of Education** – Mr. LaClair updated members on the opening of school on August 26, 2015 and noted that they had a successful inspection with the Fire Marshall in all seven schools. He also noted that Henry James and Squadron Line have both opened with new main offices. Mr. LaClair noted that these two new main offices are now the main point of entry for visitors to these two schools. He also discussed the generator project at the high school.
- **Civil Preparedness** – Mr. Kowalski was pleased to report that they have successfully completed the application process and are now fully licensed to be a FM radio station. He distributed a copy of the logo to committee members for the radio station. Mr. Kowalski noted that they will be partnering with the Chamber, Main Street Partnership as well as SCTV. He discussed the training that will take place for the radio station programming. Mr. Kowalski noted that they hope to be up and running by the first week of October, which is also Fire Prevention week. He distributed a copy of their Mission Statement to Committee members.

Mr. Kowalski noted that all the information that is required by the State for the emergency management package from the BOE has been submitted and believes it has been accepted. He discussed the training session for the ICS program for all administrators that was recently held.

- **Fire** – Chief Baldis noted that there were three house fires since the last meeting. He stated that, due to the quick response by volunteers, it resulted in a significant reduction in the damage to these structures. Chief Baldis stated that there will be a high angle rescue drill on Saturday, September 19, 2015 on the mountain.

Chief Baldis noted that they will be covering the Simsbury Fly-In on Sunday, September 20, 2015. He reminded members that October 4th is National Memorial Firefighter Sunday and it is also the kick off of Fire Prevention week. Chief Baldis reminded members that their open house is also scheduled for October 4th from 11:00 to 2:00. Mr. Kowalski also thanked the Selectmen for passing the Ordinance for fire hydrant obstruction.

- **Farmington Valley Health District** – Melissa Marquis updated members on the emergency response plans and noted that there will be a state wide assessment coming up on November 3, 2015. She noted that they also supported the Septemberfest this past weekend which included water testing for residents.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN – PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 17, 2015
“Subject to Approval”

Page | 3

- **Police** –Captain Boulter noted that their newest graduate from the police academy, Justin Johnson start working last night. He discussed the State DOT speed grant that was for July and August and also noted that they have received an additional \$4,000 in equipment funding to purchase two more radar units.

Captain Boulter also stated that they are working with Social Services on a date for the distracted driving campaign. He noted that the Police did their second food drive with the police cadets to help replenish the pantry. Captain Boulter discussed the coordinated effort with the elementary schools to talk about bus and general safety for the students.

- **Social Services** – Ms. Lecours-Beck thanked the Chief and Police department for the Senior Picnic that was held last week and noted that it was a big success with 200 seniors attending. She also thanked the Police department for their second food drive as well as Simsbury Ambulance.

Ms. Lecours-Beck noted that they opened cooling centers five times for a total of sixteen days this summer. She reminded members that they are having their annual Veterans luncheon on October 1, 2015 as well as a Wellness Fair on September 24th from 9:30 to 11:30.

- **Public Works** – Mr. Roy noted that Tony Piazza from Pollution Controller attended a FEMA course on Disaster Management for water and waste water. He discussed the portable generator for the EOC and other Town building that will probably not be ready until late into the winter. Mr. Roy stated that half of the generator cost is being paid for by the Town and the other half by the Water Pollution facility.

Mr. Roy stated that construction has started on the new salt shed and should be operational by this winter. This new shed will be able to hold a year’s worth of salt.

- **Other Updates** –

Mr. Cooke noted that they received a memo of understanding from Eversource for staging vehicles along Iron Horse Boulevard during an emergency. This was approved by the Board of Selectman last night. Mr. Cooke also wanted to note that Mr. Roy was the individual who greatly assisted in the FM radio success with the contacts he knew to get it started.

Mr. Kowalski discussed the radio upgrades for a total replacement of their existing radio system for all the base stations in various locations in Town. He noted that the new technology will allow all the transmitters to be transmitting at the same time. Mr. Kowalski hoped to have this turned on within the next couple of weeks.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN – PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 17, 2015
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Page | 4

3. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kelly referenced and discussed the letter from Jean Rivard at CNG to Ms. Heavner regarding participation in the Public Awareness and Education Program.

Chief Baldis believes that it is important that Simsbury gets involved with this training due to more gas and pipelines being installed in Simsbury as well as the age of some of the equipment.

4. EMERGENCY RESPONSE EXERCISE

Mr. Kowalski discussed with members the training exercise that will be taking place on Dyno Nobel property on October 5, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. He distributed a map to members showing the location the exercise will be taking place on this property.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Lecours-Beck made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Wilcox seconded the motion and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Brigham