



# Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

## OPEN SPACE STEWARDSHIP AND POLICIES WORK GROUP

April 3, 2024

4:30 P.M.

Zoom

### REGULAR MEETING AGENDA – Amended

Call to Order

1. Approval of February 7, 2024 Minutes
2. Presentation of Simsbury High School Student Capstone Project
3. Discussion of Management/Restoration of Barndoor Triangle
4. Discussion of Town Communication Venues
5. Discussion of Open Space Committee Process on Identifying Potential Parcels for Acquisition
6. Discussion on Open Space Committee and POCD Tasks
7. Eagle Scout Projects on Preserved Public Land Guidelines
8. Other Business

Adjournment

## Open Space Stewardship & Policies Work Group

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

4:30 PM- Via Zoom

### SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

**PRESENT:** Margery Winters, Karyn Cordner, and Helen Peterson, Wendy Mackstutis

**ALSO PRESENT:** Tom Tyburski, Director of Culture, Parks and Recreation was also in attendance.

#### Call to Order

Ms. Winters called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

- 1. Discussion of Educational Programs** – Ms. Winters shared that she has been working with Simsbury Pollinator Pathways regarding a series of talks they will be hosting this spring (co-sponsored by Simsbury Land Trust and the Conservation Commission). She also hoped that Open Space would co-sponsor. The series will begin 3/12. The topics include pollinators, dark skies, invasives, beyond birdfeeders and one that is yet to be determined.
- 2. Discussion of Invasive Plant Removal Days**- Ms. Winters shared that Simsbury Land Trust is having a series of invasive plant removal days on their property. She inquired as to how to potentially set one up on Town property. Mr. Tyburski shared that ideally people would sign up for a brief training session. If herbicide is involved, assuming they wouldn't be working near any wetlands, he doesn't believe any permitting would be involved. Ms. Winters shared that Simsbury Land Trust is working on putting together a brochure regarding the 10 most problematic invasives species in Town (they are looking for grant money). Mr. Tyburski shared that an information session followed by a volunteer sign up would be ideal. Ms. Winters also shared that scouts are always looking for a conservation project. Ms. Peterson suggested sharing at the BOS public audience. Ms. Mackstutis shared she could also include in the First Selectmen's report.
- 3. Agricultural Policy and the Community Farm** -Ms. Mackstutis shared that the current contract is ending for the farm and they are looking for someone to come in there more long term. They are looking at a gentleman (from Flamig's compost business) coming in and having a farm manager there, they are working on putting together a proposal and have Open Space approve it before sending to BOS.
- 4. Proposed Developments and the Role of Open Space Committee** - Mr. Tyburski shared regarding the proposed developments at The Hartford old space. He commented that since it is not on open space, unless solicited as a whole, and asked to weigh in then it doesn't fall within the group's role to provide feedback. Although, everyone individually can feel free to attend meetings and public hearings, etc.
- 5. Budget Update** – Mr. Tyburski shared that he had a chance to discuss the three service improvements with the new Town Manager. As of that meeting, two of the three are being considered, the invasive and ecological evaluation and remediation plan and the

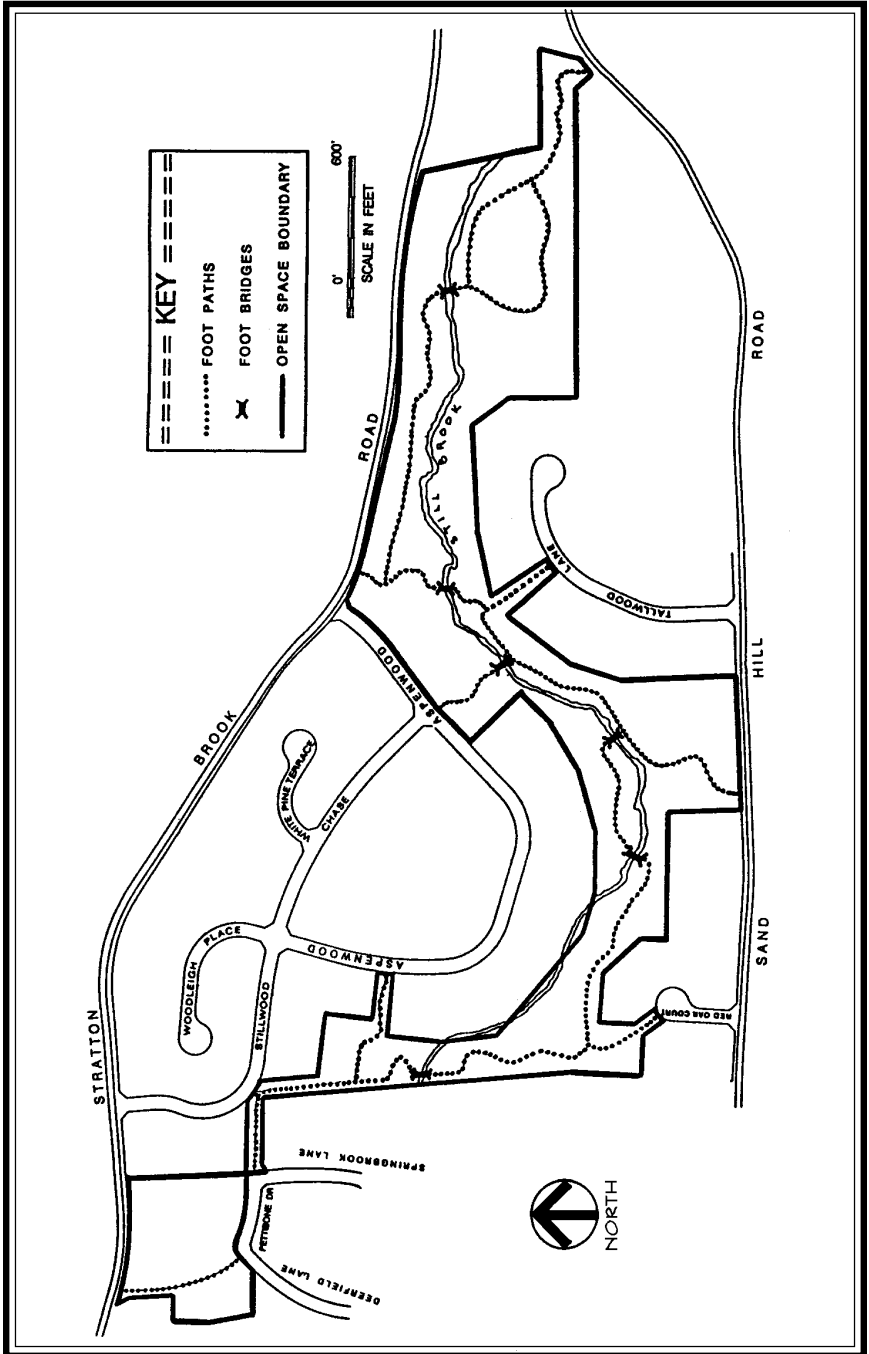
invasive plant and ecological booklet. He shared that one conflict is that the Land Trust also submitted a grant request for basically the same thing. The town manager will present his budget to the board of selectmen on February 26th.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Taylor  
Committee Clerk

# STILLBROOK OPEN SPACE

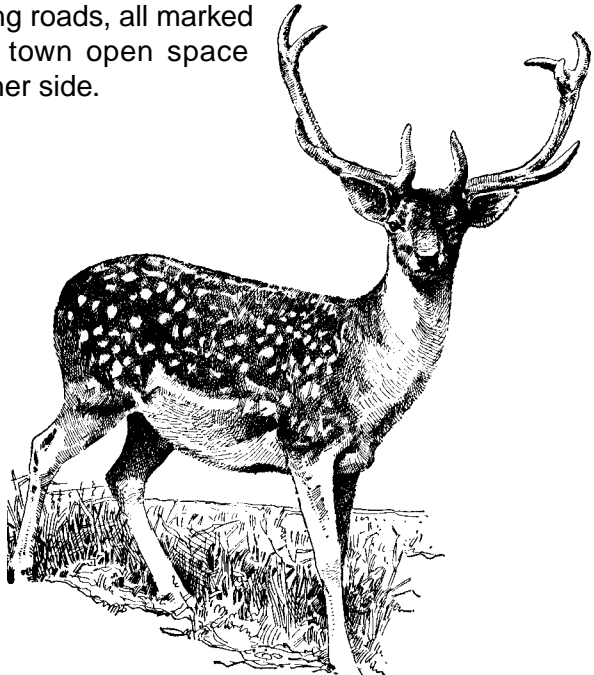


## STILLBROOK OPEN SPACE

The town-owned Still Brook Open Space consists of 47.5 acres of mixed coniferous and deciduous forest between Stratton Brook and Sand Hill Roads, and contains about 1.1 miles of a seasonal stream called Still Brook.

The 2.5 miles of trails provide a variety of walking experiences and surfaces. All of the trails as they leave the streets are paved for varying distances with stone dust or asphalt, then continue as unimproved trails. The open space is generally lower than the surrounding neighborhoods, with steeper paths on entering which level out as they parallel the brook. Despite their close proximity to the residential neighborhoods, the trails are refreshingly quiet and private. There are six wooden footbridges across Still Brook and three boardwalks where the trail traverses wet terrain. Bordering the brook visitors can see distinct belts of vegetation. The belt of skunk cabbage edges the stream with a belt of cinnamon fern above it. The wetland also contains a variety of tall grasses. This area is home to deer, raccoons, chipmunks, and grouse.

There are several access points from the surrounding roads, all marked with the standard town open space stone pillars on either side.





## Memo

**To:** Mr. Tom Tyburski  
**CC:** Simsbury Open Space Committee

**From:** Mr. Justin E. Xenelis – Manager of Utility Programs, Aquarion Water Company

**Date:** April 3, 2024

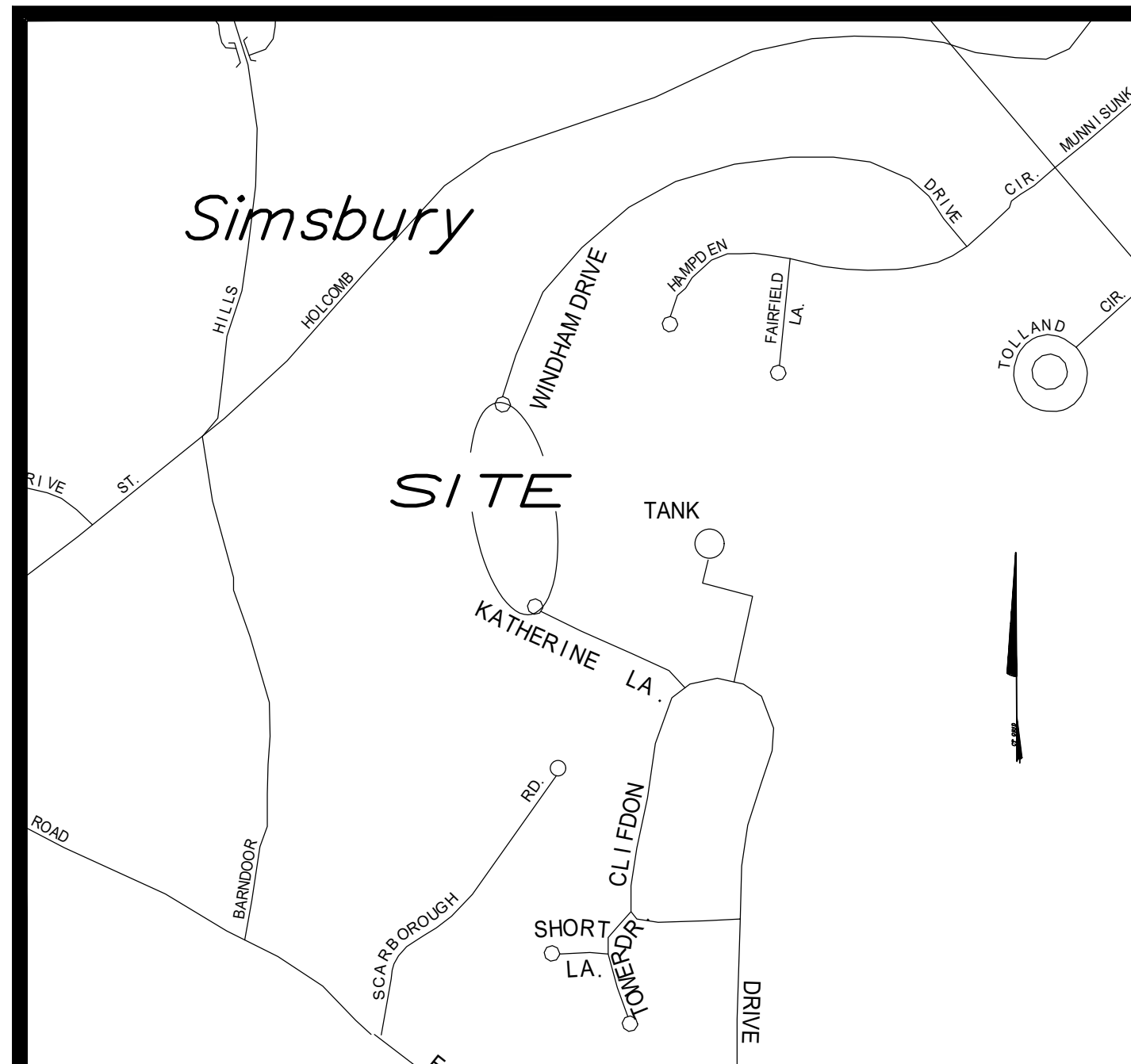
**Subject:** Katherine-Windham Easement

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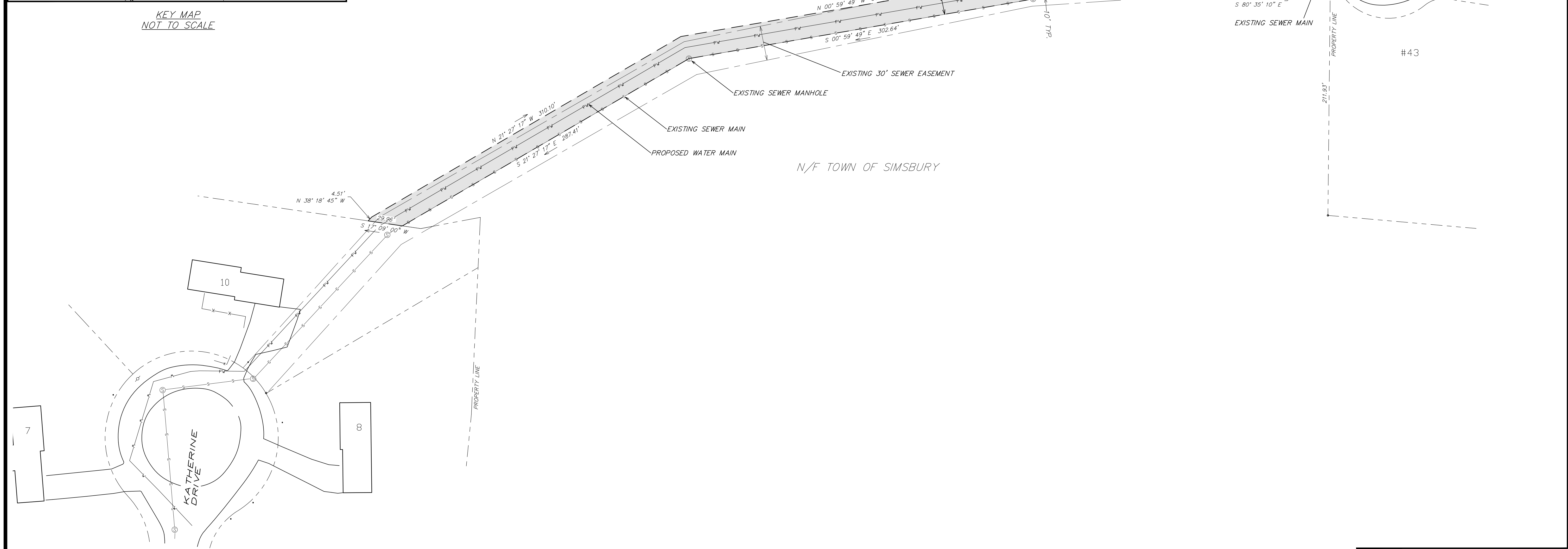
I am writing to detail the need for Aquarion's infrastructure (water main) to share the town's sewer easement between Katherine Lane and Windham Drive in Simsbury. As you may be aware we are building a new pump station facility on Aquarion's property located at 29 Clifdon Dr. Our intent is for this facility to replace multiple aging pumping facilities in the immediate area. In doing so we will also resolve ongoing system pressure issues, improve fire flows, and increase the dependability of the system for the Windham-Scarborough-Clifdon neighborhoods.

Over the past several years the underground infrastructure in the area has been upgraded and prepared for this, the culmination of years of effort. The underground infrastructure planned for this easement is the final piece which, when the new station goes online, will allow the community to experience the full effect of our efforts to improve water service and fire safety.

To execute this work our contractor will clear roughly 85 trees, grind and remove stumps, and install a water main through the easement. Once the main passes our QA/QC process the contractor will install loam and seed the area of disturbance. Our contractor has estimated 5 weeks to complete this work. Aquarion's senior leadership has approved funding to execute this project and the property owners at #10 Katherine Lane have agreed to grant Aquarion an easement through their property. Future maintenance for this infrastructure would include vegetation clearing like the town's current activities maintaining the sewer easement. No other routine maintenance is expected to be necessary.



KEY MAP  
NOT TO SCALE



PERMANENT 20' EASEMENT IN FAVOR OF  
AQUARION WATER COMPANY OF CONNECTICUT.  
TOTAL EASEMENT AREA: 0.398 ACRES  
OR 17,327 SQUARE FEET

I hereby certify that this map has been prepared pursuant to the regulations of Connecticut state agencies sections 20-300b-1 through 20-300b-29 and the "Standards for Surveys and Maps in the State of Connecticut" as adopted by the Connecticut Association of Land Surveyors, Inc. on September 26, 1996.

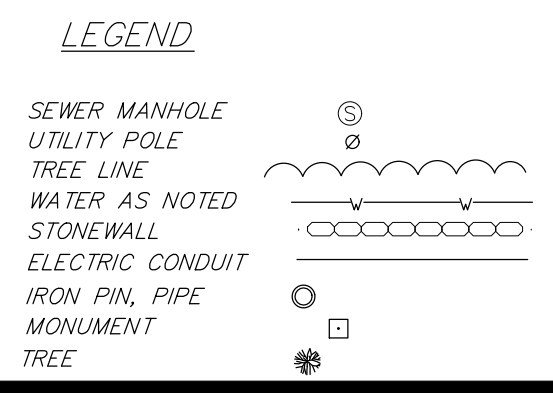
The type of survey performed is an easement survey and is intended to show a water main easement. Boundary determination/opinion is a first survey and is based upon locating physical evidence, map references and deed descriptions; and this survey conforms to Class A-2 accuracy standards.

To my knowledge and belief this map is substantially correct as noted herein.

William B. Hearn, L.S.  
for Sargis Associates, Inc.  
Cromwell, CT

No certification is expressed or implied on any original or duplicate of this plan unless it bears the original signature of William B. Hearn, L.S.

These drawings are the property of Sargis Associates, Inc. and have been specifically prepared for the use of the owner of this project or property; they are not to be duplicated or used in part or whole for any other purpose, project, location or owner without the express written consent of Sargis Associates, Inc.



- MAP NOTES:**
- 1) HORIZONTAL DATUM IS 1983 N.A.D.
  - 2) TOTAL AREA OF EASEMENT IS 17,327 SQ FT

- MAP REFERENCE**
1. "SECTION 'D' FINAL SUBDIVISION PLAN CLIFDON HEIGHTS PROPERTY OF CLIFDON ENTERPRISES, INC. KATHERINE LANE SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT SCALE 1"=100' SEPTEMBER 13, 1971 OFFICE OF HAROLD R. SANDERSON CE & LS SIMSBURY CONNECTICUT R-40 ZONE OPEN SPACE"
  2. "MONUMENTED PROPERTY SURVEY PREPARED FOR THE TOWN OF SIMSBURY LOT 2,3,4,5,6 DEPICTING EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEEP AND THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE HOLCOMB STREET, HOSKINS, BARNDOOR HILLS, FIRETOWN AND COUNTY ROADS SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 7-27-2021 1"=200' FA HESKETH"
  3. "FINAL SUBDIVISION PLAN OLD COUNTY ROAD AND HOLCOMB STREET SIMSBURY CONNECTICUT SCALE 1"=100' JANUARY 28 1975" SANDERSON AND WASHBURN SHEET 2 OF 4 ."



**AQUARION**  
Water Company

Stewards of the Environment™

Permanent 20' Easement in favor of Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut on Property of The Town of Simsbury Katherine Drive to Windham Lane Simsbury, Connecticut

Date: 3-7-2024 Scale: 1"=40'

**SARGIS ASSOCIATES, INC.** SURVEYING AND ENGINEERING  
25 COMMERCE DRIVE  
CROMWELL, CT 06419

SHEET 1 OF 1