

SIMSBURY FIRE DISTRICT
871 HOPMEADOW STREET • SIMSBURY • CONNECTICUT • 06070
Telephone: 860-658-1971 • Facsimile: 860-658-5611

APPROVED
SIMSBURY FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 12TH, 2024

President Gary Wilcox called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

The members' present were G. Wilcox, D. Coppinger, P. Pabich, J. Solury, G. Giddings, H. Caldwell, M. Paine, Chief J. Baldis.

1. A motion was made, seconded, and accepted that the minutes of the January 08th as distributed earlier by email. A copy of this report is on file.
2. Public Audience: None
3. Fire Marshal Report – P. Tourville: The report for the month of January 2024, as distributed by email, was accepted. A copy of the report is on file.
4. Fire Chief Report – Chief J. Baldis: The report for the month of January 2024, as distributed by email, was accepted. A copy of the report is on file.
5. District Maintenance/Administration Reports – J. Baldis: The report for the month of January 2024, as distributed by email, was accepted. Copies of the reports are on file.
6. District Commissioner's Report – G. Giddings: Truck committee for Engine 3 replacement continues. A decision was made not to consider the original rescue/pumper concept and go with a regular pumper on a Spartan Chassis instead of a commercial chassis due to the safety features.

S10 replacement has been moved up to this year. The truck will be gas instead of diesel.
7. Civil Preparedness Report: The report for the month of January 2024, as distributed by email, was accepted. Copies of the reports are on file.
8. District Treasurer Report – P. Pabich: Report distributed for February 2024 meeting was approved and ratified. Copies of these reports are on file.

A new line-item for fire permit fee income now appears in the report. This is for Fire Marshall services. This will be included quarterly in the treasurer's report.

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9. Personnel Committee – D. Coppinger: Report will be under new business.
10. Correspondence – G. Wilcox: Correspondence was received from the towns people who attended the awards dinner thanking us for an enjoyable time and complementing us on a very professional evening.

Correspondence was received from District Emeritus Member Bill Ketchabaw addressing his wife's illness . She suffered a cardiac issue and is on the road to recovery.

11. Unfinished Business: By-Law reading was postponed till next month. Review by our lawyers was not completed.

There has been no movement in the cell tower issue.

Discussion was held on the proposed abatement changes requested. The Selectmen will take this up on February 14th , then a hearing later in February. It appears they are in favor of some but not all changes requested.

12. New Business: The 2024/2025 budget discussion has begun. There was discussion of possibly reallocating some existing CNR funds to help in the truck account, but no decision was made. A budget workshop will be scheduled for March.

Vice President Coppinger met with District personnel to discuss merit increases and cola consistency. This discussion will continue with further information coming next month.

Chief Baldis discussed OSHA changes that will affect the fire department. OSHA standards will become laws. There will be a two-year plan of reviews. Connecticut will follow these changes and can possibly make their requirements even more stringent.

IT support will eventually be turned over to the town IT support. Currently our support is volunteer. There will be a cost associated with this transfer and will be like the costs we incur for dispatch.

With the upcoming Annual Meeting approaching and the officers that are up for reelection, a nominating committee needs to be convened. It was proposed to have the same nominating committee as we have had in the past, consisting of the station Captains and Geoff Giddings representing the district. The proposal was seconded and approved.

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With the announcement that our current tax collector Colleen O'Conner will be retiring, an appointment of a new tax collector by Treasurer Peter Pabich is required. This will be followed up at next month's meeting.

13. Executive Session: None

14. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,

John J. Solury Sr.
Clerk

Next Regular Meeting: March 11th, 2024