

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

DRAFT
SIMSBURY FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 12th, 2026, 7:00PM
MAIN STATION
871 HOPMEADOW STREET

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

The members present were G. Wilcox, P. Pabich, G. Giddings, H. Caldwell, Chief T. Myers, K. Ouimette. Members excused were D. Coppinger, J. Solury and M. Pearce Bristol.

1. A motion was made and approved so that the minutes of December 8th, 2025, as distributed earlier by email be accepted. A copy of this report is on file.
2. Public Audience: None
3. Civil Preparedness Report – M. Berry: The report for the month of December as distributed by email, was accepted. A copy of this report is on file.

A note from Gary: A meeting to be held January 13, 2026, with town officials regarding the succession plan for the Emergency Management department.

4. Fire Marshal Report – P. Tourville: The reports for the month of December 2025, as distributed by email, were accepted. A copy of this report is on file.
5. Fire Chief Report – T. Myers: The report for the month of December 2025, as distributed by email, were accepted. A copy of this report is on file.
6. District Treasurer Report – P. Pabich: Report distributed for the January 2026 meeting was approved and ratified. A copy of this report is on file.
7. District Commissioner's Report – G. Giddings: Quint 5 Aerial remains off the line awaiting a part from the manufacturer. Apparatus remains on the air as a pumper.

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8. District Maintenance Reports – M. Pearce-Bristol: The report for the month of December 2025, as distributed by email, was accepted. A copy of this report is on file.
9. District Administration Report – K. Ouimette: The reports for the month of December 2025, as distributed by email, was accepted. A copy of this report is on file.
10. Personnel Report – D. Coppinger: None
11. Correspondence - None
12. Unfinished Business – The proposed changes to the Auxiliary “bylaws” are currently in progress with the Fire company scheduled to propose a bylaws change at their next business meeting.

Benefit Package Adjustments: The committee reviewed benefit payouts for technical and auxiliary members relative to firefighters. To ensure equitable distribution based on volunteer time, the following contribution levels were established:

- Auxiliary Members: 25% of defined contributions.
- Technical Members: 50% of defined contributions.

A motion was made, seconded and approved.

- 13: New Business – Burn Building Structural Evaluation: Following a review of the recent engineering report, a follow-up consultation will be scheduled with the engineering firm. The primary objective is to assess the building's short-term viability and determine if cost-effective repairs can restore the facility for active burn training. This interim solution would allow the District sufficient time to raise necessary funds for a new building. Concurrently, the Training Division has been tasked with developing at least three strategic options for the facility's use/replacement over the next several years. These proposals will be presented at the February meeting.

Budget/ Mill Rate: A discussion took place regarding the upcoming budget and the current mill rate. The committee will continue to evaluate and refine the mill rate as the budget process progresses over the next several months with all adjustments being made with careful consideration of the impact on taxpayers.

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Commissioner appointment (Interim)- Due to the recent resignation of Commissioner Michael Paine, Gary Wilcox accepted Daniel Coppinger's offer to step down as Vice President and then appointed him to fill the remainder of the commissioner's term left vacated by resignation of commissioner Mike Paine. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

Vice President Appointment (Interim)- Due to Daniel Coppinger's move to the Commissioner role, the Vice President position became vacant. President Wilcox nominated Sean Askham to fill the Vice President position in the interim. President Wilcox noted that Askham is highly qualified, specifically citing his expertise in personnel management and his willingness to serve the organization. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

14. Executive Session – None
15. Meeting adjourned at 8:04pm

Respectfully submitted

Kimberly Ouimette
District Administrator *for* John J. Solury Sr, Clerk

Next Meeting: February 9th, 2026