

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Town Hall Council Chambers
APRIL 19, 2011**

Present: Patrick O'Connor, Chairman
Ed Harrington
Michael Smart
Robert Conlon
Brian McDonald

Also: Victor Pap, District Councilor
Michael Gallagher, Director of Administrative and Community Svcs.
William McKinney, Chief Financial Officer
John Mulveyhill, Director of Emergency Management

Recording Secretary: Diane T. Hachey

Fort Point Road Issue/December 2010 Storm

Chairman O'Connor called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM. Mr. Kevin Harris of Fort Point Road was present to discuss the issue as raised at a prior Town Council Meeting. He requested that the town attempt to notify the neighborhood ahead of time if they are aware of impending storms which would impact the waterfront area.

Mr. Mulveyhill noted that a neighborhood meeting will occur sometime in May in an effort to resolve any outstanding issues from the December storm, in addition to pro-actively dealing with future storms. It was noted that the water levels during this storm were not typical, which further complicated the problem. He stated that the town (namely Police and Fire) were well prepared for the storm in terms of personnel and equipment. He worked in conjunction with Councilor Pap, with the aid of the Councilor's website to inform residents accordingly. Mr. Mulveyhill updated that a federal hazard mitigation grant is being investigated and confirmed that approximately 2100 feet of the seawall is in disrepair and in need of repair.

Mr. Harris confirmed that the reverse 911 system was most beneficial in this situation

Councilor McDonald suggested that setting boulders along the seawall would be helpful as it breaks up the waves and disburses them accordingly.

Councilor Smart suggested temporary jersey barriers, until final repairs to the seawall are made, he stressed the importance of an interim plan while construction is underway. He

wants to ensure that the neighbors, who have been more than willing to help, are involved in the process.

Mr. Harris noted that the commuter boat has a “no wake zone”, and would like to determine if this is possible in this area.

Councilor Pap commended Chairman O’Connor for taking on this issue in his committee and he asked if the Public Safety Committee could send a letter to administration requesting an update, inclusive of reverse 911 implementation and emergency preparedness for the future hurricane season.

Update from the Weymouth Fire Department

The following union members (Local 1616) approached the committee: Kevin Connolly, Tom Murphy and Tim Bailey.

Updates were as follows:

- Safe Grant has been awarded to the Town of Weymouth
- three fireman were laid off on January 28, but have since been rehired
- two positions were made available-one was a new hire and the other a lateral transfer from another department
- as of April 29th the complement of members is 89
- overtime balance as of week 38 is \$75k expended with approximately \$53k remaining-it was noted that this will not be sufficient to cover overtime until year end
- currently running staffing at 3/1
- they are concerned with the \$1.4m decrease in the fy2012 budget figures-level service was 2/1 46% of the time-they are questioning if this is considered a level service funded budget
- service to support Southfield building and East/West Parkway construction is one engine as that is the complement in South Weymouth. It was noted that there are no service agreements between the Fire Department and Southfield, this is a major concern to public safety for both Southfield and the Town of Weymouth.

Chairman O’Connor voiced his concern with emergency service being provided to Southfield, the lack of service agreements, the risk to our emergency personnel and the importance of the town being reimbursed for past, present and future services.

Councilor Conlon stated that the priority must be to the Town of Weymouth, if we are running 2/1 we should refuse service to Southfield, we should only consider support when we are staffed at 3/1 at a minimum.

It was determined that many of these issues will be discussed at Budget/Management during the Fire Department review.

Councilor McDonald motioned to formulate a letter to Mayor Kay requesting that service

agreements are secured as related to public safety service to Southfield, motion amended to include Jeff Wall and South Shore Tri-Town Development Corporation, motion seconded by Councilor Conlon and voted unanimously.

Update from Weymouth Police Department

It was noted that a representative from the Weymouth Police Union was not available to present this evening.

Adjournment

At 7:32 PM, there being no further business, a motion was made by Councilor Smart to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Harrington and unanimously voted.

Respectfully Submitted by Diane T. Hachey as Recording Secretary

Approved by Chairman Patrick O'Connor