

## Safety Advisory Committee Minutes

February 23, 2023

Great Esker Park Ranger Station, Elva Road, North Weymouth

Members in attendance: John MacLeod, Marsha Geronaitis, Brian Smith, Caroline LaCroix, Captain Abbadessa, Deputy Chief Harding, Ryan MacLeod, Karen Johnston and Robert Feldman.

The meeting was called to order at 11:07 a.m. by Co-Chairman John MacLeod.

The minutes of the November 3, 2022 were presented. A motion was made by Ryan MacLeod and seconded by Brian Smith to approve the minutes of November 3, 2022. So voted unanimously.

New Business:

### Drone

The Recreation Department had a drone in 2017 for field improvements in an effort to capture progress. The drone has the capability to be used for many functions. The equipment is getting old and technology advances so quickly and reinvesting in a new one should be considered as the Drone is approaching or at it's life expectancy.

The Drone has been used for water inspections with the Facilities Manager of DPW. Contracting out inspections costs \$500- \$1,500 daily producing a cost saving measure owning the device. Other uses have included the junior police academy as well as viewing woodland fires in an effort to put them out swiftly through detecting the source point of the fire. Concentrate on interdepartmental situations such as July 3 firework event. Operator of the drone must possess a 107 licensed pilot license. Ryan MacLeod is the Town's FAA Certified Drone Operator and is in charge of the unit. A new drone, to be utilized by several departments such as PD or FD for searches in the woods/ fire detection, as well as overhead thermal use. A discussion regarding adding additional FAA certified Drone operators so that more than 1 operator is licensed.

A motion was made by John MacLeod and seconded by Marsha Geronaitis to make a recommendation to the Administration for an appropriation to purchase of a new drone, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 and to cover the cost of the FAA Certification and/or recertification license, which is a three-hour examination, \$175 per examination for a 3-year license. A stipend for that work should also be discussed.

### PHMSA Rupture Mitigation Ruling Policy Compliance

Emergency Management reporting issue. Police, Fire, DPW are aware of the recertification of power plant. LEPC gathered to review ruptured detection. The Town has an emergency response plan in place for a call center. There is a new ruling and the utility company to start the chain when the town gets calls. Plan to competently respond and have everything in place. Captain Erin Metcalf of WPD in charge of recertification and has kept up with all critical incident policy and emails have been sent to the Legal Department. Fire Department implements a Hazardous Materials Response Plan. An annual drill is being discussed currently.

Store fronts possessing hazardous materials must register with Health Department. Health Department shall distribute listing, annually, to WPD and WFD. Fire Department maintains list on new software system. Abandoned buildings are registered and combustibles are listed. WPD contact is David Phillips. New CAD market board is in place. Updating everything and IMC in becoming updated.

#### Homeless/Hoarding Issues

It was brought the attention of PD through the Planning/Housing Department that we needed to share resource information to residents and to those that are homeless. There is a resource page available through the Planning Department prepared by Jane Kudcey our Housing Coordinator. Washington Street rear is one homeless site in town. This property, consisting of 4 lots, is a pending Land Foreclosure site. The Town does not currently have ownership of the property so PD nor the Town has the right to tell anyone to stay off the property. Legal will keep the parties apprised of the status of the land and the pending project, working in conjunction with Engineering, Planning and Asset Management.

#### Internal Departmental Policy Review

Motor vehicle accidents have increased. Working to minimize drivers hits. Working on back up policies, but specifically for DPW, PD & FD. A discussion with the Chief of Staff will be undertaken by the HR Director regarding filing for a DIA grant for driver training, web-based training and 4-hour in-service class, potentially using MIIA rewards to fund the cost of the 4-hour in-service class.

Ongoing Local Government U Training will be offered. Police entertain commercial motor vehicle safety 1-hour training video. Human Resources will circulate the Local Govt U memorandum again to employees.

CDL permits. February, 2022. CDL license certified training for \$2,000 - \$4,000 per person. Training and certificates issued. CDL log in to federal training and go for the cdl driving test. MassDot conducts training for elder services cdl drivers. Driver Safety Training Program Academy. Voke check licenses. WPD checks licenses of police officers twice per year. Academy records licenses in center database. Flagged with early warning. There is an EVOC school that WPD participates in to train police officers on driving.

DPW driver records are run by WPD. Employees are notified 30 days in advanced of the license expiration to renew. RMV Driving Record program to be reviewed for implementation for all Town drivers. Discussion regarding new hires providing driving record if driving a Town vehicle is part of their job description.

HR conducts the annual driver query of cdl holders with the Federal Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse. New cdl employees are required to produce and present a query report from the clearinghouse prior to employment.


#### Other Business:

John Mulveyhill will be contacting the Mayor's Office to begin scheduling 100 and 700 ICS training for town wide training in the spring, Session is 4 -5 hours in length.

HR and Bob Feldman maintains OSHA 300 Logs in binder.

Meeting adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Caroline LaCroix

Clerk