

Committee on Public Safety

Councilor Maureen T. Carney, Chair

Councilor Jesse M. Adams

Councilor William H. Dwight

Councilor David A. Murphy

Committee on Public Safety
Wallace J. Puchalski Municipal Building
212 Main Street, Northampton, MA

March 2, 2015

5:00 pm

Meeting Agenda

1. Activate NCTV Camera To Record Meeting
2. New Business
Reserved for topics that the Chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed.
3. Members Present/Absent
4. Announcement Of Audio/Video Recording Of Meeting
5. Public Comment
6. Approval Of Meeting Minutes
 - 6.I. Meeting Minutes Of October 6, 2014

Documents: [PS_MINUTES_10_6_2014_201502251135.PDF](#)
 - 6.I.i. Meeting Minutes Of December 1, 2014

Documents: [PS_MINUTES12_1_2014_201502251134.PDF](#)
7. Departmental Presentations
 - 7.I. 5:00 PM Health Department Presentation
 - 7.II. 5:30 PM Police Department Presentation - Response To Resistance
8. Adjourn

Contact:

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Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2014 Meeting
5:00 pm

10/6/2014 - Minutes

1. Members Present/Absent

Members Present: *Councilor Carney, Councilor Dwight, Councilor Murphy (5:10pm arrival)*

Members Absent: *Councilor Adams*

2. Announcement Of Audio/Video Recording Of Meeting

Councilor Carney announced that the meeting would be Video & Audio recorded.

3. Public Comment

None

4. Approval Of Meeting Minutes

4.1. Meeting Minutes Of September 8, 2014

Councilor Dwight moved approval of the Committee on Public Safety minutes of Sept. 8, 2014; Councilor Murphy seconded the motion. The minutes were approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

5. Departmental Presentations

5.1. Fire/EMS & Dispatch Presentation

Kelly Banister presented for City Dispatch. Ms. Banner indicated that she is looking to update equipment, including Fire Dept. Station Alerting System. This equipment is outdated and failing; an update is now necessary. Regarding Dispatch radios: the City's system is no longer supported by the manufacturer. Software updates and part replacement may be difficult in the near future.

Chief Duggan reports that there are four new full time and one reserve fire fighters. The openings happened because of retirements in the department. A full staff helps to control overtime; full staff plus two allows for coverage for vacations, sick time, etc.

There were three recent incidents for Northampton Fire/Rescue. They were: a home fire on North Farms Road that resulted in \$2 mil in damage; a second alarm fire on Main St. in Leeds; A motor vehicle accident on Rt. 9 in Haydenville which took the life of a Northampton resident.

New fire codes have been received - the NFPA1 National Code is currently published for comment. Training in the Code is currently taking place and will continue through December. Fire prevention is becoming a more technical issue; the standard is intended to provide more interpretation and allow for less ambiguity.

Chief Duggan presented the Departmental Capital Projects Summary for Fire and Rescue. Critical Projects include: Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus, Replacement of Command Vehicle, Replacement of an Ambulance, and New Communications equipment.

Fire prevention revenue for FY 2014 was approx. \$120,000; ambulance revenue was \$1.6 million.

Some members of the Northampton FD take part in the regionalized effort for fire and rescue. The Western Massachusetts Technical Rescue Team is comprised of fire fighters from the Franklin, Hampshire, Berkshire and Hampden Counties. This dedicated team applies special knowledge, skills, and equipment to safely resolve unique and or complex rescue situations, including: high/low angle rope rescue, confined space rescue, trench rescue, and structural collapse.

6. New Business

None

7. Adjourn

At 6:00 p.m., Councilor Dwight moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Murphy seconded the motion. The motion passed on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Adams).

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December 1, 2014

Meeting Minutes

1. Activate NCTV Camera To Record Meeting
- 1.I. Announcement Of Audio/Video Recording Of Meeting

Councilor Carney called the meeting to order @ 5:03 pm and announced that the meeting would be video taped.

2. Members Present/Absent

Members present: Councilor Maureen Carney, Councilor David Murphy

Members Absent: Councilor Jesse Adams, Councilor William Dwight

3. Public Comment
- None

4. Approval Of Meeting Minutes

- 4.I. Minutes From The Committee On Public Safety Meeting Of Oct. 6, 2014

Without a quorum, no vote was taken to accept the meeting minutes of the previous meeting. The vote will be taken at the meeting in January.

5. Departmental Presentations

- 5.I. Building Department Presentation

Commissioner Hasbrouck indicated that "Outdoor Lighting" is a hot topic right now, especially since there is currently a Zoning Ordinance under consideration addressing this issue. The department has received a lot of complaints recently; one of the issues is that zoning can't regulate existing structures. If a light is non-compliant with a revised ordinance, then there is nothing that can be done with a zoning ordinance. Perhaps the introduction of an Ordinance that is not Zoning would be enforceable.

Regarding Permits issued between July and Nov. 2014, the department has issued 1,649 permits for a total of \$239,724.77 in permit fees collected.

New building developments in Northampton and Williamsburg was discussed.

- #65 Paradise Road has just been approved to be demolished.
- New construction @ Smith College was reviewed.
- New housing construction on Fruit St. was reviewed.

Winter preparations have begun and are in place to monitor how much snow is on the roof. Snow storage will still be done @ the former Honda Dealership location on King St.

6. New Business

None

7. Adjourn

Councilor Murphy motioned to adjourn at 5:31 pm; Councilor Carney seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 2 Yes, 0 No.

Respectfully submitted by: Pamela L. Powers

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