

**CITY OF NORWALK
PUBLIC SAFETY
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 10, 2010**

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Richard A. Moccia, Fire Chief Denis McCarthy

STAFF: Michelle DeLuca, Deputy Director Emergency Management

OTHERS: Hal Alvord, DPW; Tad Diesel, Mayor's Office; Adam Bovilsky, Fair Rent/ Human Relations Director; Bill Mooney, Health Department; Louis Schulman, Norwalk Transit Administrator; Irene Cronkright, FCA; Ms. Kaitlyn O'Brien, SCSU Student; Tim Santolini

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE

EOP Update

Chief McCarthy said that the work on the plan is progressing and that some of the department plans still need to be updated and finalized. The goal is to have all the annexes done in time for the June Emergency Meeting. He emphasized that once the critical processes are set, then additional modifications can be done at a later time.

The discussion then moved to the June event and Chief McCarthy said that usually it is scheduled for the first week in June.

Ms. Kaitlyn O'Brien, a Southern Connecticut University student, said that she has to attend a number of public meetings and she thought this one might be interesting. The Mayor then gave Ms. O'Brien a brief overview of the goal of the Public Safety Commission and how it works.

Vulnerable Populations – Next Steps

Ms. DeLuca reported that a meeting about the vulnerable populations held on January 26th with a number of advocacy agencies and other service groups was well attended. Some of the next steps will be a meeting with some of the working groups to discuss an intake form for the non profits, a stock template for emergency shelter admissions and possibly a tabletop exercise in late June. Chief McCarthy said that the pre-evacuations of

the most vulnerable residents would be a critical factor. One question is how to identify these residents. When a member of the vulnerable group reaches a shelter, it will be important to continue to provide care. Chief McCarthy said that the EMO was working with the health department to plan a process to move these residents from their homes to a safe location without violating HIPA regulations.

Chief McCarthy then asked Mr. Schulman if it would be possible to share information. Mr. Schluman said that there were other regulations that the Transit District has to abide by regarding the sharing the information. A discussion then followed about what kind of information was available regarding residents with walkers, wheelchairs, etc. The Mayor said that while it sounds like the discussion was a worse case scenario, it was important to plan ahead.

COOP Training

Chief McCarthy said that the Continuity of Operations Program (COOP) was something that the City had to consider because the City must continue to operate. Issues like having payroll or vouchers, would be important to consider. This will be discussed at a meeting at the end of June.

TRAFFIC/CONSTRUCTION UPDATE – DPW

Mr. Alvord said that Combined dispatch receives a notification whom to call on the weekends for road repairs, sewer repairs, and traffic signals. He then distributed copies of the notification list to those present.

Mr. Alvord said that when there is a snow emergency, the public garages will be opened so that people can move their vehicles off the street to allow the plows to clear the streets. The Mayor said that he felt this was a very good move. Mr. Alvord said that it was critical to have the vehicles off the streets during a snow emergency so that the plowing can be done. Chief McCarthy asked if it would be worth doing this when there are flooding issues. Mr. Alvord said that the distance from the lot to the resident's home is often a factor.

Chief McCarthy asked if it would be worth having a meeting with Deering before the construction season starts. Mr. Alvord said that he would contact the chief if such a meeting is scheduled.

NEW ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Transit District - Mr. Schulman said that work will begin on the Pulse point and that it will require narrowing of the street from Burnell to Belden. Current plans call for the construction to be done in thirds, but if the buses can be move onto the bridge, it can all

be done at once and take less time. Mr. Schulman then gave an overview of the security, which will involve numerous cameras and possibly two emergency call boxes that will be monitored.

Mr. Diesel asked about the closure of the Hospital parking garage. Mr. Schulman said that he would be discontinuing the Maritime shuttle because the ridership has been too low. After that, it will be switched to the Yankee Doodle garage to shuttle the Norwalk Hospital workers and others while the construction is underway.

DPW – Mr. Alvord listed a number of projects that were about to commence and said that the paving program was recently approved for Buckingham Lockwood by the Council and that the bid package is going out. There will be significant amounts of construction underway in the coming months.

Health – Mr. Mooney said that there was one active TB case at NCC and the Department is doing follow up. Chief McCarthy asked if there was going to be a phase three for the H1N1 vaccine. Mr. Mooney will check into this.

Fair Rent/Human Services – No update

Emergency Management – A significant amount of rain is anticipated for the weekend. Ms. DeLuca reminded everyone that when they set the clocks ahead, it is important to change batteries in smoke alarms.

The next meeting of for Public Safety is scheduled for April 14th.

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 4:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services