

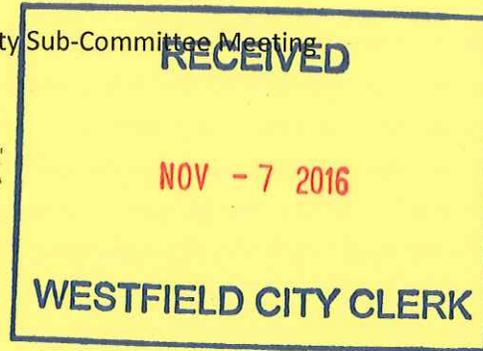
Minutes of September 28, 2016 Public Health and Safety Sub-Committee Meeting

Attendance:

Chairperson Councilor Dan Allie

Councilor Mary Ann Babinski

Councilor William Onyski



Others in attendance: **Carissa Lisee, Joe Mitchell, Councilor Ralph Figy, Jay Vinskey**, Jim Barry (Regional Coordinator Green Communities), Dan Desrochers (Westfield News)

Chairperson Dan Allie called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM on September 28, 2016 in Room 207 Municipal Building, 59 Court Street, Westfield, MA

No public participation.

Agenda Item 1-- Adoption of Stretch Code

- Joe Mitchell worked on this with City Attorney Shanna Reed and Jim Barry (Regional Coordinator Green Communities)
- The Stretch Code is a building code that dictate more energy efficient building codes
- Green Communities in MA are eligible for additional state funding
- There are 5 requirements to becoming a Green Community --the Stretch Code is one of them
- Suggestion that the Stretch Code may eventually go away. This doesn't matter because Westfield would still be eligible for state grants if we accepted the Stretch Code.
- Stretch Code must be adopted by city by November 20, 2016 to become eligible for January 1 state acceptance.
- Carissa Lisee indicated that the state now has 3 building codes--Stretch Code, 2012 Energy Code (Westfield uses), and all will be going to the 2015 Energy Code on January 1.
- Chairperson Councilor Allie read the following into record:
- The resolution states that the baseline requirements of the MA building code are the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) with Massachusetts's amendments.
- The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) is a building energy code created by the International Code Council.
- It is described as a model code that has been adopted by many state and municipal governments in the United States for the establishment of minimum design and construction requirements for energy efficiency, and is updated on a three-year cycle.

- The first question that comes to mind is, “Why would a city, state or federal government adopt an international code for buildings, when building codes should be under local government authority?” At least here in America.
- Who is the International Code Council? The International Code Council was formed in 1994 to develop codes that would have no regional limitations.
- The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is a United States trade association, albeit with some international members, that creates and maintains private, copyrighted, standards and codes for usage and adoption by local governments.
- After several failed attempts to find common ground with the ICC, NFPA withdrew from participation in development of the International Codes and joined with International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers and the Western Fire Chiefs Association to create an alternative set of codes. First published in 2002, the code set named the Comprehensive Consensus Codes, or C3, includes the NFPA 5000 building code.
- What local bodies or group have reviewed this proposal before sending it to council?
- Have these documents been reviewed by the Planning Board?
- Have these documents been placed on the council share?
- Can you provide these documents to the committee at the meeting?
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- By a 2-1 vote (Babinski Yes, Onyski Yes, Allie No), Item 1 was given a positive recommendation to send to L&O

Agenda Item 2-- Complete Streets

- On May 19, 2016, Shanna Reed indicated the Complete Streets Policy was not yet ready for a vote.
- On September 16, 2016 Shanna Reed indicated it was best to adopt Complete Streets as an ordinance rather than a policy.
- Regarding recommendation to accept Complete Streets Policy as written, committee voted 3-0 for a negative recommendation
- Regarding the premise of the policy that appointees to each board and commission should include at least one member who demonstrates or pledges specific support for bicycle, pedestrian or Complete Streets principles or facilities -- committee voted 3-0 to reject this tenet
- Regarding the premise that Cost alone should not be considered a valid reason for rejecting further pursuit of such principles or options-- committee voted 2-1 to reject this tenet (Babinski No, Onyski Yes, Allie Yes)
- Regarding the premise that Complete Streets design recommendations shall be incorporated into all phases of all publically and privately funded projects, as appropriate-- committee voted 2-1 to reject this tenet (Babinski No, Onyski Yes, Allie Yes)

By a 3-0 vote, the motion was made and accepted to remove Complete Streets for Public Health and Safety Committee and send to Legislative and Ordinance Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM

Minutes submitted by Councilor William Onyski

