

02 08 2018 PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY MINUTES
CHAIRPERSON - MORGANELLI
MEMBERS - BABINSKI, ALLIE



Meeting was called to order 7:01 PM

Chair asked if anyone recording. Matt Emmershy live streaming. Morganelli recording voice only.

Attendance: N. Morganelli, Mary Ann Babinski, Dan Allie, Councilors Surprise, Emmershy, and Figy. Hope Tremblay.

5/7/15

Committee voted 3-0 to remove from committee without action motion by Councilor Allie to review alternatives to chlorination of water.

5/7/15

Committee voted 3-0 to remove from committee without action motion by Councilor Allie to study the impact of banning Styrofoam in restaurants

Board of Health instituted ban on Styrofoam.

5/5/16 Committee voted 3-0 to remove from committee without action motion by Councilor Babinski to have presentation relative to Westfield Ban the Bag

6/2/16

Committee voted 3-0 to remove from committee without action motion by Councilor Allie to review handicap accessibility and use of sidewalks.

Allie read letter from resident questioning whether someone in a wheelchair could get past granite obelisks in Gaslight District. Granite obelisks have been repositioned.

6/16/16

The committee voted 3-0 to approve language of FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION ordinance as amended, deleting from Section 7-1, paragraph (e)

"All use of outdoor burning devices shall also be in compliance with any and all applicable Federal or State laws or regulations."

Committee voted 3-0 to remove from committee Assistant City Solicitor Meghan Bristol submitting a response relative to the Ordinance regarding Open Burning, and motion by Councilor Allie to place in Public Health and Safety.

Councilor Allie discussed the draft ordinance submitted by Legal Department to Public Health and Safety Committee in June 2017. This draft was worked on by Allie and Bristol and submitted to Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for review. Allie informed committee that PH&S met 3 times on the issue.

Allie discussed the process for moving forward with ordinance. 1. vote on language. 2. Send to L&O and Legal. Public hearing required. Vote of full council. Send to MASS DEP for official approval w/ supporting documents from hearing notices. Allie mentioned that Westfield could likely become first city to go through the DEP approval process.

Allie read some of the conditions that are currently required, and restrict the City in crafting ordinance. Allie stated one goal was to protect residents from excessive fines. Allie stated that State Rep Velis and Sen. Humason were supportive of crafting legislation that would address use of fire pits at the state level. Cities are prohibited by DEP from specifically exempting fire pits from open burning laws.

(Vote to refer to L&O and Legal will be taken at a subsequent meeting as this item was not on agenda.)

10/6/16

Committee voted 3-0 to leave in committee a motion by Councilor Babinski that the options needed to implement additional safeguards for protecting the Barnes Aquifer water resource be reviewed.

2/1/18

Committee voted 3 -0 to leave in committee a motion of Councilor Surprise (Figy and Flaherty), to review and potentially amend Ordinance "Sec. 16-14 - Removal or snow, ice". Requesting clarification of responsibilities, enforcement, and the treatment of sidewalks, fire hydrants, stormwater drains, and other obstacles or property considerations that may be appropriate.

Chair read existing ordinance.

Fire hydrants no responsibility legislated. DPW should inform snow plow contractors not to bury fire hydrants.

Figy mentioned snow plows filling in sidewalks, and suggested some provision be included for Seniors Surprise suggested Notification in G& E bull, list of contractors available to clean/shovel.

Morganelli discussed a Good Neighbor Policy.

Discussion about the responsibility of property owner, tenant or occupant.

Surprise mentioned that no owner should be responsible for Lloyd's Hill suggested talk with Dave Billiips

Plow in Day Ave, and E. Silver fire hydrant and crosswalk. Crossing guards are supposed to contact supervisor.

Emmershy talked with Dave Billups about communicating with contractors, and the role Community Policing can play in notifying

Morganelli discussed need to rework wording on "now allowing snow to fall"
Figy suggested plow need to go to curb, not 4 feet from curb. Emmershy stated the DPW wants to know, See, Click, Fix and Issue need to be reported and documented to be addressed.

Surprise mentioned need to not put snow in driveway or bad spot on cul de sac, Emmershy recommended contractors used radios to call for other equipment when needed.

Babinski asked about the width that needs to be shoveled. Surprise answered "a walkable width"

Emmershy suggested DPW provide Guidelines to contractors at start of season.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 PM

