

TOWN OF WEBSTER
HAZARD MITIGATION COMMITTEE
945 Battle Street
Webster, NH 03303

Hazard Mitigation Committee Meeting – September 10, 2014

Members present: John Clark, Jake Drown, Roger Becker, David Collins and Judith Jones. Also present was Road Agent Emmett Bean and Sally Embley, Conservation Commission Member and former Hazard Mitigation 2012 Update Committee Member.

7:02 pm Chairman Clark brought the meeting to order. He advised Mr. Bean that he had requested that the Select Board have more Department Heads on the committee for support, because they are an important part of funding and implementing projects, both in the Tables of the original Plan and new actions as needed. Mr. Bean advised that when this Committee was first formed, he was advised that he did not have to be a member and was not appointed, noting that he was only asked recently by Select Board Chairman Roy Fanjoy to attend this meeting.

Mrs. Jones, as a Justice of the Peace, swore in Roger Becker and Jake Drown as members of this Committee. Chairman Clark requested that Mrs. Jones explained the purpose of this Committee to the new members.

Mr. Drown made a motion to accept the minutes of 1/8/14 and 4/9/14 as written; seconded by Chairman Clark and approved.

Discussion started with the Tables as updated from the past two meeting in Chapter 10 for actions as identified in the 2012 Plan starting with Table 25A. Copies of the updates from the previous two meeting were distributed. Chairman Clark noted that several items on the action list were completed i.e. the dry hydrant behind the school. Listed below are the items discussed, many at length, as well as any new action items.

- Clothespin Bridge repair and/or replacement, costs and timing. Mr. Bean advised that he had met earlier this year with the State and the Board to review the bridges in Webster. Increased approximate cost to 2.5 million with the recommendation of this Committee to obtain a cost estimate from the State. Deer Meadow Road Bridge was discussed.
- Several needed culverts to be replaced on Deer Meadow discussed. Mr. Bean noted that the culvert nearer the old gravel pit would need engineering designs because of the proximity to the brook and expressed his concerns over the culvert located near 524 Deer Meadow Road as the pipe extends beyond the road to the lake.
- Schoodac Bridge on White Plains Road replacement discussed. This is a redlined bridge with the State, even though it is actually three metal culverts at this time. An estimate was received from the State in 2007. No application for State Aid was every completed, though Mr. Bean advised that he had completed one that was never followed through by the Select Board. Mr. Becker suggested contacting Nancy Mayville at the State. Mr. Bean noted that an emergency fix is possible without the usual red tape.
- Noted repairs of the fire pond completed on Pleasant Street done by Mr. Bean.
- Discussed installation of Dry Hydrants/fire ponds as follows: 1612 Battle Street currently deferred; behind the school on Battle Street is now complete; and 1093 on Long Street to be deleted at this time.
- The Cistern at the PSB deferred, but agreed cost should be considerably more, perhaps \$135,000.
- Trimming by utility companies discussed. Mrs. Jones will contact the utility companies and invite them to a spring meeting.
- Noted Life Safety Code Inspections for building permits working well with Inspector Tom Baye.
- Detour Road needs to be shimmed and a coat of tar.
- Mr. Bean was asked to prioritize the five most important repairs needed and attainable through tax dollars. Mr. Becker suggested that the focus be on the priorities and what needs to be done with the financing left up to the Select Board.
- Public Safety during storms discussed, which is done more informally today. The recommendation would be to have a more formal plan in place. Mr. Drown indicated that from the Fire Department's perspective, it would be nice to have a list of those with special medical needs, i.e. those with oxygen, etc. should power go out so that those residents could be checked on. Chairman Clark agreed though it was noted that this information may be against HIPA regulations. Mr. Drown will check into this.
- The reverse 911 was noted to be more regional than local and will be left to the Police Chief for action.
- The need for a repeater suggested to be located at the Cell Tower on Pearson Hill was discussed. This would benefit Fire, Police and Road Agent. Chairman Clark recommending and Mrs. Jones will get the contact information for the owners of AT & T and US Cellular and those users of the towers to see if they could contribute regarding the costs. Chairman Clark offering to write a letter to the companies. Mr. Bean had contacted Belltronics and was given an estimated cost of \$10,000 for a repeater.
- Educate the public about storm and emergency preparedness – Mr. Bean has a packet from Unitil that he will provide to Mrs. Jones for the website and will be sent to the Grapevine. Chairman Clark offered to help with the creativity of the information on the Website. Mr. Collins suggested it be in the News section to bring attention to the new information, perhaps seasonally as reminders. Chairman Clark wanted to make this a priority as it is a non-cost type item.

- The Smokey the Bear sign has been completed at the PSB.
- Flood Insurance information will be added to the Website under the disaster preparedness. Mr. Collins advised that it is important to get flood insurance at this time if necessary as a cap has now been put on the amount of annual increase of costs.
- Shoreline erosion will be deferred and handled as best as can.
- The first “Rape Aggression Defense Program” class has been completed and offered again in the near future.
- Hazardous Materials education is handled by the individual Departments.
- Interdepartmental Training Sessions – The Fire Department is certified in NIMS, though not sure about other departments. One can go on line to take a self-certified program for NIMS. Mr. Drown prepared an ICS class last spring through the Fire Academy; not completed because of lack of participation. The class is three nights and a Saturday. Mr. Drown can contact the academy to set up another session. This would require 30 participants. Chairman Clark recommended that he reach out to the private schools in the area as well as surrounding Towns, offering to help with this outreach, also asking Mr. Drown to reach out to the Select Board. This action will be combined with “continue incident training” and “ICS & NIMS Certification for Town Emergency Personnel”. Chairman Clark questioned if anything had been done jointly with the Police Department with the elementary school such as an active shooter event, etc. Mr. Drown indicated that this had not been done. Chairman Clark stressed the need for this as there was a new concept regarding this type of event. Mr. Drown indicated that he could talk to the Police Department about this.
- The Planning Board updates the Zoning Ordinance to comply with NFIP requirements. PB Secretary Therese Larson will be asked to remind the Board members of the importance of this.
- Change “Identify Potential Targets for Attack” to “Identify Potential Infrastructure Locations for Criminal Activity Concerns”.
- Noted the importance of the School Evacuation Plan, already in place. This prompted discussion about concerns other than just fire. Chairman Clark inquired about the number of ambulances available for immediate response. Mr. Drown indicated that as many as five would be available within 10 minutes. Discussed why Webster does not transport, which is due to availability of licensed personnel.
- Discussed a “NEW” action which was to create a map of past fires and this action to be completed by the Fire Chief. Mr. Drown will advise the Chief.
- Need to follow-up with Emergency Management Director Roy Fanjoy regarding development of map of flood control roads and gates and erect road signs. Currently the Fire Department cuts the lock if necessary and is not notified of when the gates are closed. It was noted that the Fire Department should have a key. Chairman Clark will call Jennifer Rocket at Franklin Falls Dam to discuss this issue.

Chairman Clark will advise the Select Board at a Select Board Meeting of minimal expense items that this Committee discussed as well as the other information shared.

Chairman Clark reiterated the importance for the Road Agent to prioritize road projects. Mr. Bean advised that he has done this, but then the Select Board made changes. Chairman Clark recommended that the Select Board be made aware of this discussion. Mr. Becker noted that some of the items are actually a part of the Capital Improvement Program, which is not current at this time. Discussion ensued. It was noted that the Highway Building Committee Chairman David Klumb recently resigned. Mrs. Jones will make note of this at the next Select Board Meeting and recommend that a meeting be set up with this committee in the near future.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2014 at 7:00 pm.

8:37 pm Chairman Clark made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Wolinski and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith M. Jones