

Hazard Mitigation Commission
Town Hall
July 18, 2017
7:30 pm
Selectmen's Meeting Room,
Second Floor

Present Chair Hank Graver, Allyn Brown, Stephen Kops,
Town Health Director Dennis Johnson,
Town Environmental Planner Kevin Magee

Absent Arnold Skretta

Guests None

Call to Order/Determination of Quorum

At 7:35 pm, Chair Hank Graver called to order the regular meeting. All present were eligible to vote.

Public Forum

There were no citizens present.

Approval of June 20, 2017 Minutes

Motion: Allyn Brown moved to approve the June minutes, seconded by Kevin Magee.

*Vote: Carried - Brown, Magee, Graver
Abstained: Stephen Kops, Dennis Johnson (Absent in June)*

Approval of Bills and Vouchers

Recording Secretary Invoice

Motion: Allyn Brown moved to approve the June 20, 2017 invoice for \$59.50 for the Recording Secretary, seconded by Stephen Kops.

Vote: Carried - Allyn Brown, Kevin Magee, Stephen Kops, Dennis Johnson

Other There was no further business.

Old Business

- **Primary Concerns : Strategies for 2017**

Discussion reviewed :
- Upgrades to the high school as a primary community shelter.

- Kevin Magee and Dennis Johnson advised on Town and FEMA public safety codes, insurance criteria, certified engineering inspections and impact of flood levels. Residents' are advised to adhere to these criteria for personal, property and public protection. Some inclusions are raising furnaces and securing propane tanks to prevent explosions.
- HazMC responsibility is to recommend ways to provide Town plans to protect property.
- Stephen Kops will email members a Washington Post article "The Country's Flood Insurance Program is Sinking. Rescuing it won't Be Easy".
- A HazMC news article will be periodically posted regarding recommendations.
- The Health Dept. Emergency Preparedness Brochure will continue to be updated and mailed to all residents and provided at Town Hall and other offices. It costs approximately \$1600 to create and mail the brochure each year.
- HazMC and Town will continue to remind residents to register for the Town "Emergency Alert Notification System".

Discussion continued :

- Dennis Johnson has a list of residents with disabilities from the Visiting Nurse Association and others who have registered with the Town, yet there are many more not listed. HazMC can alert the public to submit there information to the Health Dept. for their safety.
- Reviewed adding more evacuation routes in new locations on the brochure map. Public Works will install newly acquired signs.
- Kevin Magee provided statistics on the high school as a shelter. Approximately, 1500 people can be accommodated throughout the facility.
- **Stephen Kops will contact the Board of Education Facilities Director for more information.
- Police and Fire Departments should also be contacted to clarify emergency preparedness information.

- **Review all Strategies List**

There was a brief review of the Strategy Project List.

New Business

- **Presentation on Town Emergency Management Plan**

Health Director Dennis Johnson reviewed the "Town of Guilford Emergency Operations Plan". The purpose is to provide for safe procedures when coordinating services to address biohazards, infectious diseases, natural disasters and many other public health and safety emergencies. It was originally created in 2001 and amended in 2007.

There is an Emergency Operations Committee (EOC) which is convened by the First Selectman. A Town Emergency can be declared at that time.

An Emergency Operations Center is created equipped with state of the art technologies for :

- Police, Fire, Health Dept. Natural Resource Dept., Facilities, Schools, Community Center, activating Shelters, connecting with Eversource and other utility companies, coordinating volunteers including medical staff, food preparation and distribution at several locations and more. Kevin Magee coordinates with utility companies to remove fallen trees obstructing roads, homes, medical facilities, and more.
- The Committee meets daily during the emergency situation.
- The Plan also includes counseling and assistance from Social Services, Youth and Family Services, and Animal Control to shelter and care for pets.
- Medical services are coordinated by the Committee to provide the public with antibiotics for pandemic or iodine to protect the thyroid from radiation during nuclear attack.
- The Plan and medications are updated every three years.
- Regional emergency drills are held every year.
- The Fire Departments are equipped as shelters and the U.S. Army provides aquatic rescue vehicles.
- Public Works provides sandbags for residents.
- Tractor trailer water tanks are provided for safe drinking water at locations throughout Town.

Kevin Magee submitted "South Central Regional Council of Governments Multi-Jurisdiction Hazardous Mitigation Plan Update " "Work Plan and Schedule" (SCRCOG). A meeting will be held on July 26, 2017 at 2 pm with consultants. For the next ten years Chairs from several commissions will meet to alert the consultants are the changes required for the Plan. Commissions include Marina, Harbor Management, Board of Education, Parks and Recreation, Fire and Police, and this HazMC.

HazMC has been asked to provide a Public Outreach Meeting for resident input and survey to inform the regional and local Plans.

The public is encouraged to participate and visit the project website at : <http://scrcog.org/regional-planning/regional-hazard.mitigation/>

A SCRCOG Advisory Committee Meeting was held June 21, 2017. Regional grants can be obtained to include Guilford projects.

Dates for Public Outreach Meetings will be decided at the August HazMC meeting and advertised.

- **Reports from Commissioners Assignments**

There was no further discussion.

Adjournment

*Motion: At 9:15 pm Stephen Kops moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded
Dennis Johnson.*

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 15, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

*Judith Anderson Castellano
Recording Secretary*