

DURHAM PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting, February 5, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM. In attendance were committee members Frank DeFelice, Jim Rossi, Dan Murphy (arrived at 6:36 PM), Bill Smith and new member Wendy Manemeit.. Also in attendance was Resident State Trooper Pete DiGioia. Wendy introduced herself to the committee.

. Frank explained the current committee procedure for public comment. The committee discussed options for allowing public comment. The committee voted unanimously to reiterate its position to allow public comment at any time. The minutes of the previous months meeting were read and accepted.

The proposed ordinance concerning leaves, snow and/or ice removal was returned to the committee. The Board of Selectmen wanted a clarification of who shall be responsible for any fines incurred, the property owner or the person who deposited the material (if not the same person). They also requested that the committee combine the wording into a proposed illegal dumping ordinance and to apply it to other town property. The committee discussed options and voted to recommend that the proposed ordinance remain as is. The committee felt that any illegal dumping ordinance was outside its authority. Trooper DiGioia will ask the states attorney who should be responsible for the fine and that information will be added to the document.

Dan Murphy presented his standard operating procedure (SOP) for traffic complaints to the committee. The committee made minor edits and voted unanimously to approve the document as modified.

Trooper DiGioia has not heard anything back from Sgt. Gilman concerning a Main Street Business Blockwatch. The committee voted to table the action until more data is available from Sgt. Gilman.

A Public Safety/Emergency Services Joint Chiefs meeting was discussed. Trooper DiGioia stated that he felt that all emergency committees should be represented. The committee instructed the chairman to contact leaders of the emergency services in town to start to set up a semi-annual meeting of committee leaders or their representatives.

Frank informed the committee that the three-year capital budget had requested money for a decibel (sound) meter, SMART trailer and laser radar gun. The cost and purchases would be spread out over three years and all available grant money would be explored.

Frank recused himself from the committee while a letter was read from Susan White of Maple Avenue. It concerned the proposed development on Main Street and its impact on Haddam Quarter Road and Maple Avenue. After the discussion, Frank returned to the table. Another letter was read from Lang and Corona to the Connecticut Freedom of Information Committee. Attorney Corona requested that the state investigate the allegation that the Public Safety "committee minutes did not accurately or fairly report the nature and extent of the discussions " at the last meetings public comment session. The committee read the letter and had no comments.

Trooper DiGioia discussed getting grants for increased police in town. The most recent grant was for DWI enforcement and is for \$26000. He also presented the committee with a map showing accidents in town for the month of December. The committee will explore the possibility of putting the map on the town website. There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15. The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2008, 6:30 PM at the library.

Respectfully submitted, James M. Rossi