

**Worksite Safety and Health Committee
December 6, 2018**

Present: Assistant to Selectmen Maria Lucarelli, Essex Elementary School Principal Jennifer Tousignant, Resident State Trooper Tommy Kelo, Emergency Management Director William Buckridge, Fire Marshal John Plana, and Public Works Director Ryan Welch.

William Buckridge called the meeting to order at 7:47 a.m.

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion was made by Maria Lucarelli to approve the agenda. Ryan Welch seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes:

Motion was made by John Planas to approve the September 6, 2018 minutes. Tommy Kelo seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Communications and Correspondence: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Safety Issues

Maria Lucarelli read into the record a report on behalf of Lisa Fasulo who was unable to attend today:

“Flu Season is here. The best protection against the flu is to get vaccinated. Flu vaccine is available for anyone ages 18 and older at many locations in Essex including Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley, the Centerbrook Pharmacy, and Walgreens Pharmacy. Local physicians & pediatricians also offer the vaccine, but appointments are required. Sixty-nine (69) residents were vaccinated at Essex Elementary School on Wednesday, Nov 14 during the CT River Area Health District’s Flu Vaccine Clinic. Their public health nurses are licensed to administer vaccine to anyone 4-18 years old. Additional clinics were done in November at John Winthrop Middle School (22 vaccinations) and Valley Regional High School (80 vaccinations). When I contacted the pharmacist at both Walgreens and Stop & Shop on November 30, each stated they have administered more flu vaccines in November of this year than in November of last year. In support of National Influenza Vaccination Week Dec. 2-8, 2018, and to further encourage Essex Residents to get vaccinated, the Essex Health Dept posted a list of “where to get a Flu Vaccine” on the Town of Essex webpage and on the social media (Facebook) pages of Essex Park & Recreation and Essex Fire Engine Company #1. They both have a huge social media following.”

Resident State Trooper Tommy Kelo is covering the Town of Essex while Trooper David Tretter is out on medical leave.

John Planas reported that since we are coming into the winter season, he would like to do residential in-home safety checks. He will be checking for overloaded extension cords and looking for other home safety concerns. John reported this home safety check will be free to residents. John also reported that he was successful in obtaining a grant for a drone to be used in the Fire Marshal’s office. John reported there will be three (3) municipal employees who will be trained and certified to run the drone. John also reported that the Town of Essex purchased ESO reporting software which will be used by the Fire Department and the Fire Marshal.

John reported that they will not be winterizing the police boat this year but will be keeping it at the ready for any river emergencies. The police boat will be stored in one of the bays at the public works garage.

Jennifer Tousignant reported that there was an incident of a slip and fall when a teacher was exiting the building.

**Worksite Safety and Health Committee
December 6, 2018**

Ryan Welch had no safety concerns. Ryan reported that this winter the Town has switched over to using treated salt that is sugar based and pet friendly. The Town is using this product with only a little sand to be eco-friendly.

Ryan reported that Public Works held their annual snow plow meeting in October with Town plow operators. There was discussion on what operators need to be on the look-out for, and to watch for children and walkers, watch for any shady spots, and how to maneuver in and around a cul-de-sac. There was further discussion about public works or snow plow drivers being extremely cautious when backing up their vehicle. Ryan stated that the sweeper is the only vehicle that currently has a back-up camera.

Ryan reported that he recently contacted an OSHA Compliance Officer to assist the Town in updating the Safety Data Sheets. Ryan reported that he wants to make sure that Public Works is complying.

Maria Lucarelli had nothing new to report

Trooper Kelo reported the state can do an assessment of any school if one is requested. There was discussion of possibly holding a mock drill at the school and practicing lock down drills. Ms. Tousignant reminded everyone that Dr. Ruth Levy would need to be asked and informed of any drills being proposed at any of the schools.

Trooper Kelo reminded everyone that the Town can install signs, but to make it enforceable, it must have the proper paperwork filed with the State.

Trooper Kelo also reported that there are more Essex Officers on night shifts since the recent increase of reported stolen vehicles in the area. He also reported that commercial burglaries are on the rise. Madison had three commercial burglaries recently.

2019 Worksite Safety and Health Committee Meeting Schedule

Motion was made by John Planas to approve the 2019 Worksite Safety and Health Committee Meeting Schedule. Tommy Kelo seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Meeting Dates

Next meeting will be Thursday, March 7th, 2019

Motion was made by Maria Lucarelli to adjourn at 8:33 a.m. William Buckridge seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Lucarelli