

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Ward, Hogan, Haff, Hicks, O'Brien, Clary

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Rozell

SUPERVISORS: Hall, Henke, Fedler, Ferguson, Campbell, Wilson, Griffith

Debra Prehoda, Clerk

Chris DeBolt, County Administrator

Al Nolette, County Treasurer

Roger Wickes, County Attorney

Glen Gosnell, Director Public Safety

Tim Hardy, Deputy Director Public Safety

John Graham, Code Enforcement Adm.

Mike Mercure, Public Defender

Mike Gray, Alternative Sentencing Director

Tony Jordan, District Attorney

Sheriff Murphy

Anthony White, Probation Director

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

1. Call to Order
2. Accept Minutes – July 28, 2020
3. Department Reports/Requests:
 - A. Alternative Sentencing – Department Updates
 - B. Assigned Counsel – Purchase of File Cabinets
 - C. District Attorney
 - 1) Request to Backfill Legal Assistant Position
 - 2) Department Updates
 - D. Public Defender
 - 1) Department Updates
 - 2) Request for Office Space/New Computers/Data Space
 - E. Code Enforcement – Departmental Status
 - F. Sheriff – Special Patrol Officer Pay Rates
4. Other Business
5. Adjournment

Chairman Ward called the meeting to order at 1:01 P.M. via teleconference.

A motion to accept the minutes of the July 28, 2020 meeting was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded Mr. Hogan and adopted.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS /REQUESTS:

ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING – Mike Gray, Addressed the following items with the committee:

- Department Updates:
 - Juvenile work program crews have been out in the County garden, doing cleanup along the Battenkill, and cleaning and staining picnic tables at Fort Ann canal park.
 - Adult Community Service program has been busy mowing Murray Park and cemeteries and helped two senior citizens clean out their basements from the flooding in Whitehall
 - Classes which are traditionally held in person are now meeting by Zoom: DWI/DUI program, Thinking for a Change class - Criminal Thinking, and starting September 15th Alive at 25 and Distracted Driving.
 - Invited a representative from the Office of Community Services to address the Magistrates Association on September 22nd to go over some of the services they offer and are able to provide to the courts and going over the criteria for Article 730 exam and 390 30 exams.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY – Tony Jordan, District Attorney, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Backfill Legal Assistant Position – Requesting to backfill a Legal Assistant position due to a vacancy – employee left due to family demands with the uncertainty this fall. What he is hoping to do is promote from within a Clerk to a Legal Assistant and then backfill the Clerk position. A motion to move backfills to the Personnel Committee was moved by Mr. Hicks, seconded by Mr. O'Brien and adopted.
- Department Updates:
 - On their 6th or 7th week of Grand Jury and catching up on cases, averaging four to five cases each Thursday. Local courts are all up and running. Limiting the number of people inside that may become an issue when the weather turns colder.
 - Part of a pilot program in New York for criminal jury trials in County Court so they have four felony trials scheduled in four successive weeks starting September 14th.
 - On par with last year with arrest numbers and cases and last year was higher than prior years. The discovery systems that they put in place are working. IT was really helpful.

ASSIGNED COUNSEL- Tom Cioffi, Assigned Counsel, addressed the following item with the committee:

- Purchase Four File Cabinets – In need of four new file cabinets to file paperwork for the remainder of 2020 and 2021. A motion to amend budget moving \$2,000 from account 4420 – outside services into the office supply line was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Hicks and adopted.

PUBLIC DEFENDER – Mike Mercure, Public Defender, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Department Updates – To date this year received \$1,100,000 in revenue plus an additional \$40,000 in August and another \$87,000 due prior to end of year. Thanked the County Administrator and County Treasurer for their assistance. In good shape with Indigent Legal Services revenue.
- Request for Office Space/New Computers/Data Space – They are regularly using all their data as part of the discovery from the DA and working on this issue with IT. Requesting additional data and new computers and have submitted that request to IT.
- One employee out on maternity leave and changed the office space around for social distancing and the employee is returning October 13th and need to rearrange again to maintain social distancing. He is working with Buildings and Grounds and County Administration on this issue.
- They are back up and operating at full volume with only a delay in not trying cases as before.
- The new records retention guidelines have a special section for attorneys, council and public defenders and basically have to keep the files for a very very long time unless directed otherwise by the clients and that creates a file storage issue. He does not plan on destroying any files until further guidance, i.e. keep files for like 80 years absent specific instruction from the client to destroy or give back to them. This is going to require a different method of record keeping.

PUBLIC SAFETY – Gosnell Gosnell, Director, addressed the following items with the committee, detailed meeting handout attached:

- September is National Preparedness Month
- Emergency Management Accreditation – Pubic Safety Department has achieved accreditation through the Local Emergency Management Accreditation Program.
- Grant Updates:
 - Radio System Project - on a soft hold and continue to work with vendor.
 - 911 Phone System – completing remaining tasks and expect to close project at the end of September and will begin progressing to Text 911 integration.
 - Emergency Management Performance Grant Award – A motion to recognize Emergency Management Performance grant award in the amount of \$28,272.00 and forward to the Finance Committee was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Hicks and adopted.
 - CAD System – Working through issues. Next meeting September 15th.
 - COVID – Continue to work with Public Health on preparedness response and still have PPE supply.
 - Communications Center – still on restricted access.

Deputy Director Tim Hardy addressed the recent significant weather events: Tornado in Argyle and severe thunderstorm/heavy rain event that resulted in significant flooding especially in the Village of Whitehall; displayed photos included in detailed meeting handout.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: John Graham, Code Enforcement Administrator, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Discussion on Waiving the Permit Fees for the Whitehall Properties Impact by the Storm. They currently have about 100 permits with the fees starting at \$50. The permits are for flood/storm damage repairs and demolition not for any other projects. All Code Enforcement Officers will be helping out on these permits not just the Code Officer who typically covers this area. Some of these repairs are critical and the State allows for repairs to be made without a permit in place and handled after the fact. The County Attorney stated the fees are set by resolution and the fees can be waived by resolution. The issues in the resolution would be when are we starting this, where does it apply – geographical area and for how long. This does not have to go to Finance, no change to the budget, but it is a loss of revenue that may be experienced and reallocating your resources that might have gotten a fee from another project. Permits fees waived are as of the result of the storm on the specific date. Mr. O'Brien asked about other areas impacted and the County Attorney stated the challenge is going to be the definition; define the area. The County Administrator suggested the following wording: applicable fees for projects applied for by the end of September in response to the August 24th storm are hereby waived. He will work on the resolution wording with the County Attorney, and Code Enforcement Administrator. Mrs. Clary would like to see that this option is available if other towns experience such an issue. Residents are unsure if insurance will cover repair costs. A motion to move to waive the fees and forward to the Finance Committee for consideration was moved by Mr. Hicks, seconded by Mrs. Clary and adopted.
- Personnel Request - Power Point presentation attached. The Code Enforcement Administrator stated his office is short staffed and is asking for one additional fire inspector and two additional Code Enforcement Officers and without these additional people contractors will have a harder time getting inspections, fire inspections will continue to lag behind, project reviews will take longer to complete, property maintenance issue will remain

unchecked and concerns from neighbors will go unanswered. Mr. Campbell, Budget Officer, does not like to add position during the year and prefers that is done at budget time but they are in a chaotic situation and this needs to be looked at now. There is not revenue to offset the expense of a new Code Enforcement Officer. The Code Enforcement Administrator would like to review the entire fee schedule. Mr. Hogan suggested looking into the other town Code Enforcement Officers helping temporarily and that is an option that to date has not been discussed but the Code Enforcement Administrator had no objection. The Code Enforcement Administrator has had a discussion with Mr. Jim Merriman, Code Officer for the Town of Easton, about covering Cambridge, which recently did an emergency transferred from the town to the county, on a part time basis and that is a possibility. A motion to forward request for three additional Code Enforcement Officers to the Personnel Committee for consideration was moved by Mrs. Clary and seconded by Mr. Haff and Mr. Hicks. Discussion. Mr. Hicks thinks this request needs further vetting and understanding where the money for these positions is coming from. Need additional information: can you charge for fire inspections and use town/village code officers on a part time arrangement. A motion to amend to take this discuss to the Finance Committee was moved by Mr. O'Brien and seconded by Mr. Haff. Discussion. A Personnel Committee will be scheduled for immediately following the Finance Committee to consider any requested forwarded to them by the Finance Committee. The motion to amend to take this discussion to the Finance Committee was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Haff and adopted. The motion to forward request for three additional Code Enforcement Officers to the Personnel Committee for consideration was adopted as amended.

- The County is operating Cambridge's Code Enforcement on their behalf pursuant to a resolution from 2009 that allows the Chairman with the consent of the Public Safety Committee to engage in a 90-day emergency code enforcement situation and can be further extended for an additional 90-days. In order to permanently takeover code enforcement for a municipal subdivision of the County that municipality has to adopt prior to July a resolution stating they are getting out of the business on January 1st of the next year. Cambridge missed the deadline for doing that so the best they could do under the statue is adopt a resolution before July of 2021 to have the County start code enforcement as of January 2022. The County could adopt a resolution to waive the requirement/waiting period. We hold them to January 2022 unless like we have done in the past waive that requirement; the waiting period. The committee needs to ratify the emergency agreement, the 90-days and possible 90-day extension, and a resolution from the full Board assuming Cambridge's code enforcement function before January 2022. A motion to ratify the Chairman signing the emergency agreement to provide code enforcement for the Town of Cambridge for 90-days was moved by Mr. Hicks, seconded by Mr. O'Brien and adopted. A motion to waive compliance with the statue that would have required Cambridge to advise the County by July 2021 of their intent to get out of code enforcement and the County will assume the code enforcement function at the end of the 90-days or sooner was moved by Mr. Hicks and seconded by Mr. O'Brien. Discussion. Mr. Haff asked if Cambridge could enter into discussions to have the Town of Easton Code Enforcement Officer perform the code enforcement function. They could but Cambridge wanted to permanently absolve themselves of that responsibility. The motion to waive compliance with the statue that would have required Cambridge to advise the County by July 2021 of their intent to get out of code enforcement and that the County will assume the code enforcement function at the end of the 90-days or sooner was moved by Mr. Hicks and seconded by Mr. O'Brien and adopted. Mr. Haff opposed.

SHERIFF – Sheriff Murphy addressed the following items with the committee:

- Special Patrol Officer Pay Rates – A motion to adopt the contracts for the Special Patrol Officers for the various schools and establish the pay rates amending the non-union Title by Grade Schedule and forward to the Finance Committee for consideration was moved by Mr. Hicks, seconded by Mr. O'Brien and adopted.
- Purchase Sheriff Vehicles – Car Pool budgeted in 2020 for five new cruisers, \$170,000, and during the COVID shutdown to save money the Sheriff stated he could hold off on those purchases. The Public Works Committee discussed possibly purchasing two cruisers so we are not putting us behind by not purchasing any vehicles this year. The Sheriff stated the current system works great purchasing around the five vehicles per year. Patrol has seven vehicles in the high 70,000 – 80,000 mile range, one vehicle in the 90,000 mile range and will have five or six over 100,000. They put on 3,000 to 4,000 miles per month so by year end six or seven vehicles over 100,000 miles. It takes time to order and receive these vehicles. A motion to move forward with the purchase of two vehicles for the Sheriff's Department was moved by Mr. Hogan, and seconded by Mr. O'Brien. Discussion. This does not have to go to Finance, no budget amendment needed. The motion to move forward with the purchase of two vehicles for the Sheriff's Department was moved by Mr. Hogan, seconded by Mr. O'Brien and adopted.
- Governor's Executive Order on Police Reform – The Sheriff met this morning with the Chairman of the Board and Public Safety Committee Chairman to update them on the status of complying with the executive order. They have started the process and committed to getting this in place. They have done some things for compliance; various trainings – anti-racial bias, de-escalation. Prior to the next Public Safety meeting, he plans to look at forming a committee of stake holders that are included in the language of the order: District Attorney, Public Defender, Alternative Sentencing, Social Services, members of business, and clergy. He plans to send a survey out to County residents to get some results back on their thoughts on policing and what they think they can do better as an agency. This also requires a public hearing after the community input and they can comment further at the public hearing and that will satisfy the requirements in the executive order for public input. They are an accredited agency and this will give them an opportunity to showcase all the things they do for the residents of the County. He would like to complete in the next several months and submit to the State so it will not impact any of our State funding. The deadline for the plan to be submitted to the State is by April 1, 2021.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

A motion to adjourn was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded and adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 3:18 P.M.

Debra Prehoda, Clerk
Washington County Board of Supervisors

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT * COMMUNICATIONS * FIRE * EMS * HAZMAT

383 BROADWAY – BUILDING B, FORT EDWARD, NY 12828 ● PHONE (518)747-7520 FAX (518)746-2157 TDD (518)746-2146 ● WWW.WASHINGTONCOUNTYNY.GOV

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

September is National Preparedness Month! All across the nation Emergency Management and Public Safety related departments are stressing the importance and spreading the message – **Disasters Don't Wait – Make Your Plan Today**. Many thanks to our partners in our Towns, Villages, partner Public Safety agencies, Public Health and those in our communities who continue helping us spread the word and raise awareness for our disaster and preparedness efforts.

Make a Plan.

Build a Kit.

Stay Informed.

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

DOWNLOAD OUR APP FOR THE LATEST ALERTS, PHOTOS, OFFER INFO, PREPAREDNESS INFO & MORE.

SIGN UP FOR OUR COMMUNITY EMERGENCY ALERTS & NOTIFICATIONS AT ALERT.NY.GOV

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT US ONLINE AT WASHINGTONCOUNTYNY.GOV/PUBLICSAFETY

WASHINGTON COUNTY IS A PROUD NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE COMMUNITY

COUNTY ACHIEVES NYS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACCREDITATION

Over the last few years we have been working on progressing our county's Emergency Management organization and efforts forward, both within our department, our partner agencies and in all of our municipalities working with our Towns and Villages. We decided to work towards the goal of having our county and emergency management operations recognized as an accredited Emergency Management agency with the State of New York under the state and New York State Emergency Management Association's accreditation program. In early August our department underwent a full assessment of our emergency management operations, including our policies, procedures and plans, which included all aspects of our organization. On August 13, 2020, we received official notification from the accreditation council that we have achieved accreditation through the Local Emergency Management Accreditation Program. We are thankful for the opportunity to participate in the program, review all aspects of our operations, improve where we were able to and continue to strive for excellence for our partner agencies and our communities that rely on our team!

GRANT PROJECT UPDATES

- **RADIO SYSTEM PROJECT (UPDATE)**

We continue to be on hold with the next phase of the Radio Communications System Project, which includes the migration to simul-cast of the frequencies not yet allocated (DPW, Public Safety, Law Enforcement).

- **911 PHONE SYSTEM PROJECT (UPDATE)**

We are set to complete the remaining tasks and close out the phone system upgrade project by the end of September, we will be progressing forward with the beginning of the Text to 911 integration as soon as this project is complete.

- **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT ANNOUNCED / AWARDED**

All Counties received notification their Emergency Management offices were awarded their annual FY2020 EMPG (Emergency Management Performance Grant) grant program. We received notification on August 11, 2020 we were awarded \$28,272.00, to be allocated in accordance with the grant guidance and requirements. The EMPG grant series is federal funding administered by the state and carries a 50% match (can be a hard match or soft match). We are requesting acknowledgement of the award and the funding to be allocated accordingly where the Treasurer allocates it in our 2020 budget – resolution data form to follow for the next Finance Committee meeting.

CAD SYSTEM PROJECT (UPDATE)

The Cushing / Washington County systems project team last met on August 11, 2020. We continue to experience some intermittent issues with a component of the system that the vendor is looking to migrate from a classic version to a web version (mobile piece) for the field units, which was set for April 1, 2020 previously but placed on hold due to COVID-19. Scheduled, coordinated reboots of our systems continue monthly with Information Technology, Public Safety and the vendor.

- Next Project Team Meeting / System Update: September 15, 2020 at 2:00 PM

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) – PREPARATION, RESPONSE AND CONTINUED MONITORING

Washington County's Departments of Public Health and Public Safety in conjunction with County Administration are continuing to work closely with our state and federal health agencies to monitor the spread of the disease and act decisively to ensure we are as prepared as possible to keep Washington County safe and healthy. We will continue our coordination and support for our local agencies and communities alongside our Public Health partners to best keep



our stakeholders updated and informed. In an effort to effort to enhance public awareness and simplify access to public information, we coordinated with Public Health and County Administration to publish a public information page, which will be updated frequently with any changes or local statistics, at washingtoncountyny.gov/coronavirus .

- School Re-Opening Plans – We continue working Alongside our Public Health & Education Partners as they prepare to re-open in a safe and healthy manner, providing assistance and guidance as we move forward together. All schools in the county are preparing to open next week utilizing a hybrid method (mix of in-person and virtual), depending on student / parents choice and grade level.
- Personal Protective Equipment Supply & Distribution – We continue to support and supply our local First Responder and Municipal agencies with PPE from the supplies we have available. For in-county businesses and our communities we have cloth face coverings and hand sanitizer available as well – please direct anyone with requests to contact our office via email (publicsafety@washingtoncountyny.gov) or by phone to arrange pick-up. With the current status of COVID-19 in our communities and the potential for resurgence, we are urging all of our agencies and businesses in our communities to make efforts to procure PPE items to replace their dwindling or empty stock as availability of items is slowly increasing.
- Communications Center Updates - The Communications Center remains on restricted access to Communications personnel only, we continue pre-screening all employees (which includes a temperature check and screening questions) – keeping our staff safe and healthy and our 911 Communications Center adequately staffed and intact for the many who rely on us is crucial!

SIGNIFICANT RECENT WEATHER EVENTS

- TORNADO CONFIRMED - ARGYLE
 - On August 10, 2020, the area experienced some significant severe thunderstorms and following an assessment by our partners at the National Weather Service in Albany, confirmed an EF1 tornado had touched down in the Town of Argyle in the area of Goose Island Road.
- SEVERE THUNDERSTORM / HEAVY RAIN EVENT
 - On August 24, 2020, severe thunderstorms and heavy rains moved into the Whitehall area and caused significant issues in terms of storm damage and back-up of water / flooding. Estimated amounts of rain received in the heaviest areas of Whitehall are 5 – 6". Between 4:50 PM and 6:00 AM the following day, our 911 Communications Center had processed over 80 storm related calls in that area. Back-up of water / flooding occurred on Broadway (State Route 22) and many of the lower lying side street areas, as well as into many homes, businesses, the Whitehall Municipal Center (which houses the Town & Village offices, courts and Police Department) and Whitehall Central School buildings. *(see attached document for additional details)*

We truly appreciate the continued and proven partnership and assistance of all of our elected officials, Communications Center personnel, field partners in Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS, Public Works, as well as our Municipal, County and State agency partners as we continue to navigate through any challenges we're faced with as a county and a team. Many thanks to all for their work on behalf of those we serve!

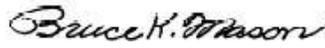
Respectfully Submitted,



Glen P. Gosnell
Director



Timothy R. Hardy
Deputy Director



Bruce K. Mason
EMS Coordinator



Glenn E. Bristol
Fire Coordinator



August 13, 2020

Glen Gosnell, Director
Washington County Department of Public Safety
383 Broadway - Building B, Fort Edward, NY 12828

Director Gosnell:

On behalf of the New York State Local Emergency Management Accreditation Council, we are happy to inform you that the Washington County Department of Public Safety has achieved accreditation as part of the Local Emergency Management Accreditation Program. In achieving this accreditation, your agency met or exceeded standards established by the Council in all primary aspects of emergency management, to include preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation.

This accreditation is valid for five years from the date of this letter, and you will have an opportunity to obtain reaccreditation after the five-year period. Congratulations on meeting this important milestone and thank you again for your professionalism and commitment to emergency management.

Respectfully,

Dan O'Hara
Director of the DHSES Office of Emergency Management
Co-chair of the New York State Local Emergency Management Accreditation Council

Chris Baker
NYSEMA President
Co-chair of the New York State Local Emergency Management Accreditation Council



**Homeland Security
and Emergency Services**

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

PATRICK A. MURPHY
Commissioner

August 11, 2020

The Honorable Samuel Hall
Chair, Washington County Board of Supervisors
383 Broadway
Fort Edward, NY 12828

Dear Mr. Hall:

I am pleased to inform you that Washington County is awarded \$28,272 under the FY2020 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG). Funding for this grant is provided by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) will administer this funding on behalf of FEMA. The performance period for this grant is from October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2022.

The FY2020 EMPG application documents and grant guidance are being sent to your designated program points of contact. In order for DHSES to provide these critical funds to you as quickly as possible, your application must be submitted to DHSES no later than August 31, 2020. If you need assistance in completing your application, please contact the DHSES Grants Program Administration Office at (866) 837-9133.

Thank you for your continued support of New York State's homeland security efforts. DHSES remains committed to providing you with outstanding support in the administration of your homeland security programs. If you have any questions, please contact my Program Manager of Grants Program Administration, Eric Abramson, at (518) 402-2123.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patrick A. Murphy", written over a blue circular stamp or seal.

Patrick A. Murphy
Commissioner

cc: Glenn Gosnell, Director, Washington County Public Safety

WASHINGTON COUNTY, NY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT * COMMUNICATIONS * FIRE * EMS * HAZMAT



SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS, HEAVY RAIN EVENT

WHITEHALL AREA – AUGUST 24, 2020

OVERVIEW

On August 24, 2020, severe thunderstorms and heavy rains moved into the Whitehall area and caused significant issues in terms of storm damage and back-up of water / flooding. Estimated amounts of rain received in the heaviest areas of Whitehall are 5 – 6”.

Between 4:50 PM and 6:00 AM the following day, our 911 Communications Center had processed over 80 storm related calls in that area. Back-up of water / flooding occurred on Broadway (State Route 22) and many of the lower lying side street areas, as well as into many homes, businesses, the Whitehall Municipal Center (which houses the Town & Village offices, courts and Police Department) and Whitehall Central School buildings.



RESPONSE

The immediate response of the Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company, the Whitehall Police Department and the Village of Whitehall DPW to the many incidents that unfolded in the Village and immediate outlying area of the town was exceptional. As the area was scattered with storm damage, flooded streets, buildings and homes the First Responders and members of the community met the challenges and worked together promptly to ensure all emergencies were handled as quickly as possible and thankfully, no injuries were reported throughout the event.

The Village suffered a significant break in their 14” water main from a fallen tree during the storm, requiring immediate shut down and repair of their entire system. The Village Mayor Declared a State of Emergency due to the storm conditions and impact on the Village’s water infrastructure (still unknown at the time).

As the evening progressed, mutual aid assistance from many other departments (Fire Departments, Law Enforcement agencies, Public Works personnel, Code Enforcement and our State Partners) arrived and were assigned tasks to assist. Two local residents were assisted from their residences, which were surrounded by water, by First Responders and taken to safe locations. Four vehicles were submerged in water above the mid-way point during the event, two homes were significantly damaged due to trees from the event as well, over thirty homes and businesses experienced wind, water or other storm related damage from the event as well.



SUMMARY OF INITIAL INCIDENTS REPORTED

Flooded Roadways: 8

Flooded Structures: 21

Water Rescue: 1

Trees / Trees w/ Wires Down: 33

Tree on Vehicle: 2

Tree on House: 2

Sink Hole: 1

Vehicle Off the Roadway: 1

Damage to Utility / Furnace / Fuel Oil: 5

Grass & Brush Fire: 1



DAMAGE AT THE WHITEHALL CENTRAL SCHOOL



STRUCTURAL SAFETY SURVEYS / CODE ENFORCEMENT

The New York State Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services OFPC DART (Damage Assessment Response Team) provided teams to assist in conducting immediate assessments of structures affected, identifying any major safety concerns to be reviewed by Code Enforcement. The DART teams conducted a total of 61 assessments, assisting in providing us a larger look at the damage and needs moving forward.

Our county Code Enforcement personnel responded quickly and have been conducting inspections on all affected properties throughout the last week. Our Code Enforcement teams have been alongside our team and the community throughout the event, ensuring any safety issues were immediately noted, and worked with the community during what proved to be a very challenging event.

Code Enforcement continues to conduct inspections as additional properties are identified as having sustained related damages, statistics are continuing to change on a daily basis.



CODE ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

TOTAL # OF PROPERTIES ASSESSED: 101

Basements/Crawlspaces flooded (to varying levels): 42

First floors flooded (i.e., slab foundations): 9

Wiring with water damage (besides furnaces, boilers, etc.): 7

Furnaces/Boilers with possible water damage: 22

Water heaters with possible water damage: 16

Other appliances with possible water damage: 6

Foundation/Slab damage: 3

Evidence of possible fuel spill: 3 (DEC notified of all locations)

Roof damage: 11

Roof leaks: 13

Chimney damage: 2

Grade damage that could cause future flooding or damage: 3

Closed buildings: 4

Buildings planned for demolition: 1



RECOVERY EFFORTS

Agencies continued to work and address the immediate emergency needs of the community in the days following. In partnership with our state Emergency Management officials, we were able to obtain emergency pumps, generators and bottled water for distribution for the community.

The Whitehall Volunteer Fire Company graciously hosted distribution of the bottled water and donated “flood buckets” containing clean-up supplies, which came courtesy of the Whitehall United Methodist Church and the American Red Cross, the Fire Company also allowed us to utilize their station throughout the week to work out of and hold necessary meetings.

To date, we coordinated with the Red Cross to arrange immediate sheltering needs for 9 families. We’ve coordinated with the local officials and agencies conducting continued outreach to the community, working to obtain damage assessment information.



SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS / HEAVY RAIN EVENT – WHITEHALL AREA

EVENT DATE: AUGUST 24, 2020



RECOVERY EFFORTS - CONTINUED

We're continuing to work with our New York State Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services Individual Assistance team following conducting assessments last Friday in Whitehall.

We met with 33 residents and business owners who were affected by the event and will continue identifying residents and business owners moving forward. We are working with our state partners to receive an "SBA Disaster Assistance Declaration", which may make the area residents and businesses eligible for SBA (Small Business Administration) low-interest loans for those affected.

Our elected officials on all levels (Village, Town, County, State and Federal) continue to check in with our team and provide their support for our operations and recovery moving forward.

EFFORTS ARE ONGOING AND CONTINUING TO PROGRESS

Many thanks to all of the agencies, personnel and community members who have and continue to support those in need and the recovery efforts.



Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020



Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Areas that our office covers:



Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Areas that our office covers:

All of Washington County except for

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Areas that our office covers:

All of Washington County except for
-Town of Cambridge

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Areas that our office covers:

All of Washington County except for

- Town of Cambridge
- Town of Fort Edward

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Areas that our office covers:

All of Washington County except for

- Town of Cambridge
- Town of Fort Edward
- Town of Easton

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Areas that our office covers:

All of Washington County except for

- Town of Cambridge
- Town of Fort Edward
- Town of Easton
- Village of Hudson Falls

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Areas that our office covers:

All of Washington County except for

- Town of Cambridge
- Town of Fort Edward
- Town of Easton
- Village of Hudson Falls
- Village of Fort Edward

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Our present staff:



Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Our present staff:

Sewage Disposal Systems – 1 Code Enforcement Officer (CEO)

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Our present staff:

Sewage Disposal Systems – 1 Code Enforcement Officer (CEO)
-he covers all reviews and inspections in our jurisdiction

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Our present staff:

Sewage Disposal Systems – 1 Code Enforcement Officer (CEO)
-he covers all reviews and inspections in our jurisdiction

Fire Inspections – 1 Code Enforcement Officer (CEO)

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Our present staff:

Sewage Disposal Systems – 1 Code Enforcement Officer (CEO)
-he covers all reviews and inspections in our jurisdiction

Fire Inspections – 1 Code Enforcement Officer (CEO)
-he is still in training and

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Our present staff:

Sewage Disposal Systems – 1 Code Enforcement Officer (CEO)
-he covers all reviews and inspections in our jurisdiction

Fire Inspections – 1 Code Enforcement Officer (CEO)
-he is still in training and
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Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

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Code Enforcement

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Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Sewage Disposal Systems:



Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Sewage Disposal Systems:

Average # of permits over past 5 years - **132**

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

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Responsibilities:

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

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Responsibilities:

- reviews all plans for sewage disposal systems in our area

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

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Average # of permits over past 5 years – **132**

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Code Enforcement

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 - he has to oversee getting new as-built drawings,
 - he has to review them, again occasionally needing numerous calls to the Engineer
 - he has to reinspect the system

Code Enforcement

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Code Enforcement

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- investigate complaints from neighbors or others
- investigate BWOPs, making sure permits are issued

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Fire Inspections:



Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Fire Inspections:

How many?

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Fire Inspections:

How many?

156 Assembly occupancies (i.e., restaurants, churches and other gathering places)

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Fire Inspections:

How many?

156 Assembly occupancies (i.e., restaurants, churches and other gathering places)

127 Businesses

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Fire Inspections:

How many?

- 156** Assembly occupancies (i.e., restaurants, churches and other gathering places)
- 127** Businesses
- 16** Educational occupancies

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Fire Inspections:

How many?

- 156** Assembly occupancies (i.e., restaurants, churches and other gathering places)
- 127** Businesses
- 16** Educational occupancies
- 25** Factories

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Fire Inspections:

How many?

156 Assembly occupancies (i.e., restaurants, churches and other gathering places)

127 Businesses

16 Educational occupancies

25 Factories

110 Mercantile occupancies

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Fire Inspections:

How many?

- 156** Assembly occupancies (i.e., restaurants, churches and other gathering places)
- 127** Businesses
- 16** Educational occupancies
- 25** Factories
- 110** Mercantile occupancies
- 47** Storage occupancies

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

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How many?

- 156 Assembly occupancies (i.e., restaurants, churches and other gathering places)
- 127 Businesses
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- 175 Residential occupancies

Code Enforcement

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 - over **1000** individual units

Code Enforcement

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- 47** Storage occupancies
- 175** Residential occupancies
 - over **1000** individual units

This results in over **600** inspections per year for **1** person...

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Construction Projects:

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Construction Projects:

Average # of permits over past 5 years – **500**

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Construction Projects:

Average # of permits over past 5 years – **500**

-that's **120** projects per CEO

Code Enforcement

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-possibility of **500+** inspections per year

Code Enforcement

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-possibility of **500+** inspections per year

Responsibilities:

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Construction Projects:

Average # of permits over past 5 years – **500**

-that's **120** projects per CEO

-possibility of **500+** inspections per year

Responsibilities:

-reviews and inspections

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Construction Projects:

Average # of permits over past 5 years – **500**

-that's **120** projects per CEO

-possibility of **500+** inspections per year

Responsibilities:

-reviews and inspections

-investigate complaints from neighbors or others

Code Enforcement

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Construction Projects:

Average # of permits over past 5 years – **500**

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Responsibilities:

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Code Enforcement

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Responsibilities:

-reviews and inspections

-investigate complaints from neighbors or others

-investigate BWOPs, making sure permits are issued

-investigate property maintenance issues

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Paycheck to paycheck



Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Paycheck to paycheck

-if anything unexpected happens...

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Paycheck to paycheck

-if anything unexpected happens...

4 unexpected thing in the last 4-6 weeks:

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Paycheck to paycheck

-if anything unexpected happens...

4 unexpected thing in the last 4-6 weeks:

1. 850 renewal letters

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Paycheck to paycheck

-if anything unexpected happens...

4 unexpected thing in the last 4-6 weeks:

1. 850 renewal letters
2. CEO resigning

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

Paycheck to paycheck

-if anything unexpected happens...

4 unexpected thing in the last 4-6 weeks:

1. 850 renewal letters
2. CEO resigning
3. Town of Cambridge

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

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-if anything unexpected happens...

4 unexpected thing in the last 4-6 weeks:

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4. Whitehall storms

Code Enforcement

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We could handle any of these individually with lots of overtime and extra work but...

Code Enforcement

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4 unexpected thing in the last 4-6 weeks:

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We could handle any of these individually with lots of overtime and extra work but...

All in 4-6 weeks is really hurting the Department

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

In order to effectively provide of the services that NYS requires,

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

In order to effectively provide of the services that NYS requires,

We Need More Staff

Code Enforcement

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In order to have them trained in time for the next busy season,

Code Enforcement

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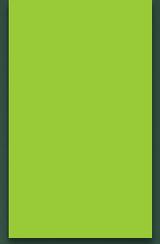
We Need More Staff

In order to have them trained in time for the next busy season,

We Need Them ASAP

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020



I'm coming to you today to ask you for the following:

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

I'm coming to you today to ask you for the following:

One additional fire inspector

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

I'm coming to you today to ask you for the following:

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-Eventually, I will most likely need to ask for another

Code Enforcement

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING – 9/1/2020

I'm coming to you today to ask you for the following:

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Two additional Code Enforcement Officers

Code Enforcement

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I'm coming to you today to ask you for the following:

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Two additional Code Enforcement Officers

We cover 90% of the 840+ square miles of the County and 75% of the population.

Code Enforcement

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Without these additional people:

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Contractors will have a harder time getting inspections,

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Concerns from neighbors will go unanswered.