

Hull Board of Selectmen

Minutes

January 26, 2015 – Emergency Meeting

January 26, 2015, 8:00 p.m.

Board of Selectmen Emergency Meeting via conference call system

Due to the Storm Emergency, it is too dangerous to meet in person; thus the Board met via conference call.

Participating:

Christopher Olivieri, Chairman; Kevin Richardson, Vice-Chairman; Domenico Sestito, Clerk; John Brannan and John D. Reilly, Jr., Members. Also participating were: Philip E. Lemnios, Town Manager; and James Lampke, Town Counsel; Chief Russo, Chief Billings

8:00 p.m. Christopher Olivieri convened the meeting and stated that due to the emergency caused by the storm that an emergency meeting is being convened. As it is too dangerous to be out (the Governor has even declared a travel ban), the Board was meeting via the conference call system.

Chief Russo gave a report on the serious storm situation, including the expected large amounts of snow, strong winds and high drifts. School has already been cancelled. High tide at 4 a.m. All stations are staffed. National Guard is in the area, not yet in Hull.

We have a warming shelter at the Memorial, not an evacuation shelter here in Hull. Nearest evacuation shelter is in Weymouth. This is a regional shelter run by the Red Cross. There are greater responsibilities with an evacuation shelter. No call will go unanswered by Hull public safety personnel. There are, among other issues, potential risks if we had a shelter and people then left in the middle of the storm to get there. Also, more is involved in running an evacuation shelter which requires greater resources. Town has made ample prior news releases etc. to inform people. The current emergency response practice is to have a regional evacuation shelter (such as the one in Weymouth) and local warming stations. If people need to be transported to the regional shelter, they will be. This has been the practice in recent storm events.

Christopher Olivieri asked about the tides. Chief Russo responded that they are monitoring the tides carefully. He expects moderate wash over, not unlike other storms. Wash over is expected in early morning when people will be sleeping.

Chief said the dune at Malta Street has already been compromised a little. Due to the patios there, it is already a low dune area.

Philip Lemnios said he had spoken with the Hull Times today and advised them that the Board would be meeting in an emergency conference call meeting and would confirm actions at its next public meeting.

Lampke had prepared an emergency declaration resolution which had been circulated to everyone earlier.

Moved - Richardson: To adopt the emergency declaration as circulated.

Seconded – Brannan

Roll Call Vote: Aye, Olivieri; Aye, Richardson; Aye, Sestito; Aye, Brannan;
Aye, Reilly

Chief Billings said that his officers are in place and ready to respond as needed. They are mindful that there may be some people walking about and they will try to encourage and assist them to seek shelter and not be outside.

Board members expressed confidence in the Town's public safety personnel to continue to do a great job for the Town and residents.

Lemnios said that he will keep Board posted on developments.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Documents used:

1. Emergency Declaration