

**ONEONTA, NEW YORK - AUGUST 2, 2012 - 4:00 P.M.**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC SERVICE PG. 1**

**PRESENT:** Chair Margery K. Merzig  
Commissioner Louis Tisenchek  
Commissioner David Hayes  
Commissioner Joseph Temming  
Council Member Madolyn Palmer  
**ABSENT:** Commissioner Peter Friedman

Chair Merzig called the regular meeting to order and asked the Clerk to call the roll.

**PETITIONERS**

Chair Merzig recognized petitioners for properties listed on the agenda, Ms. Heck and Mr. Rubin. She asked if there were other petitioners.

Ms. Kathy Jalowiec-Stanton stated she was concerned about properties in the area of her property.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received from Code Inspector Hester, dated July 26, 2012:

**“SUBJECT:** August 2, 2012 Board of Public Service Items

**Updates:**

**336-344 Chestnut Street- (Bang Hua Chen: 34 Schoolhouse Lane, Oneonta 13820)-** The Code Enforcement Office has received no additional correspondence from this owner.

**22 Duane Street- (James Gillette: 22 Duane Street, Oneonta, NY 13820)-** Mr. Gillette’s contractor has obtained a building permit and the Code Enforcement Office will be conducting construction inspections on the progress.

**39 Maple Street- (Ralph Tomeo: 55 Otis Road, East Patchogue, NY 11772)-** On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012 the Board ordered this property vacated immediately and that the property be repaired within 60 days. The property is now vacant, but exterior violations still remain.

**128 Chestnut Street Rear- (Alan Rubin: 138 Balford Drive, Oneonta 13820)-** On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012 the Board ordered that this property be vacated within 30 days and all exterior safety violations be taken care of as well as having a licensed engineer review the property’s structural safety. As of this date, this office did receive an engineers report from Bernard O’Neill, but no exterior violation repair can be confirmed. The Code Enforcement Office is recommending that this property be referred to the city attorney for further action.

**13 Baker Street- (Margo Heck: 13 Baker Street, Oneonta 13820)-** Code Enforcement Officer Chiappisi spoke with Mrs. Heck and advised her of the August meeting and the discussion of possible steps to remove combustibles from the garage.”

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The board approved the minutes of the regular meeting held July 5, 2012 without benefit of a motion.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Follow-up on Unsafe Building Hearing: Bang Hua Chen – 336-344 Chestnut Street (Tabled at the July 5<sup>th</sup> meeting)
2. Follow-up on Unsafe Building Hearing: James Gillette – 22 Duane Street (Tabled at the July 5<sup>th</sup> meeting)
3. Follow-up on fire safety/possible remedies: Margo Heck – 13 Baker Street

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**(Old Business)** continued

4. Follow-up on unsafe building – 128 Chestnut Street Rear – Alan Rubin – No exterior violation repairs confirmed and Code Enforcement is recommending property be referred to the City Attorney for further action

Chair Merzig addressed items 3 and 4 of old business as follows.

**3. Follow-up on fire safety/possible remedies: Margo Heck – 13 Baker Street**

Chair Merzig stated that the board was concerned about Ms. Heck's properties at 13 and 15 Baker Street. She said that the board would like to know if Ms. Heck had a plan for cleaning out the garage because the board was worried about there being a fire due to the combustibles stored there.

Ms. Margo Heck stated some of the stuff was taken out. She said her plan was that she would like to get the house and the garage repaired but was not quite sure yet how.

Chair Merzig stated the board was very concerned and the concern was to not wait and have Ms. Heck come up with a plan soon. She said the board needed a timetable from Ms. Heck as to when she was going to do it. She said the board did not want this to be delayed and delayed again.

Ms. Heck's daughter, Ms. Debbie Janitz, spoke on behalf of Ms. Margo Heck and asked if Margo Heck could have a timeframe that she could come with a plan. She also asked if they could come to the board's next meeting and tell the board what the plan was or call in a week saying what she had decided and what her plan was.

Chair Merzig stated the board was willing to accept that but the board did not want it to be months. She suggested that Ms. Heck contact the Code Enforcement Office before the end of August and give them a plan. She said the board's next meeting would be September 6<sup>th</sup> and would decide at that time if the board had to take action if Ms. Heck did not come up with a plan.

Ms. Janitz asked if there was any kind of low income loans or housing that Margo could get.

Chair Merzig replied there probably were but the banks would know about that. She said there was a federal program that the banks may participate in but it would be between the homeowner and the bank. She suggested she check with some of the local banks and also that she contact Opportunities for Otsego because they do have some housing assistance money that she may qualify for.

Ms. Kathy Jalowiec-Stanton stated she had two properties in the immediate area of the said property on Baker Street. She said she had been contacted by three people in the neighborhood that asked her what they could do about this. She said she was not the alderman but their concern was rat and cockroach infestation. She said people have seen the rodents and she had not seen them herself but she could only pass on what three different people living in that neighborhood have said to her. She said she had contacted everybody in the neighborhood that was concerned and she told them when this meeting was. She said her property value was affected. She said she tried to do the best she could to maintain her property. She said she had nothing against these people but property ownership was a very big responsibility. She said it was very difficult and very expensive. She said there was a daycare next door to this property and there was a lot that needed to be addressed other than just cleaning up some items in the garage.

Chair Merzig stated the city was somewhat limited to take action because it was private property. She said the board had been struggling over the past few years to cleanup this property. She said the city was able to cleanup the exterior of the property and bill it to the property owner. She said there were other actions that the board could take one being hiring a contractor to clean out the garage because of combustibles. She said the board's actions must always be based on safety concerns and could not be based on cosmetics unfortunately.

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**(13 Baker Street)** continued

Ms. Jalowiec-Stanton stated there was a safety concern when different people have said they have seen rats in the neighborhood. She said there was concern and evidently people were eyeing things up and asking what they could do.

Ms. Janitz stated there was also a concern because other people in the neighborhood have been dumping their garbage in that yard feeling that it was already a mess. She said as far as rats this property was by the railroad tracks and because of that the rats have probably been there forever. She said on the other side of the tracks they had the same issue because of the railroad tracks and the grain. She said if it was felt that there were rats there they could set traps to try to catch them.

Chair Merzig stated that under Chapter 92 of the Code of the City of Oneonta the board can take action against properties that were unsafe and that was the board's concern here.

Ms. Jalowiec-Stanton questioned if that was only for the physical structure being unsafe.

Chair Merzig responded no, vermin was also a part of the board's charge. She said when the board acts on a property the city charges whatever it costs to do the work by a private contractor hired by the city to do it. She said the city charges the cost of the work plus 50 percent for administrative fees to a property owner. She said it was very onerous to the property owner and the board preferred that the property owner do it. She said the board would like Ms. Margo Heck and her family to take the action to do what was necessary. She said that was what this meeting was about. She said the board would hear from the Code Enforcement Office regarding anything that has been going on with the property. She said Fire Chief Pidgeon was here to answer any questions they may have.

Code Inspector Hester stated this property was originally brought to the board in June. He said he recently visited the property again and the main concern was that there was a fire on the property several months ago. He said there was an uncountable number of tires inside the garage and different materials inside the garage. He said at this point with a lot of kids in the neighborhood and the fact that there was a fire previously the Code Enforcement Office was very concerned about this.

Ms. Janitz asked if there was a code on how many tires or what one could store in their garage.

Code Inspector Hester replied that there cannot be an excessive amount of combustibles.

Chair Merzig stated that it was the tires and a combination of combustibles.

Ms. Margo Heck questioned how many garages did not have tires and paint.

Chair Merzig stated the tires were not necessarily the problem but it was the combustibles.

Ms. Janitz stated if it was because of the condition of the garage and somebody could get in to access it she asked if Margo fixed the garage would she have to worry about cleaning out the garage.

Chair Merzig responded yes and anything of worth could be put back in the repaired garage in an orderly fashion.

Ms. Janitz questioned if there were not just as combustible if they were orderly or not orderly if they were putting in paint, gas and tires.

Chair Merzig responded yes.

Ms. Janitz stated so in that aspect it did not matter if they were in order because they were still all in everybody's garage.

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**(13 Baker Street)** continued

Chair Merzig stated there were ways of making a garage fire resistant and that garage was not. She said she had tires and gasoline in her garage and her garage was fire rated. She said there were ways of keeping things in one's property that were acceptable. She said Ms. Heck's garage happens to be a big jumble and access was possible. She said if that garage was secured and cleaned up where there was not an excessive amount of combustibles it may be different.

Ms. Janitz stated that was what she was getting at.

Chair Merzig stated regarding the foundation at 13 Baker Street the board was very concerned about that in terms of integrity. She said that was another matter and that was not being dealt with at this meeting. She said the board had previously declared that property unsafe and no one should be in it and that should be secured. She said the board's main concern at this point was the garage and the combustibles in the garage. She said the fact that there was a fire on the property not too long ago and if it had spread to the garage it might have spread to the neighbors.

Chair Merzig stated the property was not being well maintained and if that was impossible for Ms. Margo Heck to do the board wanted her to take some action and make a plan to get it cleaned up.

**MOTION**, made by Chair Merzig and seconded by Commissioner Hayes, that based on testimony heard and the follow-up on fire safety/possible remedies the Board of Public Service directs Ms. Margo Heck to give the Code Enforcement Office a plan to take action to cleanup and secure the garage at 13 Baker Street by Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup>. If Ms. Heck complies with that the board will not take action and cleanup the property at her expense.

**Voting Ayes:** Chair Merzig  
Commissioner Temming  
Commissioner Tisenchek  
Commissioner Hayes  
**Noes:** None  
**Absent:** Commissioner Friedman

**MOTION CARRIED**

Voting followed this discussion.

Ms. Heck questioned if Code Enforcement Office had ever gone through the garage next door to her because she thought that was a hazard. She said there were no roaches in the house because there was no heat or food in the house.

Chair Merzig stated the board heard about that from a petitioner but the board was expressing concern at this time about the garage.

Commissioner Hayes stated that as a member of this board the business about fire terrified him. He said the board heard testimony that there had been a fire on the property before and the board has seen photographs of combustibles in the garage. He said if there was a fire and there were high winds it would spread to other houses of the neighbors. He said that concerned the board a lot and he would like Ms. Heck to take this matter very, very seriously. He said this needed to be addressed right now. He said the board really did not want to hear about what was or was not allowed to be stored because right now it was a fire hazard and that needed to be seriously looked at now.

Commissioner Temming questioned if Code Enforcement Office has had access to the inside of the garage.

Code Inspector Hester responded that he has only seen the inside from the exterior.

(13 Baker Street) continued

A petitioner asked if Ms. Heck could put in a fire alarm.

Fire Chief Pidgeon replied that there was no heat in the building and alarms he was aware of were not designed to function in a cold environment. He said that would be an additional hazard of false alarms going off due to the fact that those systems were meant to operate in occupied structures.

Chair Merzig stated that the board wanted Ms. Heck to get together with the Code Enforcement Office by August 9<sup>th</sup> and give them a plan for her she was going to clean the garage out. She said the board would not mind if she also had a plan for what she was going to do with the house foundation.

**4. Follow-up on unsafe building – 128 Chestnut Street Rear – Alan Rubin – No exterior violation repairs confirmed and Code Enforcement is recommending property be referred to the City Attorney for further action**

Chair Merzig stated that at the May board meeting the board ordered this property vacated and she asked if the property was vacated.

Mr. Alan Rubin replied no and it was not going to be vacated. He said most of the things on the inspection report had been corrected and was found to be structurally safe. He said there were some things that had to be done to the roof and the porch but the engineer was confident that it did not need to be vacated and that they (he and Mr. David Freed) could give the board quite a short timeline on finishing up everything on the list.

Chair Merzig stated in the engineer's report from Bernard J. O'Neill, P.E. was the "Owner's Plan of Remediation" and it says "*1. Assign a qualified person to review smoke alarm and CO alarm*" and she asked if that was done.

Mr. Rubin stated that everything was done. He said everything was complete, the smoke alarms and everything was working along those lines.

Chair Merzig questioned if the damaged wall, ceiling, floors and furnishings were repaired.

Mr. Rubin responded that was the portion that was going to be done. He said the exterior has been fixed. He said the porch would be shored up and the roof was fine. He said the house was not unsafe and that was basically what the engineer was saying.

Chair Merzig stated she did not read the report that way. She said it says "*3. Hire qualified contractor to correct violations related to building exterior and grounds,*" and retain an engineer to inspect and propose appropriate remediation related to the structural issues. She said that she did not see that Mr. O'Neill said it was done or that it was okay and that she just sees that he was making a recommendation.

Mr. Rubin stated when reading through all the violations that was given to him on the Code's sheet it would be good to know what was specified exactly as unsafe. He said to them they would think the porch because Code wanted a specific engineer's report. He said the porch and the roof were not unsafe. He said anything related to the smoke detectors had been repaired. He said they could not see what else in the house would be unsafe.

Chair Merzig stated the structural issues with the floor.

Mr. Rubin stated there were no structural issues with the floor in the basement. He said everything and the joist were solid and sound. He said if the board needed the engineer to elaborate further on that report they could have him do so.

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**(128 Chestnut Street Rear)** continued

Chair Merzig stated the board needed a report with a stamp and that has not been done. She said the board was concerned that people have been in the house while things were not safe.

Mr. Rubin stated it was safe and that was what the engineer said. He said if they had to get the plan with a stamp they will. He said he invites Code Enforcement to come through and re-inspect anytime that they would like. He said they could come in anytime and view everything the engineer went through and look at his report. He said they had no problem doing that with all the properties they had.

Code Enforcement Officer Chiappisi stated if Mr. Rubin was going back to Mr. O'Neill he would like a statement from him saying that this property meets the minimum standards and requirement for health and safety according to New York State Law with his name and stamp on it.

Mr. Rubin stated absolutely. He said that was not a problem. He said they would love to get that to him. He said that would be perfect and the board could give them a timeline of 7 days for that. He said they were looking to aggressively work on their properties and that was why they were present at the meeting. He said he knew they had submitted quite a bit of paperwork to be reviewed by the board but he did not know if they were going to get an opportunity to talk about that as the meeting goes on.

Chair Merzig stated the board received just a copy of Mr. O'Neill's report.

Mr. Rubin stated he very recently submitted a package to the Code Enforcement Office.

Code Inspector Hester stated that was for the board's September meeting.

Mr. Rubin stated he was uncomfortable with that being for next month's meeting only because they were on a timetable for that. He said they had spoken with Council Members and had a Council Member specifically speak to Code Enforcement Officer Chiappisi and they met with Code Enforcement Officer Chiappisi to have an approach that they suggested to remedy any issues with their property, not just unsafe because they only had this one and a house that was completely destroyed by the tenants that was currently vacant and deemed unsafe. He said they would address that as well. He said they had 15 properties within the City of Oneonta and they want all their properties to be 100 percent compliant. He said they had an aggressive plan of attack and they have had a liaison and a contractor working with the Board of Public Service but they needed to turn this thing a little bit faster than that was going. He said he thought the Code Enforcement Office could attest to it that they had been making inspections constantly for their properties to get them re-inspected to get them passed to get Certificates of Compliance. He said they had inspectors coming in and out of their houses and were just trying to get it done. He said that was their overall plan. He said when they look into next month with some of the issues with the properties and the fines, fees and penalties he could say that last year they were levied about \$12,000, which went onto their taxes, and this year another expected \$13,800 was supposed to hit. He said he also reviewed all this and a lot of it had to do with issues between suggested electrical inspectors for the properties as well as the electricians. He said they actually had violations cleared that they accrued penalties after they paid for 2 years and did not even realize they accrued penalties. He said now they had stamped reports and still paid it. He said they would be going into a few logistics related to people that were working for the city and with the city and talk about an open plan. He said simply their solution was to get the properties 100 percent complaint in a timeframe that was appropriate to the Board of Public Service and to the Code Enforcement Office and not only were they willing to pay but sign a document that they would be willing to pay all the penalties that had accrued plus more accrued penalties if they did not come through on their word. He said their goal was to get the properties 100 percent complaint.

Chair Merzig stated the board was very happy to hear that.

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**(128 Chestnut Street Rear)** continued

Mr. Rubin stated they spoke with Council Members, Code Enforcement Officer Chiappisi and Code Inspector Hester and could get a big “thank you” for helping them and working with them through the process and they need to get it done but they were going to need to get some flexibility from the board. He said he knew one of the members who was not here that sometimes they did not have the easiest time working with him but he hoped when he looks at the solution that they put forth it will be different because he did not think the city had anything to lose by working with them.

Chair Merzig stated in many ways that was what the administrative fees and other actions by the Code Enforcement Office were meant to get property owners to comply and sometimes the only way to get them to comply was through their pocket.

Mr. Rubin stated he understands because he had numerous people that he used that form of compliance with as well.

Chair Merzig stated the board was constrained by the City Code and could take certain action according to the parameters that had been outlined by the legislation but the board will be happy to look at what Mr. Rubin had.

Mr. Rubin stated regarding the administrative fees and fines he said he read through all the board minutes and there was precedence set for reducing or removing them in every different direction. He said he did not know exactly what the board’s process was because he saw so many different cases for different people and things.

Chair Merzig stated the board had a very clear formula and she would be happy to meet with Mr. Rubin to walk through some things.

Mr. Rubin stated that would be great.

Mr. Rubin stated he did not know if Code Enforcement Officer Chiappisi wanted to speak to this but he thought there was a firm understanding now that he and Mr. Freed were handling this themselves 100 percent and making sure that it was done. He said there was no in between, no liaison and be sure it was done and want their Certificates of Compliance. He said it was not that they were bad people but they just want to be done with it.

Chair Merzig suggested they keep up the good work and the board was very eager to have them follow-up in the way Mr. Rubin described.

Commissioner Temming questioned if the inspections have been going on at this property.

Code Inspector Hester responded there has been no other housing inspection, just an exterior inspection.

Chair Merzig stated when all the other cases come before the board in September the board will consider lifting the unsafe declaration for Mr. Rubin’s property if that was appropriate. She said the board would like Mr. Rubin allowing Code Enforcement Office into his properties in order to give the board a report.

Mr. Rubin stated that was fine and he would get something stamped from the engineer as well.

Commissioner Hayes stated it was good to see Mr. Rubin and Mr. Freed at the meeting because communication goes a long way with the board and Code Enforcement Office.

Mr. Rubin stated he thought it was important for them to build this bridge with the Board of Public

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**(128 Chestnut Street Rear)** continued

Service and he thought it was for them as members of the community to get their properties into 100 percent compliance. He said more importantly he thought there were a lot of things they saw that they were not very happy with. He said in order for them to voice their opinions and have a say on things that go on in the future he thought it was that much more important that they become 100 percent compliant so they had the right to stand by their word of what they felt was not going in the right direction. He said there were some things that were not working.

Commissioner Temming stated that Mr. Rubin spoke about some of the administrative fees being waived in the past and he suggested that he consider that a lot of the fees that had been assessed the board did not even see and the ones the board did see were mostly unusual circumstances. He said as far as the ratio it really did not speak to the entire arena of fees.

Chair Merzig stated that was correct and a really good point.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Planned subdivision - City View Drive (288.19-1-42.01): Dmitriy Litvinenko & Marjorie Louissaint wish to subdivide and purchase a 4.78A parcel owned by Thomas Oliver to build a single family home with entryway by North Fifth Street. This requires review and approval by the board for the extension of the water and sewer lines to North Fifth Street as well as to look at the requirements for fire hydrants.
2. Update on drought conditions

**Planned subdivision - City View Drive (288.19-1-42.01): Dmitriy Litvinenko & Marjorie Louissaint**

Chair Merzig stated this property was east of North Fifth Street. She reviewed the plans submitted with the board of a subdivision of the property owned by Tom Oliver on City View Drive. She said the applicants had been before the Planning Commission and approval was granted for dividing the lot into lot A and lot B. She said the Board of Public Service was responsible for water, sewer, stormwater, streets and sidewalks. She said she put together a checklist for the applicants to address. She said the applicants had the survey prepared by Rasmussen Land Surveyors but did not yet have an engineer. She said the concerns were bringing water to the site because of the elevation and what the city's responsibility was. She said as indicated in the Code the city could partner with property owners in the city for 50 percent payment of the extension of water and sewer but the city needed to know how much it was going to cost before considering approval. She said the board also needed to know about stormwater because presently there were two stormwater catch basins. She said the board was not concerned about capacity of the sanitary because that was gravity fed. She said the concern was getting the water up to the property and not necessarily getting it down but will need to know how the applicants plan on accessing the property. She said generally the city did not put water and sewer lines under driveways because then they were crushed. She said there was an 8" water right of way and that may be okay for one of properties but not this property. She said the applicants were going to submit the checklist to an engineer and ask that the engineer respond to the items. She said the Planning Commission to not initiate the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) process. She said she talked to the City Attorney and he said the Planning Commission was the lead agency but the Board of Public Service would have to respond from its standpoint. She said the board hoped to give the applicants a fairly speedy review but the information was needed from the applicants to give to the City Engineer. She said the City Engineer would review the information and respond to the board and then the board informs the applicant of their decision.

The board held a brief discussion on the matter.



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**(City View Drive/North Fifth Street Subdivision)** continued

**MOTION**, made by Chair Merzig and seconded by Commissioner Hayes, that the Board of Public Service accepts receipt of the plans from Dmitriy Litvinenko & Marjorie Louissaint to subdivide and purchase a 4.78A parcel owned by Thomas Oliver, City View Drive (288.19-1-42.01), to build a single family home with entryway by North Fifth Street, which will require review and approval by the board for the extension of the water and sewer lines to North Fifth Street as well as to look at the requirements for fire hydrants. The board transmits the “Sewer/Water Checklist” to the applicants for their engineer’s review and response. The board tables the matter to the board’s September 6, 2012 meeting. Furthermore, the board authorizes the Chair to setup a meeting with the City Attorney, City Engineer, Code Enforcement Office, Engineering Officer and the applicants once the applicants have an engineer and do a thorough review of the plans.

**Voting Ayes:** Chair Merzig  
Commissioner Temming  
Commissioner Tisenchek  
Commissioner Hayes

**Noes:** None

**Absent:** Commissioner Friedman

**MOTION CARRIED**

**OLD BUSINESS (revisited)**

The Chair returned to Old Business as follows:

**1. Follow-up on Unsafe Building Hearing: Bang Hua Chen – 336-344 Chestnut Street (Tabled at the July 5<sup>th</sup> meeting)**

Chair Merzig stated that the Code Enforcement Office had heard nothing from Mr. Chen as discussed at the July meeting. She suggested that the board declare the basement property unsafe based on testimony heard at the July meeting. She said the rest of the property had proper exits. She said the board found out at the July meeting the basement had been approved by the Zoning Board of Appeals to create it as a public assembly space but the owner had never made the structural changes to make it acceptable as an assembly space.

The board held a brief discussion on the matter.

**MOTION**, made by Chair Merzig and seconded by Commissioner Hayes, that based on the testimony of the Code Enforcement Office at the July and August meetings and the failure of the property owner to communicate building plans with the Code Enforcement Office, the board declares the property owned by Bang Hua Chen at 336-344 Chestnut Street unsafe.

**Voting Ayes:** Chair Merzig  
Commissioner Temming  
Commissioner Tisenchek  
Commissioner Hayes

**Noes:** None

**Absent:** Commissioner Friedman

**MOTION CARRIED**

**22 Duane Street – James Gillette**

Chair Merzig stated that according to the Code Enforcement Office a building permit had been obtained and construction was being done to improve the property as directed by the board.

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**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC SERVICE PG. 10**

**NEW BUSINESS (revisited)**

Chair Merzig returned to New Business and addressed the following item:

**2. Update on drought conditions**

Chair Merzig stated fortunately there has been some rain and the upper and lower reservoirs were holding steady. She said the upper reservoir was down 12” and that was not yet considered drought conditions. She said the concern was the colleges would soon be back in session but the forecast was for more rain and the feeling was the reservoirs would hold steady. She said working with the Mayor it was decided to just place articles in the newspaper reminding people of the water situation and recommending voluntary conservation.

The board held a brief discussion on the city’s reservoirs and the wells.

Fire Chief Pidgeon stated that in the past couple years SUCO replaced all their showers with low-flow heads, had complaints and then went to an intermediate type of flow heads and with the new water meters some savings have been realized.

The board held a brief discussion on the matter of water with Chief Pidgeon.

Fire Chief Pidgeon stated in regard to hydrants, particularly with the subdivision being discussed he said there was hydrant at the end of that street but he did not know what the status and residual pressures were and would check with Public Service Supervisor Harrison. He said there was also a hydrant at the bottom on the hill. He said depending on the plans from that hydrant he could make 1000’ but it was very narrow there and took 5 turns just to get the Chief’s vehicle turned around. He said whatever road design was going to be there the piping and catch basins would have to be considered. He said a new enforceable code was that if there was a drive or any area that was more than 500’ there had to be a place to turn a fire truck around.

Chair Merzig stated that was information that really needed to be transmitted to the applicants requesting the subdivision. She asked Fire Chief Pidgeon to send her and/or Code Enforcement Officer Chiappisi an e-mail regarding that information and a brief list of concerns.

Fire Chief Pidgeon stated Code Enforcement Officer Chiappisi knew about that. He said if the hydrant system did not provide enough service it meant there would need to be multiple fire trucks in there and it was very dangerous to back a truck up in there. He said there were 7 tanker trucks to fight the fire at the Norma Hutman house fire on Main Street.

Fire Chief Pidgeon reported on city water access plans, water lines, sites, and similar topics.

Chair Merzig thanked Fire Chief Pidgeon was addressing the board.

There being no further business to come before the board, Chair Merzig adjourned the regular meeting at approximately 5:00 p.m.

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JAMES R. KOURY, City Clerk

JRK/pab