



City of Malden

Malden City Hall
215 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02148

Meeting Minutes - Final Public Safety Committee

*Chairperson Stephen Winslow
Vice Chair Deborah DeMaria
Councillor Ryan O'Malley*

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

5:30 PM

Remote Meeting

217-21

In accordance with Governor Baker's 3/12/20 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.c.30A,ss18, and the Governor's 3/23/20 Revised Guidance on Order by the Governor Prohibiting Assemblage of More than Ten People, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation.

In person attendance by members of the public is prohibited, and all effort will be made to permit public attendance of this meeting, in the manner specified below, via remote access by internet, telephone, and if available via public broadcast of the meeting by Malden Access Cable Television on public access television channels.

Public access will also be provided by posting draft minutes, and/or a transcript, recording, or record of the meeting on the city of Malden website at cityofmalden.org as soon as practicable after the meeting.

Additional information/guidelines for the public can be found here:

<https://www.cityofmalden.org/DocumentCenter/View/2487/Public-information-on-Public-Meetings-and-Hearings-during-the-Declared-State-of-Emergency-related-to-COVID19PDF>

Members of the public who wish to attend remotely can do so using the following information:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://cityofmalden.zoom.us/j/94728327982?pwd=Q3JraExYNUpSNGFtZmFyc3VOMmdiUT09>

Passcode: 955133

Or One tap mobile :

US: +16465189805,,94728327982#,,,,*955133#

+19294362866,,94728327982#,,,,*955133#

Or Telephone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 646 518 9805

+1 929 436 2866

Webinar ID: 947 2832 7982

Passcode: 955133

International numbers available: <https://cityofmalden.zoom.us/j/94728327982?pwd=Q3JraExYNUpSNGFtZmFyc3VOMmdiUT09>

If you would like to request a reasonable accommodation, please contact

Maria Luise, ADA Compliance Coordinator at mluise@cityofmalden.org
<<mailto:mluise@cityofmalden.org>> or 781-397-7000, Ext 2005.

Roll Call

Present: 2 - Vice Chair Deborah DeMaria and Ryan O'Malley

Present: 2 - Vice Chair Deborah DeMaria and Ryan O'Malley

*Also Present: Councillors Camell and Linehan
Kate Fallon-City Solicitor
Chief Sullivan-Fire Department*

Councillor Winslow called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. Jon Miara and UMA recorded the meeting.

Minutes to be Approved

Minutes of February 2, 2021 to be approved.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Deborah DeMaria, seconded by Councillor Ryan O'Malley, that the minutes of February 2, 2021 be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yea: 2 - Vice Chair DeMaria and Councillor O'Malley

Yea: 2 - Vice Chair DeMaria and Councillor O'Malley

Minutes of May 12, 2020 to be approved.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Deborah DeMaria, seconded by Councillor Ryan O'Malley, that the minutes of May 12, 2020 be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yea: 2 - Vice Chair DeMaria and Councillor O'Malley

Yea: 2 - Vice Chair DeMaria and Councillor O'Malley

Business

[196-21](#)

Ordered: That the City of Malden renew its Mutual Aid Agreement For Joint Fire, Rescue and/or Ambulance Service when the current agreement expires on October 31, 2021. The renewal agreement will be for the same 20 year terms.

Sponsors: Stephen Winslow

Councillor Winslow said he spoke with Chief William Sullivan about Mutual Aid and he explained the great fire of 1872 was the first time fire departments in the region used mutual aid, the Chief of Boston used mutual aid by telegram to regional fire places to

send in equipment and manpower by a train unfortunately Walter Trombley of Malden died in that fire, and the new truck has his name on it, mutual aid has been part of what Malden has provided for 150 years now. Councillor Winslow hands it over to Chief Sullivan to explain Mutual Aid. Chief Sullivan said back in late Feb/March he received an email correspondence from the director of Metro Fire which went out to Chiefs of all 36 cities, towns, and Massport that make up Metro Fire District 13 surrounding Boston indicating the agreement was up for renewal as is the case every 20 years. He forwarded it to the City Clerk's attention and spoke to the Mayor which has his signature as well as the Chief's and ultimately brought it to be referred to the Public Safety Committee.

Councillor DeMaria thanks the Chief for coming before the Committee asked overall is it to be agreeing to another twenty years, the terms of the agreement, and does mutual aid mean if there is a fire out of state would we go to it or just in Massachusetts. Chief Sullivan explained the agreement of the City of Malden Fire Department is District 13 which we are a member of. As far as what it provides first and foremost is mutual aid and we are on Boston's running card and have sent aid multiple times. It is mutual aid where we are sending our companies out of Malden to the surrounding communities on a weekly basis to Boston most frequently when the need arises or when an incident is escalating to provide assistance in that form. The Metro Fire Agreement also involves communication assistance, once an incident escalates to a point when mutual aid is being utilized it can overwhelm the dispatch capabilities, the phone doesn't stop ringing at the station. Boston Fire Alarm is the HUB of the mutual aid in this area and they assume the dispatch role. It takes the burden off the dispatcher as well. Metro Fire also has purchase agreements known as the Metro Bid which gives a cost savings to be realized through that joint purchasing power, they also formed regional hazardous response teams and one of our members is a member of the regional team. Metro provides evacuation buses during a major incidents and rehabilitation services for personnel working the incidents and also a stress debriefing team. As far as response beyond Metro the State has a plan, we have sent companies out to Worcester where there was a long duration of a task and we sent members out to cover their stations. The goal is to share resources. Councillor DeMaria asks if they get called out to other areas? Chief says most frequently it happens with the 36 communities, it doesn't occur frequently but they have been called out.

Councillor O'Malley said he thinks this is a great program and that we are renewing it for another twenty year term. He asked if there is any cost to this? Chief Sullivan said he believes the cost to be a member annually is \$2,200 to the City which has not gone up over the last twenty year agreement. A vote was taken in fiscal year 2023, beginning July 21, 2022 the cost will go up to \$5,000/year. Councillor O'Malley said this is a bargain for what is provided. He asked if there are forest fires in California and we sent firefighters does this fall under this Mutual Aid Agreement. If Malden firefighters are going to another community if they were to get hurt they would be covered because they are working on behalf of the City of Malden but if they went to California is this apply to that or is this out of the scope of that. Chief Sullivan said his understanding is that if they were not dispatched officially as Malden Firefighters they would not be covered.

Councillor Winslow asked about mutuality there has been questions of where some departments have cut their fire department where they would not be able to provide mutual aid to other communities and is this agreement working and you see communities participating as we provide aid to other communities. Chief Sullivan said that is correct there is no question about that.

Councillor Winslow has read the Metro Fire Contract and wanted to make sure we have the correct language. The following motion is made: Motion to vote to recommend to the

City Council that the Council vote to authorize the Malden Fire Department through its Fire Chief and Fire Commissioner, including any ambulance or other EMS component, to render and extend mutual aid, emergency aid, perform details, and render any such additional emergency assistance to another city, town, fire district or area under federal jurisdiction in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or any adjoining state in extinguishing fires thereon or rendering any other emergency aid or performing any detail, as contemplated in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 48 Section 59A, and in rendering such aid or performing such duties, the members of the Malden Fire Department shall have the same immunities and privileges as if performing the same within the City of Malden; and further, vote to recommend that the City Council vote to authorize the Mayor and Fire Chief as amended to read: to enter the Mutual Aid Agreement with Metro Fire District Thirteen, consisting of 36 communities and MassPort, consistent with the provisions of MGL c.48 s.59A was made by Councillor DeMaria and seconded by Councillor O'Malley. Roll Call: DeMaria-yes O'Malley-yes Winslow-yes. All were in favor.

Councillor DeMaria said as we move into this with the financial part of this would you need to come back next year when the amount of the annual fee goes up to \$5,000 and it will be an amendment to that twenty year term. Chief Sullivan feels that is what the process would be he would come back with that through the budget process.

Motion to recommend Paper #196-21 to be reported out favorably to the Full Council as amended was made by Councillor O'Malley and seconded by Councillor DeMaria. Roll Call Vote: O'Malley-yes DeMaria-yes Winslow-yes. All were in favor.

Motion to take the minutes off the table for May 12, 2020 and February 2, 2021 was made by Councillor DeMaria and seconded by Councillor O'Malley. Roll Call: DeMaria-yes O'Malley-yes Winslow-yes. All in favor.

Motion to approve the minutes of May 12, 2020 and February 2, 2021 was made by Councillor DeMaria and seconded by Councillor O'Malley. Roll Call: DeMaria-yes O'Malley-yes Winslow-yes. All were in favor.

Q&A: Nate Bae Kupel asked how often does Malden Fire Dept. deploy aid to other cities and towns as opposed to how often they provide aid to other communities. Chief Sullivan answered by looking at the last five years Malden has provided aid about 130-140 times/year and about Malden requiring aid he said about 65-70/year responding into Malden.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councillor O'Malley and seconded by Councillor DeMaria. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 P.M.

A motion was made by Vice Chair DeMaria, seconded by Councillor O'Malley, that the Order be recommended favorably as amended Motion to vote to recommend to the City Council that the Council vote to authorize the Malden Fire Department through its Fire Chief and Fire Commissioner, including any ambulance or other EMS component, to render and extend mutual aid, emergency aid, perform details, and render any such additional emergency assistance to another city, town, fire district or area under federal jurisdiction in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or any adjoining state in extinguishing fires thereon or rendering any other emergency aid or performing any detail, as contemplated in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 48 Section 59A, and in rendering such aid or performing such duties, the members of the Malden Fire Department shall have the same immunities and privileges as if performing the same within the City of Malden; and further, vote to recommend

that the City Council vote to authorize the Mayor and Fire Chief as amended to read: to enter the Mutual Aid Agreement with Metro Fire District Thirteen, consisting of 36 communities and MassPort, consistent with the provisions of MGL c.48 s.59A The motion carried by the following vote:

Yea: 2 - Vice Chair DeMaria and Councillor O'Malley

Yea: 2 - Vice Chair DeMaria and Councillor O'Malley

Other Business

Adjournment

A motion was made by Councillor Ryan O'Malley, seconded by Vice Chair Deborah DeMaria, that the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 P.M. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yea: 2 - Vice Chair DeMaria and Councillor O'Malley

Yea: 2 - Vice Chair DeMaria and Councillor O'Malley