

**MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ON STATEWIDE PERMITTING
(MACSP)**

PAWTUCKET CITY HALL

APRIL 29, 2014

An initial meeting of the Municipal Advisory Council on Statewide Permitting (MACSP) is held Tuesday, April 29, 2014, at 11:34 a.m., in the City Council Office, Room 303, Pawtucket City Hall, 137 Roosevelt Avenue, Pawtucket, RI.

**Members Present – Donald Grebien, Mayor, Pawtucket, Chairperson
Paulette Hamilton, Town Administrator, North Smithfield
Jane Howington, City Manager, Newport**

**Also present – John P. Leyden, CBO, State Building Code
Commissioner;**

John E. Chartier, EFO, CFI, State Fire Marshal;

**Derrick Pelletier, Senior Management & Methods Analyst, Office of
Management and Budget;**

**Thom Guertin, Chief Digital Officer, Office of Digital Excellence;
Richard Goldstein, MMC, City Clerk, Pawtucket**

The Committee takes up the following:

- 1. Introduction & Review of Statutory Mission**
- 2. E-Permitting Initiative Overview (Extension through 4/28)**

3. Discussion on Promoting City/Town Participation (Potential Mandating)

Mayor Grebien welcomes everyone to the meeting.

Mr. Pelletier states that the State is working on a statewide, web-based, on-line permitting process that will include plan review, inspections, permits, fees, etc.

The reason for this system is complaints from businesses regarding the length of time for the permitting process and with each of the 39 cities and towns having different systems.

There is \$580,000 for phase 1 of the project, which is the RFP process and getting two pilot communities up and running. No selection of communities has been made.

The system will be integrated with GIS.

There is \$300,000 in the budget to expand beyond the first two communities and the Governor will be asking for \$1 million to expand statewide.

Mr. Chartier states that the problem is with having every agency on its own system with its own timetables.

Gilbane Industries recommended that E-permitting be mandatory for

all communities.

It was noted, however, that Providence recently invested in a system through Inquest and would be unlikely to join the new system if it was through another company. Notwithstanding this, it would be a successful project if most communities join the system.

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Ms. Hamilton suggests that they could work with the RI League of Cities and Towns to determine what system each city and town has.

Mr. Guertin states that they have a spreadsheet on how far along each city and town is.

Ms. Hamilton states that this system cannot be an unfunded mandate. The entire committee agrees.

It is noted that the system can be set up to include different fees for different communities.

Ms. Howington asks what the advantage is for cities and towns to belong to this system.

Mr. Guertin responds that cities and towns will get a system and technology that they could not get on their own.

Ms. Howington suggests that the pilot communities selected be enthusiastic and represent a cross section of the state.

Mr. Guertin asks if it is better to work with two communities on all permitting or with several communities on one or two types of permits.

Mr. Chartier suggests that they may want to do a combination of both.

Mayor Grebien states that this project is driven by economic development and customer service improvements with potential developers.

The meeting is adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

Richard J. Goldstein, MMC, Pawtucket City Clerk