

Emergency Management Study Group

Minutes for the July 9 meeting

Members in attendance:

Anne Cartwright
Bonnie Chase
Carol Reller
Ed Reller
Priscilla Sawa
Matt Saxton
Bobbie Wilson

Also present:

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Topics discussed:

- Carol researched the minimum number of calls required for FEMA grants but couldn't find any information about such minimums..
- Our EM report was accepted by the Select Board. Probably Joel will be the EMD. We don't have an electronic copy of the current EM plan. The updated plan was due last year. Clarence has applied for a grant for the update.
- The Select Board voted to approve a \$0.25 per hour raise for FD and Ambulance on-call employees.
- There are eight applicants for the Police Chief position. The Search Committee has not yet met.
- We reviewed the report on the FD drawn up by the AABC last year. The number of EMTs/EMRs in the report might be inflated. The new Facebook page seems to have brought in a few new recruits.
- We discussed replacing equipment:
 - The department has trouble getting parts for the 1987 engine/pumper housed at the Village Station. In the capital plan, it is scheduled to be replaced in 2016 for a cost of \$400K. It would be necessary to modify the fire house to accommodate this larger vehicle.
 - Because of the extra weight of new equipment, the 1984 Rescue Truck is carrying more load than is recommended. As a result, it is unstable and must be driven slowly. In the capital plan, it is scheduled to be replaced in 2018 for a cost of \$210K.
 - We agreed we should review what equipment is available through Mutual Aid and plan our purchases accordingly. Also, we should look at refurbished equipment.

- The Fire Chief is appointed by the Select Board based on the recommendation of the Fire Department members. A clean criminal background check is the only criteria that the Select Board applies.
- Carol's review of the Standard Operating Guidelines did not bring to light any particularly helpful information. Similarly, the NFPA standards are probably impossibly high for a town the size of Alstead.
- We brainstormed a list of questions for our meeting with the FD on July 13.

Motions:

- The meeting minutes of June 18 were approved.

Action items:

- Meet with the FD on July 13 (Monday) at the Village Station at 7:00 pm.

Next meeting:

July 23 at 7:00 pm at Vilas Pool.

Agenda items for next meeting:

- Discuss the July 13 meeting with the FD and determine next steps.

Comments from the public:

- None.