

## Office of Emergency Management Quarterly Meeting 4/20/23

Town Office Conference Room

Meeting commenced at 1730

Present: Steve Reynolds, Emergency Mgt Director; Jesse Moore, Amb Chief; Joe Levesque; Kim Kercewich, FD Chief; Matt Yeatman, FD; Rick Beringer, FD; Gordon Kemp, Select Board; Bobbie Wilson, Amb LT; Stephen Murrell, Police Chief; Prescott Trafton, DPW Head; Jill Piwoski, Homeland Security and Penny Gendron

### Department Updates:

Police: Call volume 275 YTD, highest ever year to year; No budget issues; Still looking for part-timer (not filled yet)

Ambulance: 41 calls YTD, similar to last year, remaining on target for 170ish

FD: 43 calls YTD, above norm but no prediction on total calls; has not purchased SCBA equipment yet, wants to time the age of the units

DPW: Still down a truck (being worked on); Working on Gilsum Mine Rd.; Dirt roads; Despite truck voted on and approved, the price changed

\*Prescott noted that all departments needed budget reports and moving forward everyone needed to plan for budget and supply chain issues.

### OEM Updates:

Joe L.: Have not heard back @ Scott pack grants-still in process

Jill: Potential grants: firehouse subs and firegrantshelp.com

Steve R.: Suggested warrant articles every year to peck away at fire department equipment instead of large \$\$\$ warrant articles

Kim K.: Wants to increase capital reserve amounts in order to properly fund FD

Matt Y.: Concur as budget cuts make replacements difficult as prices go up

Steve Reynolds suggestions for moving forward regarding equipment:

(SR suggestions continued)

Fire Department get together and make a plan, perhaps community outreach (a rebranding) to influence voters to view FD favorably

All departments need to maintain better records on routine service on vehicles. Prescott has been doing this for Highway vehicles and has software to maintain these records but information needs to be communicated to him in order to input. Reynolds recommends that this be part of every department's SOP.

Assessment Questionnaires:

Buildings and Infrastructure:

Jill: will look into grants, money for buildings, maybe Dept of Energy?

Prescott: focus seems to be only on certain things, projects need to be kept in motion and keep on being addressed ie: Town Hall was renovated but the roof leaks

Personnel and Training:

All Departments are short-staffed

Procedures need to be documented

Departments need to keep up on training, document it and make it known

Reynolds wants the questionnaires completed and turned in to him within 60 days (mid-June), then in 3-4 months have another meeting

When questionnaires are finished, Reynolds intends to present a thorough report to the Select Board, emphasizing that the public must be engaged, focus on re-branding

Generators:

If it's in YOUR building it's YOUR responsibility for oversight-set up the generator to do a maintenance run when it fits your schedule, if it's not working, then communicate

Quarterly checks will be done by a professional (perhaps Jack Fuller) and will include maintenance and propane checks

When professional assesses generators, get current condition of units for insurance and replacement schedule (capital improvement plan)

Big Looming Issue: Where is the extra ambulance going? Options to give to the Select Board

1. East Station: build extra addition for antique fire trucks (to be viewable to the public?) Jesse is concerned that currently there is no personnel to staff an East Station ambulance
2. Build separate building to display antique fire trucks downtown; options 1 & 2 can be part of the re-branding of the FD and potentially run a fundraiser aimed at saving/preserving town history etc.
3. Double Sally-port at town building 15 Mechanic St/Millot Green utilized by second ambulance and PD
4. Temporary option: sea container on town property (weatherized)

Meeting adjourned at 1915