

Town of Somers  
Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council  
Thursday, October 1, 2020  
8:00 A.M.  
Meeting Minutes

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by Emergency Management Director Glen Reynolds at 8:00

**II. Members present:** Glen Reynolds Todd Rolland, Dan Thayer, John Roache, Karen Hocking, Pete Debrino, Brian Czapla, Mike Hevey and Bud Knorr

Also in attendance were Steve Jacobs, Allison Maynard, Bill Boutwell, Paula LaFrance, and Kim Littig

**III. OLD BUSINESS**

COVID-19 Update:

Chief Roache: Covid calls are down a little bit. Hearing that inmates with Covid are being sent to MacDougall/Walker, in Suffield, however we are still seeing some cases in the Somers facilities.

Mike Hevey: Possibly hiring another officer. Things are going well with the SRO's. Will the leaves falling and wet roads please use caution while driving, conditions can be very slippery. Officers will be requalifying on the range this weekend.

Todd Rolland: Senior center generator is up and working. Would like to use that for a warming/cooling center and use the FD as a "business center" during power outages. Turnpike Rd is still under construction. Covid had slowed the process down and delayed materials making it to the site. 190 water line project in Somers is complete. Still working in Stafford.

Steve Jacobs: 2 confirmed cases at Somers Elementary School. Putting in for a grant from the state and will use it to hire MBA nurse on a part time basis to help out.

Brian Czapla: Early crop up of cases at SES. Contact tracing is very intensive, time consuming, and exhausting. It is not an easy process. High School sports open up today and will follow strict guidelines and rules. Decisions will be made shortly on what to do for the rest of the year (full in person, hybrid or full remote)

Allison Maynard: Held a Narcan training last week. Had about 30 people attend. Sat. October 24<sup>th</sup> will be a Drug Take Back Event – Vaping devices will be included in this one. Starting to see repeat customers looking for assistance. Energy assistance will be starting again soon. LTRC continues to meet. Overall communication needs to be improved. Town Website has been

updated with links to current info and articles will be going out in the Somers Connect magazine.

Bud Knorr: Town received an outstanding review (AA+) for our finances and helped lower our interest rate on our latest bond. Budget is running under so far for the fiscal year. School budget is good. We have a couple of director's positions (Rec and Town Engineer) that need to be filled.

#### **IV New Business**

Karen Hocking: CERT team had a meeting/training last month. Discussed shelter issues that we could face during the pandemic.

Bud – Raised a question on a vaccination plan. Steve Jacobs said we discussed on a local level but are waiting to see what the state comes out with. One need is a refrigerator with a data logger on it. The FD is looking into purchasing a new one anyway.

Kim Littig – Issue with the camera at the library has been resolved.

Mike Hevey – State Police will be graduating a class soon. There should be 8-10 new troopers assigned to Troop C

John Roache – Department has swapped over half of their wireless devices. We are using AT&T and Verizon. Thought process is that if one network goes down we will still have ½ on another system.

Pete DeBrino – Please let me know if you would like any messages for the sign out front. We would be happy to get your message out there.

#### **V Approval of Minutes:**

made a motion to approve the minutes of the Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 meeting, Todd Rolland seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passed.

#### **VI Adjournment**

Motion made by Dan Thayer to adjourn, Todd Rolland seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45A.M.