

Town of Somers  
Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council  
Thursday, Sept. 2nd, 2021  
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, John Roache, Dan Thayer, Karen Hocking, and Anne Cournoyer

Also in attendance were: Steve Jacobs, Paula LaFrance, and Kim Littig

**III. OLD BUSINESS**

COVID-19 Update:

Steve Jacobs: 19 new cases of the past couple weeks. Delta variant is a concern. Totals to date: Res – 746, DOC – 383. Somers vaccination rate remains at 55.7%.

Allison Maynard: Not present but submitted the following by email: Social Services is gearing up for Energy Assistance season where we typically assist around 200 household with accessing benefits. We are also anticipating an uptick in demand for financial assistance due to eviction and utility moratoriums ending. We just wrapped up our back-to-school clothing program serving over 50 Somers kids providing them with supplies and new clothes.

Kim Littig: Body cams purchase/lease is moving forward. Going to lease through Axon. Most common in state and throughout the country. Because of lease, we will get new equipment every 30 months. Increased vandalism at Camp Aya-Po. Call volume has been about the same. Mike Hevey will be retiring at the end of September.

John Roache: Calls have been up quite a bit (Not all covid related). Staffing is getting a little better. We lost 1 full timer and 1 part timer to full time jobs at Bradley Airport Fire. Was able to hire 1 part timer. Prison physical agility test will be returning in October. Local departments have had some issues with ambulances being out of service and it has been an unexpected burden on us and other towns to help pick up the slack. Looking to offer more services (RSI and whole blood) to help entice medics. Have conducted several CPR classes for teachers, coaches and dental offices. Enfield has reached out to us about a regional training center. We have told them that we are interested. It will help with EMS and police training.

Todd Rolland: We have had MANY storms and wind events lately. (List was emailed out prior to meeting) In the process of making a project list. Four Town Fair parade will be the normal route. Splash pad is slowly moving forward. Main hold up is a delay with materials.

#### **IV New Business**

Karen Hocking: CERT has been active at concerts on the green and helping out at the station during the storm standby. Planning a shelter drill for October.

Todd Rolland brought up that the town is hurting for office space. Social Services is looking to expand so they may offer more services. Possible upgrades to the PD.

Dan Thayer brought up a radio issues that has a Bloomfield nursing home interfering on our frequencies.

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

Dan Thayer made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 3rd, 2021 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 Roland seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 A.M.