

Town of Somers
Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council
Thursday, October 7th, 2021
8:00 AM.
Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Deputy Emergency Management Director Todd Rolland at 8:01

II. Members present: Dan Thayer, Karen Hocking, John Roache, William Meier, Peter Debrino, Brian Czapla, and Todd Rolland

Also in attendance were: Steve Jacobs, Stephanie Levin, Allison Maynard, Kim Littig, and Paula LaFrance

III. OLD BUSINESS

COVID-19 Update:

Steve Jacobs: 11 new cases of the past couple weeks, 6 of the last 8 cases were children aged 16 or younger. Somers is still in the Red category. Totals to-date: Res – 799, DOC – 406. The Somers vaccination rate is at 57.2%, and the State rate is at 66.2%.

Allison Maynard: Energy Assistance season is in full swing. Social Services has a new intern who is helping with new programs. Social Services is hosting a drug take-back program at the Senior Center on October 23rd.

Kim Littig: Domestic violence calls are up. Body cams for our local Officers should be fully up by the end of the month; Axon is the winning vendor, offering the most favorable terms to the Town. Trooper Mike Heavy has retired and is coming back as a Town Constable. Trooper Rob O’Conner will be starting as our new Resident State Trooper soon.

John Roache: Calls have been up. Staffing is improving a little bit. We have a new part-timer and several new volunteers. The population at the Prisons is increasing with an increased call volume; many calls may be COVID-related. Prison physical agility testing for Correctional Officer candidates begins on November 8th and continues for six (6) to eight (8) weeks. The Fire Department is under contract to provide EMS staffing with an ambulance Monday thru Saturday during this testing. The Watch Room improvements continue with the Emergency Operations Center being moved from Kibbe Fuller to the FD Watch Room when the upgrades are complete.

Todd Rolland: September was another active month with hurricane Ida, flooding, and tree damage. DPW is preparing for winter operations. The Town Hall generator has been installed and will be connected and tested over the next several weeks. The old EOC will be converted to office space for Social Services use once the EOC is moved to the Fire Department. Maureen Parsell has been promoted to Director of Recreation and Leisure Services. This position oversees the Recreation Department and Senior Center.

IV. New Business

Karen Hocking: CERT was activated for Hurricane Ida and served in the Fire Department during the storm. CERT held its September training and had a “Jeopardy” like refreshers course for all members. CERT hosts a shelter drill at the High School on October 20th from 6:00 PM to 9:30 PM. The Public is invited to attend with their cats and dogs from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM to act as displaced residents looking for shelter during a simulated storm event. Free pizza, cookies, and drinks will be provided for all that attend.

V. Approval of Minutes:

Dan Thayer made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 2nd, 2021 meeting, and Peter DeBrino seconded the Motion; all were in favor, the Motion passed.

VI Adjournment

Motion made by Dan Thayer to adjourn the meeting, and Peter DeBrino seconded the Motion; all were in favor, the Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:44 AM.