

Town of Somers
Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council
Thursday, August 4th, 2022
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, Pete Debrino, Karen Hocking, Trooper Justin Preuss and Dan Thayer

Also in attendance were: Tim Keeney, Paula LaFrance, Andrea Vitrano, Kim Littig, Stephanie Levin and Dan Parisi

Members Absent: Bill Meier, Anne Cournoyer and Brian Czapl

III. OLD BUSINESS

Sanitarian/Health/COVID: Andrea Vitrano - Her report is attached, also spoke on some facts regarding monkeypox.

Social Services: Alison Maynard: Not present but emailed this update - Energy Assistance will open up after Labor Day. Department will process approximately 200 applications for households to receive credit towards winter heating costs. CDC reached out to myself and Tim and we are in the final stages of potentially receiving the Drug Free Communities funds which would be \$125,000 annually for 5 years to support and enhance the work of Somers Comes Together. Somers Community Fund released their next round of funding. Applications are due by 9/15. Non-profits or the town can apply for funds up to \$15,000 to support mental health services, outdoor recreation, establishing a farmer's market or small business development. Our back to school clothing program is in full swing. We are still looking for more donors to help support this program. Please help spread the word!

Police: Kim Littig: Introduced Trooper Justin Preuss as the new Resident Trooper. 6 cruisers now have dash cams and all officers have been outfitted with their body cams. Aside from a few minor issues things are running smoothly with them. Committals are way up recently. Pistol permits have leveled out. Working on four daytime burglary cases in the last couple of weeks. Two officers out with COVID. Homeland security walkthrough at NETTTS is scheduled for 8/30. Working on dates for PD/FD active aggressor training.

Fire: John Roache: Calls for service have been going. Multiple (2 or 3 at once) calls are on the rise as well. Some very serious calls this past month. Some issues with staffing (COVID and other reasons) Working on paramedic agreement for Stafford. Working though issues with JMH. We found some issues with the radios in the new EOC. The radios are in a cabinet down at

the tower and the heads are in the EOC, well they are older and not compatible with new radio heads – working on a solution. Most likely moving radios from tower on JMH to new water tower up there. Using Crewforce in all the vehicles. Allows dispatch to see where we are and we are able to change our status (responding, on scene etc.) without having to talk on the radio. One dash cam has been installed on Squad 246. Will help fire marshals with initial scene view.

Public Works: Todd Rolland: 3 wind events in July. Splash pad opening went very well. 4-H Fair is scheduled for 8/19-21. Town Hall auditorium floor is slated to be replaced after the Aug 10th primary.

Schools: Stephanie Levin: There was an injury to a vendor working on the paving project at the elementary school, we cooperated with OSHA and gave them everything they needed. Still waiting on the boilers for the high school as well as the transfer switch. DPH put out their school opening protocols. Biggest change is that if a student is out with COVID there is no requirement for dual learning, they will have to make up when they come back. Positive test means 5 days out and wear a mask for 5 days on returning. Brian's last day is Friday and then Paul Gagliarducci will be the interim superintendent.

IV New Business

CERT: Karen Hocking: Cert has continued to be very active. Handed out information at the splash pad opening. Still helping out at concerts on the green. Planning on putting on another basic CERT class 10/15-16. We had 8 new members join after the last class so hoping the trend continues. Our last drill was a walkthrough of setting up the shelter. Very good for new members to see how it is done. Will conduct the annual shelter drill in October. We will be doing a talk for the seniors, at the senior center, on emergency preparedness on 9/27

Kim Littig: K-9 officer and demonstration for the summer camp on 8/9

Dan Thayer: Issue with radio interference since 2018. Tracked down the issue and it has been fixed as best as it can be. Much better than it was. Encouraged the town into looking into going digital.

Tim Keeney: Gave an update as to things going on at town hall. Executive session meeting tonight regarding Stafford and paramedics. Town meeting and vote on design studies for both school HVAC system and Town Community Center.

Dan Parisi: Updated group on work being done at the WPCA

V Approval of Minutes:

Dan Thayer made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 7th, 2022 meeting, Todd Rolland seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passed.

VI Adjournment

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

Minutes not official until approval at next meeting