

Town of Somers
Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council
Thursday, October 6th, 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, Anne Cournoyer, 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, Brian Wissinger, Allison Maynard and Dan Parisi

Members Absent: Bill Meier, Superintendent of Schools

III. OLD BUSINESS

Sanitarian/Health/COVID: Andrea Vitrano – See attached report. Flu clinic for seniors being held on October 17th

Social Services: Alison Maynard: October 22nd will be our next Drug Take Back event, held at Kibbe Fuller from 10am – 1pm. Opioid grant money has been used to purchase “lock bags” and 6 assembly’s that will be put on at the schools. Looking to hire clinicians and a Drug Free Coordinator. We are partnering with Stafford for a Juvenile Review Board (JRB). This model keeps youthful offenders out of the courts and in front of this board instead.

Police: Trooper Justin Preuss: 1,070 calls for service, among them were 10 criminal investigations, 3 larceny’s, several MVA’s and 7 arrests. New firearm training upcoming in October. We will be going with Stafford and Ellington to help keep the cost down. That will be done at the state police range. We are planning a tobacco and vape checkup event. The 911 system at the school needs to be addressed. It seems that the calls are originating from the high school no matter what school is calling. Due to the body cameras we need to update our MOU with the schools. Traffic study being done on Rt. 83 near

Fire: John Roache: Calls for service are up. COVID calls have been on the rise especially in nursing homes. Moving forward with medic agreement with Stafford. At the hearing for Trinity Ambulance, AMR had an issue with proposal which could prolong the process. JMH still wants to shut down ICU, Surgery, Maternity and In patient services. Only having an Emergency Room and Geriatric psych unit on the 3rd floor. Also they are proposing a 107 unit senior living facility behind the hospital. We have a few openings with staff 1 F/T & 1 P/T. All vehicle checks have been updated and digitized so they can be completed on tablets instead of paper.

Public Works: Todd Rolland: In full fall operation mode. Four Town Fair and Road Race went well. There were 2 wind events in August and 3 in September, none were very significant. Watchaug Road project is complete. We have some new vehicles in and now dealing with issues with DMV.

Schools: Stephanie Levin: There was an issue with Covid cases at the elementary school with both students and staff. We have received 1,000 test kits that we will be handing out as necessary. 1 of the 3 backordered burners (for boilers) is in Rhode Island. Hopefully it will be picked up and installed over the weekend. Still waiting on transfer switch for generator. Flu clinic for all school staff will be held October 26th.

IV New Business

CERT: Karen Hocking: September training was on generator safety. Planning a shelter drill for October 25th at 6:00pm at the high school. CERT Basic class to be held at the FD on October 15th & 16th. We are in need of people to sign up, please spread the word.

Tim Keeney: Part Time firefighters have petitioned the town to join the union. BOS meeting tonight at 6:00.

Stephanie Levin: Emergency plans are being updated. Cheryl Gustafson, who was in charge of updating them is leaving for another district, so most likely that will now fall to central office to handle.

Glen Reynolds: Town's Emergency Operations Plan is being updated as well. Many of the 15 or so annex's are very outdated so taking some time to go through those as well. Anne Cournoyer has been named as the town's public information officer.

V Approval of Minutes:

Dan Thayer made a motion to approve the minutes of the Aug 4th, 2022 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 8:35 A.M.

Minutes not official until approval at next meeting