

**TOWN OF SOMERS
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, September 7, 2023
8:00 AM
Fire Station**

1. Call to Order at 8:02AM
2. Members Present – Tood Rolland, Justin Preuss, Sam Galloway, Dan Thayer, Andrea Vitrano, Karen Hocking, Anne Cournoyer, Matthew Cox, Peter DeBrino, John Roache, Kim Littig

Others Present – Tim Keeney, First Selectman

3. Old Business
 - A. Sanitarian – Nothing to report
 - B. Social Services –

Rising reports of COVID and we seek resources for free COVID self-test kits. Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance only pay if test conducted in a medical facility.

Rising reports of seniors struggling with safety and/or independent living: lack of trustworthy and reliable in-home support services.

Drug Free Communities approved for full \$125,000 in funding for year two. We have about \$40,000 in carryover funds to spend before July 2024, resulting from delays in hiring, program launch, etc. We are investing in collaborations with schools and will be talking with others in the town soon.

Currently making appointments for application assistance with fuel, Renter's Rebate, etc.

Positive Youth Programming launching soon: Girls on the Run (GOTR), Safe Sitter, Safe @ Home, etc.

Human Services will update emergency plan/protocols for the department, including the list of vulnerable individuals and "Plan B" planning tool for residents.

- C. Police – Total calls for service 1206, traffic accidents 9, DWI's 0, case reports 9, traffic stops 92, burglaries 0, larcenies 0, arrests 5.

We are looking to contract with a woman that surrounding towns are using to handle the newly required standards for accreditation. Anticipate the cost to be around \$8,000. Far more cost effective than hiring someone to handle those responsibilities.

Town police conducted training for 40 seniors at the senior center about scams. Also discussed is mail getting stolen out of mailboxes and checks retrieved are getting washed and a new larger amount is being cashed.

Officers will begin firearms recertification in October for the Glocks. There will also be a Rifleman class. The town recently purchased six new Rifles. Police station is getting new camera system, recently received a Road Speed Enforcement Grant and they are getting E-Ticket machines for all the cruisers.

- D. Fire/EMS– Call volume is down slightly but the calls have become more severe and incidents are more complex.

Contracted for someone to assist in marketing for recruitment and retention.

We will be at the Four Town Fair during all hours of operation Thursday through Sunday.

- E. DPW – Summer operations wrapping up. All paving is finished for the season.

We handled some road closures during the month to include the tanker trunk roll over.

We will also handle road closures and detours for the town's Great Escape Road Race and the Four Town Fair Parade.

- F. Schools – First day of School was August 31st. All began without any issues.

Both SRO's are back on duty with alternating schedules and Wednesday overlap.

- G. CERT – CERT will be present at the fall concert series as they have been for the summer.

There may be a presence marching in the parade.

We will have a presence and assist with operations at the in-person shelter drill in October.

The EMD attended our August meeting to meet the members and gave a little background about herself and her vision moving forward.

4. New Business

- General Discussion

Tim Keeney, First Selectman – Annual awards were given out, two notable awards were for Outstanding Employee given to Jennifer Roy from Zoning Enforcement and Public Service Award given to Shirley Warner, Library Board of Trustees

Employee Handbook is being revised.

Upcoming meeting with Mark Boughton, Commissioner of Revenue Services, to have a conversation about infrastructure.

Dan Thayer, Communications – New transmitter has been installed at the police department, WDJW.

5. Motion to approve minutes by Todd Rolland, seconded by Dan Thayer - Minutes approved for August 3, 2023
6. Motion to adjourn by Dan Thayer, seconded by Todd Rolland. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37am.
7. Next EPAC Meeting – 8:00am, October 5, 2023