

Newington EMS Committee

February 2, 2023

Special Meeting - 6:00 pm

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
IN NEWINGTON, CT

2023 FEB -7 AM 9:00


Town Clerk

1.0 OPEN MEETING - CALL TO ORDER

Acting Town Manager James Krupienski called the Newington EMS Committee Special Meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

1.1 Roll Call

Commissioners Present

Commissioner Ziegler
Commissioner Olesen
Commissioner Serra
Commissioner Torrey
Commissioner D'Esposito

Commissioners Absent

Commissioner Cutaia
Commissioner Bligh – came to meeting at 6:19 pm

2.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Carol Anest asked about setting firm EMS Committee meeting dates so everybody will know when the EMS Committee is meeting. Also, possibly the EMS Committee could have a staff member to oversee the Committee and be sure they are on track and meetings are held properly and in accordance with our Boards and Commissions' Rules as well.

3.0 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

3.1 Nomination for Chairman

Commissioner Serra nominated Kevin Ziegler; seconded by Commissioner Gloria Oleson. Nomination accepted. Motion carries 4-1.

3.2 Nomination for Vice Chairman

Tabled

3.3 Nomination for Secretary

Commissioner Serra nominated Matt D'Esposito; seconded by Commissioner Gloria Oleson. Nomination accepted. Motion carries 5-0.

4.0 MEETING DATES FOR 2023

Third Thursday of the month:

February 16, 2023 (Special Meeting)

March 16, 2023

April 20, 2023

May 18, 2023

June 15, 2023

July 20, 2023

August 17, 2023

September 21, 2023

October 19, 2023

November 16, 2023

December 21, 2023

January 18, 2024

Motion made by Commissioner Torrey to approve meeting dates. Seconded by Commissioner Serra. Question: possible work sessions regarding contract. Motion carried 5-0.

5.0 REPORTS AMR/NEMS

Not present - No report

6.0 DISPATCH/EMD ISSUES

It is active, they are getting data, and it is working somewhat. NEMS doesn't have MBTs for them to be able to access that data because then they would be able to see the script or whatever is put in—B & B Codes—terminate codes and any other notes that are put on by the EMD. The EMD in New Haven are the only ones that can actually technically cancel the ambulance because of their medical control. It would be nice to know what you are walking into. NEMS doesn't have that connectivity, so the CAD system is still working, but one agency is not getting the information. So if we could find some way to resolve that so that everybody is seeing the same stuff, it makes for better interoperability. Based off previous meetings and discussions after the CAD link was active, the previous Town Manager was supportive and the new IT Director is supportive of working to get the MBTs in the ambulances. There has been no movement on that, but the CAD system has only been active for a short time. Dispatcher Garuti has been working hand in hand with them, but I've seen it on our end that it is active and working. This issue is more than 10 years old, but previously NEMS was told no by the Town for access to the CAD system based on decisions by the previous IT Director. There's a change in power now, and there have been discussions on how to remedy that. This would be independent of the new radio system. The IT staff has done some installs into the vehicles and have also been doing a refresh of the hardware on all of the Town Hall work stations and should be done by the end of the month. Any issues regarding

dispatch? No, with the new phone system, there are still occasional down times where it is still hard to get a hold of AMR. However, I believe it's decreased, and it's not always a phone system issue as much as it is call volume at AMR Dispatch Center. However, the CAD to CAD link has improved that because AMR gets the call once, we generate the call on the CAD, so they already have the call queued in their system before we even call them.

If you currently hear the ambulance is signing on, at times they are sending a basic life support ambulance first as they are shagging a paramedic out of the hospital. So you are getting 912 signing on; they don't know whether it's BLS or ALS. So then a second ambulance signs on, and it's happened multiple times on multiple calls where one of them was on Main Street and it was a BLS ambulance and they were waiting and waiting for the medic and then transported BLS. The ALS ambulance signs on and Newington never heard it on the transport to UConn. So the ask would be if AMR units could sign on as 912 Bravo for BLS or 912 Alpha for ALS, so this way we know if 912 is going and then 911 signs on, we have a BLS and an ALS unit so that the dispatchers know that the BLS truck is there and they have ALS backup coming.

7.0 INFORMATION SHARING

Newington has an EMT that has a medical issue, and there is a fundraiser being held for her on May 20 at Newington High School—she will need a tremendous amount of support in the near future.

8.0 CAD SYSTEM UPDATE

AMR is up and running with their new CAD system. Other information previously discussed.

9.0 PUBIC PARTICIPATION

None.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting by Commissioner Serra. Seconded by Commissioner D'Esposito. Meeting adjourned at 6:23 pm.