

Ambulance Working Group Meeting. January 22, 2019. 7:00 p.m.

Present: Ruth Goodrich, Marcy Martin, Mike Hogan, Sheila Brown, Daniel & Debbie Peterson, Brittany Butler, Andy Luce, Jeff Dale, Charles & Jenn Miner via phone, Jeff Haslett.

Motion by Ruth and 2nd by Andy to call meeting to order. So moved. Meeting started at 7:05 p.m.

A couple notes to start with.

- There were a lot of questions being asked or talked about at the same time so I didn't get everything written down.
- At the moment the Ambulance Services maintains any repairs, services needed for the Ambulance.
- Jack, John Christman and Sheila have had meetings prior to this meeting on the same topic.
- The towns people don't understand the current needs so we need to get out there and help them understand.

-Mike read note from Sheila to the Selectboard regretting the need for Cabot Ambulance to become a Fast Squad as of June 30, 2019.

- Mike Said the Selectboard has budgeted \$45,000 for the next fiscal year to contract for ambulance services for Cabot.
- Sheila said we are having to call Mutual Aid a lot because a majority of our squad have fulltime jobs out of town.
- As a Fast Squad we will respond to scenes and get the patient stabilized.
- We have a few people taking EMR or EMT Classes but can't say that they all will qualify after testing.
- Fast Squad still has to be certified and the drivers have to be CPR certified and go through a training with our Ambulance.
- When we go on a run, we are required to have two certified personnel in the back of the Ambulance.
- We've had 5 calls so far this year and have had to call on Mutual Aid.
- We had 100 calls in 2018 but not all were transported to the hospital.
- Other Towns are paying people to stay at stations. They range starts at minimum wage (10.80) and goes up to \$18.00/hour depending on certification.
- Questions about response time were asked. Closest time is 8-20 minutes. East Montpelier has a person on from 7 to midnight. After that no one at station. If Cabot has a person at station the response time would be 5-15 minutes.
- One example is that if we had one full time person at \$18/hr. for 40 hours a week with vacation, matching Social Security and Medicare the price would be \$50-55,000.00 a year.
- What about volunteers taking classes? EMR class is \$150.00 and is 60 hours. EMT Class is \$1,000.00 and is 180 hours. The Ambulance pays for the classes right now and the volunteer signs a contract to stay with our service for 1 – 2 years after passing classes.
- We need to look into part time employee costs, etc. If we have 4- part timers for 130 hours there would be three different prices. EMR lower price, EMT higher price and AEMT at the highest.
- How do we get properly staffed? There are ways to do this. We need to get something together before June 30th.
- Daniel Peterson will have information ready for Town Meeting and will get up and talk to the people. Ruth and Marcy will do up a pamphlet prior to the meeting. Sheila will get some numbers to Ruth.
- What's going to happen and What could happen?

-NEXT MEETING-February 21st at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.
Selectboard is having an informational meeting on February 26th at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall on this topic as well and all the other articles to be voted on at Town Meeting.

Motion by Andy and 2nd by Debbie to adjourn meeting. So moved. Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Marcy Martin