



Town of  
*North Stonington, Connecticut*

**Emergency Services Operations Committee Special Meeting**

**Monday, April 12 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Meeting Minutes**

1. Meeting called to order at 6:07pm including Tricia Cunningham, James Tuttle and Sarah Nelson
2. Approval of Previous Minutes tabled to the next meeting
3. Next Steps
  - Discussed researching ambulance contracts including local town contracts and commercial contracts. Agreed on the following questions to send out to Griswold 1<sup>st</sup> Selectman and New Hartford Volunteer Ambulance President to get a better understanding of ambulance contracts.
    - What elements are included as services in your contract?
    - How does it impact or support town funding?
    - What are the responsibilities of the town vs the responsibilities of the Ambulance Association in the contract?
    - Would you be willing to share a sample of the contract?
    - How long have you had a service contract in place?
    - What led to the development of the service contract?
    - What are the benefits and/or downsides to the contract?
4. Fire Department – Future Recommendations tabled to the next meeting
5. Ambulance Department Overview
  - Of the five responding towns (to the survey) 2 were considered demographically and similar to NS (population, square mileage, average age and revenue)
  - Call volume is on the high end of average (average responders – 634 vs NS 850)
  - Medicare/Medicaid volume on high end of average (70%) of all responders impacting reimbursement of services
  - Average responses to high hazard traffic were typically less than 3% of towns overall volume vs NSAA at ~15%
  - No responding towns had additional high call volume facilities compared to NSAA which reports ~30% related to local detox rehabilitation facility.
  - The closest comparator for volume related to interstate traffic is Old Lyme which has a revenue of \$35.5M compared to NS with \$21.4M
  - Only one of the responding towns, Sharon, was entirely volunteer and is part of the Fire Department responding to ~400 calls in total (Fire & Ambulance)



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- All ambulance companies responding to the survey indicated they were understaffed
- NSAA experienced a jump of 18% of call volume in 2020 despite closer of high hazard traffic locations due to COVID ~700 calls in 2018 & 2019 and 850 calls in 2020

6. No public comments

7. Adjournment motion by James Tuttle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tricia Cunningham, motion passed and meeting adjourned at 7:20pm