



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 1st 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, 2nd by Tricia Cunningham, motion passed and meeting adjourned at 7:20pm