

**Fire and Rescue Planning Committee Meeting  
Minutes of September 26, 2016, 6pm**

**Members present:** Kevin Johnson, Co-Chair; Ben Wallace, Co-Chair; Allan LeGrow, Dave Mercier, and Rick Daniel

**Staff present:** Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator; Marguerite Kelly, Town Treasurer

Other members of the public were present.

**Integration of Conceptual Model with Volunteer Organizations**

There were many questions about how to implement the concept that has been proposed. Can we have a combination of a municipal department and the current three volunteer organizations—while there are three options in the statute, are they exclusive? It was suggested that West Bath would be a good department to get in touch with. If there is no expectation of compensation can people remain as volunteers or would they have to be paid on call? There is a desire to preserve volunteers and supplement with a municipal department. There was consensus that there should be a municipal fire chief in charge of the volunteer and municipal components and that the new system should take into account rescue response as well as fire. How do we integrate? If we want a structure to blend volunteer and paid, can we do it? Committee member Mercier indicated that the governance of the three organizations may have to change to integrate with a municipal fire chief. Can we take the best of the three departments and unify into a system? Legal advice is going to be needed.

**Job Description for Fire Chief**—Add EMA and Fire Warden/Permits to the Job Description.

Look at other communities' budgets and at MMA salary information for Fire Chiefs.

**Other Matters**

- Building: Look at site locations and have cost analyses performed, also consider Recycling Center location
- Amount of Equipment: Hone down on what can be reduced
- Consider having tankers come from departments
- Need to draft Progress Report by mid-October and include some figures—range of numbers
- Try to get copy of pay scale from local departments to develop per diem costs

**Public Comment**

Mike Helfgott—What is the timeframe to go from current model to another? When will draft documents be ready? A question was asked of Mike Helfgott about when the cost figures for OBI's renovations will be available?

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristi K. Eiane