

Fire Rescue Planning Committee

Minutes

September 26, 2023

Members: Chief Wallace, Chief Mercier, Chief Pough, Kevin Johnson, Ted Merriman, Jonathan Burbank, John Pearson

Guests: Mike Drake, Nelson Barter

Meeting opened @ 10:08am

Minutes for September 12, 2023 Approved with two grammar corrections

Comp plan review –Version 3

Burbank- Should include a statement that there is no public water system in town which requires water to be shuttled from other water sources in town. This process requires more apparatus than having a wet hydrant system.

Pearson- The public safety communications section should state we are being mandated to change to a digital communication system. Depending on the amount of grant money, or reimbursements from other entities, this change could be expensive for the town.

There is discussion of various grammar changes within the document.

Wallace- Acronyms can be confusing and should be spelled out the first time they are used.

Burbank- Motion that after (I) make all suggested plan and grammar changes to this version it will be submitted to the town Comp Plan Committee. (Motion approved by vote)

Wallace- What is the status of the search for an architect to design a central station?

Johnson- An RFQ/RFP is in the works, and will be completed soon.

Committee members reiterate the architect must have fire station design experience

Wallace- The new E-3 is in service. The old E-3 is now E-1. E-1 may be used by town staff, or on calls for known narrow roads. Also, Cundy's Harbor is looking to replace SQ-5. This may be done by purchasing a demo truck or ordering 2 similar trucks to replace SQ-5 and SQ-3

Burbank- The town is asking for more accountability of "other" expenses from the three departments and a five year projection of expenses.

Mercier- Fundraising seems to be less every year and his department, and most likely the other departments, will need more financial support from the town in the near future.

General discussion- How long can the three departments last under the current funding model? No one seems to have an answer, only estimates.

Wallace- Can the Fire Administrator get the town to contribute funding for FRAP and/or the wilderness rescue team?

Meeting adjourned 11:15am

Next meeting- October 24 @ 10:00am