

TOWN OF SOMERS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Thursday,
June 6, 2024
8:00 AM
Fire Station**

1. Call to Order: 8:00am

2. Members Present: Anne Cournoyer, Todd Rolland, Justin Preuss, Karen Hocking, Dan Thayer

Also in attendance: Tim Keeney, Dave Marti, David McCaffrey, Stephanie Levine

3. Old Business

a. Sanitarian – Nothing to report

b. Social Services –

- Human Services programs have been working to draft or update and adopt a variety of basic tools to help improve data collection, record keeping, and to better gauge our impact.
- We recently developed a new standard client intake form to be used by all human services programs, a self-sufficiency matrix (a questionnaire to learn about needs beyond the presenting problem), a client satisfaction survey, and implemented enhancements to our database to streamline data collection and to eliminate redundancies and unnecessary data.
- A comprehensive Service Plan document has also been created and we continue working to finalize the department's first written policies and procedures.
- The department's first clinical policies and procedures for mental health counseling were drafted last year and will be reviewed by a clinical consultant.
- We have also implemented measurable performance metrics for all staff as part of the annual review and performance planning process, a major change from past practices.
- A number of staffing and membership changes on town commissions have also occurred: Officer Gerard Joyal will assume positions recently vacated upon Craig Jones' retirement, including Somers Comes Together, the Youth Services Bureau Advisory Board, and the Juvenile Review Board. Aiden Matthews, who joined us full-time a year ago as Youth Services Social Worker has resigned while on maternity leave.
- Upcoming priorities include the development and release of a Parent/Adult Community Survey to learn about community perceptions of need related to mental health and topics relating to mental health.

- b.
- c. Police –
 - 772 calls for service, 6 traffic accidents, 7 investigative reports 0 DUI's, 0 burglaries, 1 larceny, 4 arrests including a search warrant arrest of Randy Guette for running a drug factory and illegal possession of a firearm.
 - National Night Out 5pm-8pm 8/7/24
 - Phase II of the accreditation process to begin late summer, early fall
 - Mock MV accident event at the high school
 - Officer Craig Jones to retire
- d. Fire- Final Interviews are underway for a new fire chief
- e. DPW
 - Summer operations
 - Kibbe Fuller roof to be done this summer
 - Shred event this weekend
 - Vaccination clinic June 8th
 - 6/26 Fish with care offered by DEEP
 - 6/22 Drive through food waste management program to hand out bags
- f. Schools –
 - Interviews will begin for high school principal
 - Graduation is June 11
 - Step up day is June 10th
 - 8th grade promotion June 11th
 - Last day of school for high school and middle school June 11th and June 12th for the elementary school
 - Budget passed
- g. CERT-
 - Members continue to train to be mission ready and to stay engaged.
 - Got approval from Region 3 Director to assist other towns that do not have CERT Teams as robust Somers or at all
 - 5/26 Trail safety class at Camp Ay a po with Fire Department including search and rescue
 - Attended Mock Vehicle accident at the school
 - Will have presence at the town concert series
 - Will have a booth at the National Night Out

4. New Business

General Discussion

- Tim Keeney – BOS agenda to include establishing an ad hoc committee to put together an affordable/low-income housing plan for the town. The Winn Development Group is interested in a 75-80 unit in Somersville at the old mill site.
- Hope to have an agreement with Stafford on ALS funding for ambulance services.
- Anne Cournoyer – Discussed the passage of the land conveyance bill Senate Bill 461 intended for a communications tower over by the prisons.

- Dan Thayer - shared that the tower will greatly impact the range of service that will now cover the entire town.
- 5. Approval of Minutes - Motion to approve the May meeting minutes made by Todd Rolland, 2nd by Dan Thayer, motion passes
- 6. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn made by Todd Rolland, 2nd by Dan Thayer, motion passes 8:55am.

Next Meeting: July 11, 2024, 8:00am Fire station