

**TOWN OF SOMERS
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday,
May 2, 2024
8:00 AM
Fire Station**

1. Call to Order – 8:07am
2. Members Present – Todd Rolland, John Roache, Karen Hocking, Dan Thayer, Justin Preuss, Anne Cournoyer
Others in attendance – Matthew Cox, Kim Littig, Stephanie Levine
3. Old Business
 - Sanitarian – Nothing to report
 - Social Services –
 - National Drug Take Back collected 350 needles, 10lbs liquid medication, and 55.8lbs pills. In the fall, surrounding towns will be invited.
 - Town leaders (police, fire, school, ACO, social services, sanitarian) meeting to discuss and learn about hoarding and how to handle hoarders in our community. Discussions will be in preparation for possibly creating a policy to address hoarding.
 - May is Mental Health month and National Prevention Week is coming up.
 - Police –
 - Tier I accreditation achieved. Ceremony to recognize those departments will be held on May 9th at 9:00am. Tier II accreditation process will begin in August/September
 - SRO Craig Jones will be retiring at the end of the school year. Look to recruit a new officer for the new school year. SRO Gerard Joyal is still with the school/town part time.
 - Calls for services 1270, traffic accidents 14, investigative reports 13, onside DUI's 1, Burglaries 0, Larcenies 0, Arrests 3.
 - Fire –
 - Last day of service for Chief John Roache.

- Keith Allard will be the acting Chief until someone is hired permanently. Ray Stovall will be acting Deputy Fire Chief and Matt Atwater will be acting Deputy Chief of EMS. They will need to be sworn in.
- Approximately 180 calls for service, continuing to provide mutual aid for Stafford. Trinity Ambulance is still only handling 23-30% of the calls.
- Two staff are leaving which will leave 3 PT out of 9 allotted positions.
- CSP radios have been updated.
- Mental health/Social services have provided services since a 17 in the cadet student intern program commit suicide last week. There are currently 12 in the program.
 - DPW –
- June 8th there will be a Rabies and Licensing clinic at DPW for dogs and cats
- This month only a couple of trees down.
- Spring operations includes keeping up with the moving and trimming of town properties.
- Generator transfer switch project completed at the fire department.
- Fire department roof and bay floors will be completed this summer.
- We have received 1.1 mil. for sidewalks that will connect Connors Park to the center of town and to Geisslers.
- Seeking bonding money for community center
- 6/12 EPPI event will be about election centers, registrars, and IT
 - Schools –
- Lockdown drill in April went well
- 6 weeks left of school
- Graduation is June 11th
- Art teacher at the middle school passed away unexpectedly. School responded immediately with counseling services through the crisis intervention team and therapy dogs were also deployed to the school.
- HVAC project has begun.
 - CERT –
- First Aid, STOKS and CRP training was conducted.
- Members will be taking a train safety course provided by the trail council and horse patrol.
- June training will be offered on trail search and rescue.
- CERT Day is June 1st.
- Nice work by Karen and Frank in putting together a comprehensive training schedule and log for the year.

- Approval was given for team members to volunteer in other towns that do not have CERT Teams. Requests and approvals just need to go through the EMD.

4. New Business

- General Discussion – Chief John Roache was recognized for his years of dedicated service and leadership he provided to the town of Somers. He will be missed. Mansfield is very lucky to have him.
5. Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve minutes made by Karen Hocking and 2nd by Dan Thayer. Motion passes.
 6. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn by Dan Thayer and 2nd by Todd Rolland. Meeting adjourned 9:09am.