

TOWN OF GOSHEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES – Special Meeting
Town Hall Conference Room
March 21, 2016

PRESENT: Robert P. Valentine, Dexter S. Kinsella, Steven M. Romano

OTHERS: Barry Hall, Fire Chief; Martin Connor, Chairman Fire Commissioners; Don Sage, Bill Lane; Peter Bernard; Bill Gelormino, President Goshen Fire Company, Jim O’Leary, EMD.

Robert P. Valentine called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Bob Valentine then began a detailed explanation of the need for Goshen to re-submit an updated Local Emergency Medical Services Plan (LEMSP) to the *State Office of Emergency Medical Services*. Four (4) points were called to Bob Valentine’s attention by Wendy H. Furniss, RNC, MS, Chief Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch.

1. The Local EMS Plan that was submitted does not include the written agreements or contracts developed between the municipality, its emergency medical services providers and the public safety answering point
2. The Local EMS Plan; that was submitted does not identify the name of the person or entity responsible for carrying out each level of emergency medical services that the plan identifies;
3. The Local EMS Plan that was submitted does not establish performance standards for each segment of the municipality’s emergency medical services system, and;
4. The Local EMS Plan that was submitted does not include subcontracts, written agreements or mutual aid call agreements that emergency medical services providers may have with other entities to provide services identified in the plan.

Goshen does have a written agreement with Litchfield County Dispatch (LCD). Selectman Kinsella pointed out that Goshen’s quality of service is very good. However, the State wants more definitive response “times” i.e., 10 minutes, or 5 minutes, etc. Jim O’Leary pointed out that the LCD has all response times recorded on a computer program. What does the State consider average? – based on weather, road conditions, Goshen’s miles vary from point to point inasmuch as the majority of land miles/road lengths are spread out, strictly rural in nature.

For example, the town of Cornwall had identified in their EMS Plan (abbreviated version):

Overview: rural community, served by volunteer fire and emergency medical services

Town Information: current population, square miles, rising elderly population,

Department Information: location of fire house, size of building, size and type of emergency vehicles housed, other substations, etc. Operating budget, capital line expenses.

Police coverage: Connecticut State Police, location.

Hospitals (in area)

Primary Service Area (PSA): location of first responders, what adjacent areas covered and route locations (maps)

Paramedic Level Coverage: from where paramedics are provided and level of emergencies and dispatches requiring a higher level of care; agreements with area ambulance services and their affiliations with local hospitals.

Dispatch and PSAP: dispatches services provided, their locations, level of staff.

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Written Mutual Aid Agreements: with local Fire Department, agreements with neighboring EMS providers.

Ambulance: detailed operations of their ambulance service under their volunteer fire department, the members certifications and a detailed listing of the ambulance division's responsibilities.

Streets, Housing Names and Numbers; labels and signage in place by ordinance of the town.

Mass Casualty Plan: detailed copy at Fire House, and copy with LCD

Performance Standards; constantly updated with Med Control and the EMS

Coordinators discretion – time of dispatch, personnel on scene, ambulance on scene, time on scene, transport times, etc.

All of the above information is available and recorded in the town of Goshen. Bill Lane has volunteered to create a formal "contract" with the Goshen Fire Company and other entities required. Fire Chief, Barry Hall will work with Erin Hurlburt, Fire Commission Clerk, to mirror Cornwall's plan with information appropriate for Goshen. The Fire Commissioners will then review the LEMSP and then forward it to Bob Valentine to re-submit to the Office of Emergency Services (OEMS). The attendees at this meeting will meet again as "Committee" to review this plan annually.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucille A. Paige, First Selectman's Aide