

# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MTG

October 2, 2014

Town Street Firehouse

7:00 PM

## Special Meeting Minutes

Present: Craig Mansfield, Joe Szczech, Rich Toolan, Shawn Daigle, Ed Smith, Kevin Cavallo, Robert Bennett, Dean Anderson, Mark Walter.

Public: Ed Blashick

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM

### **KX MERGER DISCUSSION**

Group was brought up to speed on the KX/Montville. East Haddam is under contract with KX until January 2016. KX is currently looking for all the KX towns to sign on to a 5 year contract with a substantial price increase. The increase for East Haddam is projected to be 59K-69K with a 4.5% annual increase over the life of the contract.

It was noted that the current proposed pricing includes all towns including the Middlesex Paramedics coming on board. There have been discussions that it maybe questionable whether Middlesex is coming with KX, as well as Haddam Neck. This would greatly drive up the pricing for the remaining.

Areas of concern discussed included, quality of service going into a new dispatch center, the large cost increase and the requirement to sign a 5 year contract with substantial penalties to get out of the contract.

The Town attorney has reviewed the contract and had some areas of concern and also is recommending that there be some type of a mid-contract out without penalty, if East Haddam chooses to continue with KX.

### **OTHER OPTIONS**

The group discussed what other options were available to the town and the advantages and disadvantages of switching PSAP's.

After short discussion, the group agreed that the only viable option was to look at Valley Shore Communications (VS). Mark noted that he had asked VS to put together a proposal and that the preliminary cost was coming in at approx. 77K per year. VS noted that this

number was preliminary and would drop if Haddam Neck and the Middlesex Medics were to come over to VS.

The main areas of concern with going to VS were coverage for dispatching and operation of calls. Additionally, questions came up around the length of the VS contract and what the penalties are for getting out of the contract.

Mark noted that the majority of the towns using VS are within the River COG and when possible, the town is trying to align more with the COG as we enter into agreements in the future.

After some discussion the group unanimously agreed to officially look into VS as an option for providing dispatch services.

Additionally, it was decided that we would ask VS to do some coverage studies as well as do some in field testing of coverage.

Craig and Joe were asked to coordinate testing and Craig will coordinate having VS available to attend the next meeting and provide the group with a brief presentation.

**NEXT MEETING:**

October 23, 2014, 7PM.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn by Kevin Cavallo second by Ed Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM

Submitted  
Craig Mansfield  
Director of Emergency Management  
10/20/14