



# **TRI-TOWN AMBULANCE**

## **West Tisbury • Chilmark • Aquinnah**

**Chief Ben Retmier**, Tri-Town Ambulance Chief  
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### **Tri-Town Ambulance Committee**

#### **September 9th, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

#### **Approved by the Committee October 7, 2020**

Committee Chair Warren Doty called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

#### **In attendance**

Committee Chair Warren Doty, Committee Member Jim Newman, Chief Ben Retmier, Town Accountant Ellen Biskis, Administrative Assistant Allison Graczykowski

#### **Absent**

Committee Member Cindy Mitchell

- **Approval of August 5th, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Committee Chair Warren Doty motioned to approve meeting minutes from August 5th, 2020 as written. Committee Member Jim Newman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Old Business**

Committee Chair Warren Doty and Chief Ben Retmier shared that the building committee is working well. There was a push to make the EMS building bigger as there will be considerable shared space with Fire. In lieu of an attic there will be a truss system. This will lower cost. This will also eliminate future upward growth but architect believes there is room for growth on the North side of the property. Next meeting is Friday at 9:00 am.

- **New Business**
- **TTA Chief report**

- **Three Month Review**

Chief Retmier shared that from 6/9/2020 thru 9/9/2020 Tri-Town Ambulance had a total of 99 incidents. Last year for this same period, there were 169 incidents.

The year to date total thus far for 2020 is 201 incidents. At the same time last year Tri-Town Ambulance had 297 incidents. Runs are down by 30%.

Seasonal shifts will end October 3<sup>rd</sup> and we'll then go back to off season staffing levels. Chief Retmier offered that he'll emphasize having an EMT stationed in Aquinnah.

- **Covid Update**

Chief Retmier shared that everything is running smoothly. We're tracking Covid expenses for Cares reimbursement.

- **Carryover Balance - Retirement Debt**

Town Accountant Ellen Biskis informed the TTA Committee that the remaining funds from the FY2020 budget is \$115,000.00 and change. There are lines in the budget that have remaining balances, for example health insurance. This particular line item has \$20,000.00 remaining however these expenses are unpredictable. In the salary section there is \$54,000.00 left in the seasonal EMT line item. So there appears to be some room for savings.

Ellen states that if we pool the remaining funds from Fiscal Year 17, 18, 19 and 20 - 56k, 29k, 80k, 115k respectively, that TTA would have enough to repay the full retirement debt with \$19.00 remaining.

The amount of retirement debt to repay is \$282,176.00.

Ellen states that she hoped to have resolution on this. She proposes having 100% repayment to the general fund using the last four fiscal years remaining balances.

Chief Retmier shared that we as a committee in February said in talking with Chilmark, if we had given the carryover balance at that time (approximately \$160,000), that the hope was that this would be considered payment in full.

Chief Retmier stated that at the time he was working with Town Administrator Tim Carroll and then Covid hit and that went out the door.

Chief Retmier concurs that Ellen's proposal seems to be a great idea. Committee Member Jim Newman agrees that this makes sense.

Committee Chair Warren moved to repay the retirement debt in full, and Jim Newman seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

- **Comstar**

Allison Graczykowski reiterated what Chief Retmier shared earlier that revenue is down due to significantly lower transport numbers than in prior years. Collections continue to go well.

- **Next Meeting Date**

October 7th, 2020 12:00 pm

- **Adjournment**

Committee Chair Warren Doty motioned to adjourn the meeting at 12:26pm and Committee Member Jim Newman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Allison Graczykowski Administrative Assistant