

Fire Department Regionalization Study Committee Minutes

January 24, 2017 @ 7:00 PM

Meeting in Fire Station

Attendees: Chairman Dave DeVoy, Evelyn Auger, Andy Sanbornton, Chief Dexter, Steve Ober, Steve Cobb, Roger Grey

Invited guests: Scott Myers – Laconia City Manager
Edward Engler – Mayor of Laconia
Ken Erickson – Laconia Fire Chief

We spent approximately 1 ½ hrs. discussing regionalization and shared services. Comments as follows:

- Chief Erickson
 - big supporter of regionalization,
 - estimates it would take Laconia 15-20 minutes for EMS to respond to a call to the east (Winnisquam) side of Sanbornton
 - Belmont pays 87k per year to share their chief with Laconia
 - Belmont pays 25% of the combined administration cost
 - Shared purchases of fire fighter apparatus is another option
- Chief Dexter
 - 45% of calls are fire, 55% medical (approx 200/yr.)
 - 135K to hire to full time firemen including benefits, social security, or retirement costs
- Meyers
 - Belknap County is very successful in sharing firefighter/EMS services between fire districts
 - Belknap County Mutual Aid is a model for other counties in the state
 - Very willing for further discussion on shared services
- Engler
 - Local politics is a big problem in implementing shared services
 - Strong believer in regionalization/shared services
 - Laconia does not have to be on top in the organization chart if a shared services plan is ever adopted
 - The way the county currently handles firefighter/EMS Mutual Aid calls is incredible
 - Lakes Region General Hospital (LRG) furnishes 3 ambulances and 24/7 EMS personnel for Laconia at a annual cost to Laconia of \$837K.

Guests left at 8:25 PM

Approved the minutes of the following meeting:

Belmont, NH 12/5/16

Sanborn- motion to approve
Chief Dexter – second, approved unanimously

New Hampton, NH 12/15/16

Approved their draft minutes since approved minutes were not yet available

Ober- motion to approve

Sanborn –second, approved by all except Cobb who was absent the meeting.

Tilton Fire District, NH 12/19/16

Chief Dexter – motion to approve

Cobb – second, approved by all except Ober & Sanborn who were absent the meeting

Meredith, NH 12/27/16

Sanborn – motion to approve

Chief Dexter – second, approved unanimously

Stewart Ambulance 1/10/17

Chief Dexter – motion to approve

Auger – second, approved by all except Cobb who was absent the meeting

Minutes from our 1/11/17 meeting with the Sanbornton Selectmen are not yet available on the town website. We will consider them for approval when they are available.

Chair DeVoy stated that we have now met with all adjoining communities that were interested in discussing regionalization. He requested everyone bring to the next meeting a list of topics they would like to discuss for our final report.

Motion by Ober seconded by DeVoy to adjourn @8:52 PM passed unanimously.

Next meeting February 1, 2017 at 7 PM in the Fire Station

Respectfully submitted



Roger Grey
Secretary