

DRAFT

A meeting of the Mendon Citizens Advisory Committee for Town of Mendon Fire Service was held on Wednesday, July 27, 2022 at the Mendon Community Center, 167 North Main Street, Honeoye Falls, NY, 14472.

PRESENT: Muffy Meisenzahl, Karen Jenkins, John Moffitt, Ryan Wilsey, Peter Kester, Mike Arman, Gerald Lonchair, Cory Trewer, Anthony Militello, David Smith, Robin Stewart Ha, Steve Tschiderer,

OTHERS: Brian Anderson, Jackie Main, William Fletcher, Danny Bassette and Bonnie Toomey

Ms. Meisenzahl opened the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Mr. Militello led the Pledge of Allegiance.

HOUSEKEEPING

Ms. Meisenzahl pointed out the exits and restrooms.

INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Meisenzahl acknowledge the others present and asked Committee Members to introduce themselves for those not present at the last meeting.

MINUTES for the July 13, 2022 meeting were approved as submitted.

COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION

Ms. Meisenzahl stated that the meetings will follow New York State Open Meetings Law, the schedule is on the Town website. Denise Zimmerman is the Committee's central point of contact, if anything is amiss, contact Denise. There is a change in the roster, the revised roster is here in hard copy and has been emailed. There were no questions.

COMMITTEE CHARGE

Task #1. Identify governance framework and current capacities: reports & polling. Ms. Meisenzahl explained that as information is gathered, it will be reported to the Committee and then the Committee will be polled for feedback.

Governance Framework: Ms. Meisenzahl referenced the 2016 Report. She discussed the different ways fire protection can be offered in New York State which include Fire Districts, Fire Protection Districts; which we have both and the Village Municipal Fire Department. She added that different terms are used for example; fire department and fire company. In addition, can be offered by Not-for-Profit departments, like West Bloomfield and Ionia. There are also Joint Fire Districts. These are terms to be familiar with. She talked about the "how to" create these districts. She has this information for all

except the Mendon First District. Mr. Wilsey stated he is working with the County to determine a date for the creation of the Mendon Fire District. At this time, he is going with around 1940.

Looking at framework and jurisdiction Ms. Meisenzahl explained what State Law allows Cities, Villages and Towns to do and explained the roles of Town and Village Boards. A Town and Village can have a joint Fire District. She referred to the information presented on a Table contained in a publication from the Office of the New York State Comptroller which was provided to the Committee.

Ms. Meisenzahl asked if there were questions. Mr. Militello asked about the most appropriate place to include descriptions or reference to regulatory and professional standards agencies like OSHA, NFPA, UL and NIST as we evaluate staffing and responses. Ms. Meisenzahl replied that she expects they will be incorporated in the Resource Considerations section of the Report.

Mr. Smith asked, from a funding standpoint, do any of the departments use two percent revenue? Mr. Moffitt asked where the two percent revenue comes from. Ms. Meisenzahl explained that it comes from homeowner's insurance premiums purchased through an out-of-state company. This money can only be used for certain purposes and is off the table for fire protection budgets governed by municipalities and fire districts. Department funds have been used for banquets, uniforms and some equipment purchases. These funds will be incorporated in the Report with Department community services.

Ms. Meisenzahl called on Chiefs Trewer and Kester to report on results of their meeting on August 21st. Mr. Tschiderer, as a member of the Mendon Fire Department, has been working on compiling data showing trends regarding manpower, trucks, EMS, mutual aid and training. This is a monumental amount of data. They have a soft target date of August 10th to present four aspects of their research.

Ms. Meisenzahl added that she wants to ensure the Committee has accurate information for today as well as the past. We want to show if our resources are aligned with defined risks and identify needs across all areas of concern.

Ms. Jenkins asked Mr. Tschiderer if there were legal requirements for training. He answered the year-to-date NYS Office of Fire Protection & Control requirements. Requirements align with best practices, but each Fire Department has discretion, noting that Mendon and Honeoye Falls do their due diligence. He noted that in the year 2000 forty-two hours of training was required for Basic Fire Fighter. In 2022, it is 128 hours. Ms. Meisenzahl added this makes it harder for recruitment.

Task #2. Complete a needs assessment for Fire Protection within the Town

Ms. Meisenzahl referred to a handout, the source is listed as the Town's Disaster Plan – Annex 13 which Mr. Moffitt is looking for the full document. She blacked out Lima on the copy she had made, and added private air strips and bridges. Committee Members added other Community Risk locations specific to fuel storage, and intersections to name a few. There was discussion on the amount of fuel storage to include. Ms. Meisenzahl explained this piece is to capture geographic risk information.

The next handout listed the 911 Center Call Types and codes which needs to be updated but was presented for familiarity.

The next section was the Identification of Hazards of Concern. They included naturally occurring and technological/human-caused; the significance to the community and why. This information leads to

assessing our response capacity and who responds. An example from the Village of Scottsville, Town of Wheatland was reviewed.

Ms. Meisenzahl asked if there was anything else the Committee needed to know for risk assessment or would like to discuss. There were no responses. She asked that Mr. Lonhair, Mr. Moffitt, Mr. Wilsey and the Fire Department Representatives go back to their departments to find plans and studies they feel important and grant awards related to Fire Protection. She is working on retrieving Fire Contract information from the Town files.

No one on Zoom and no Public Comment.

The next meeting is August 10th.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.