



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

Emergency Management Department

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Emergency Management
Director

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (EMAC)

April 9, 2018 2:00 PM Town Hall Meeting Hall

MINUTES

Councilors Present: Patrick Getler – North Central District Health Department (NCDHD), Joy Hollister, Anna Turner – Social Services, Tim Webb – Public Works, Gary Feldman – Chief, Ellington Volunteer Fire Department, Peter Hany – President, Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Frederica Weeks, Joseph Palombizio – Emergency Management, Julia Connor – Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER – 2:04 PM

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Meeting of January 8, 2018

MOVED (WEBB), SECONDED (FELDMAN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 8, 2018 EMAC MINUTES.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Cyberattack – Town Hall I.T. System Exercise (Computer Company)

Joe Palombizio spoke to Patrick Kenton of The Computer Company, who said he was planning on running an exercise during the week to test the Town's computer system. He will be writing up a report of the weaknesses and strengths that are noted from this test.

The Town servers are backed up hourly, both on- and off-site; the main purpose of the test is to see how much time is required to recover the servers in the event of a cyber-attack. There was also discussion about security awareness training, as many attacks are due to employees and staff granting access to outside agents.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Mass Casualty Exercise

Joe Palombizio reported that with the cooperation of Chief Feldman, Chief Pippin, and President Hany, the Emergency Management Department is planning a mass casualty exercise, which is defined as an event with four-plus victims. The initial meeting was scheduled for April 10, which would include John Streiber and Frederica Weeks. The exercise, which will include plans for parking for emergency services, triage areas, and mutual aid plans, is tentatively scheduled for the summer of 2018.

B. Brian Greenleaf – School Security/Safety

Joe Palombizio briefly outlined the information he had received from Brian Greenleaf prior to the meeting. Sergeant Santa is working with the Board of Education on creating a training procedure for active shooting situations. The incident in Parkland has acted as a catalyst for new policies, instruction, and training practices.

C. Emergency Shelter Inventory Additions

40 cots were provided at no cost to the Town by the Region, and bedding to go with those cost was purchased at a reduced rate, \$18.00 each. Each set includes a pillow, pillowcase, two sheets, a blanket and a laundry bag. These sets can be given to the resident who used it, or kept by the Town and commercially laundered. Due to the cost of cleaning each set to the specifications mandated by the Health Department, Finance Officer Nick DiCorleto recommended that it would be a better financial option to allow individuals to take their sets with them after use and repurchase as needed. The new supplies were distributed between the Crystal Lake and Ellington High School shelters.

There was a recent car accident that involved a pole by Crystal Lake School, which took out the power in the area. The new generator kicked on, but a CERT member who works in the kitchen of the school noted that power did not return to that area of the building. During an earlier test of the system, various deficiencies had been noted and should have been addressed. This deficiency means that there is no long-term food storage capability at the shelter at this time.

D. Emergency Management/CERT Updates – John Streiber

Several CERT members attended a CPR/AED program, run by Peter Hany and Bruce Hoffman. Six members of the team are certified in ham radio and there were some volunteers present at this year's Scantic Splash canoe/kayak race event held in Somers and Enfield.

i. Map Reading Course

A retired Sergeant First Class is being brought in to introduce a map-reading program,

including a land navigation course, which will be very useful for the CERT team if they are involved in any searches in the future.

ii. Region #3 Citizens Corp Council (CERT) Rating

There are 41 towns in the Hartford/Central Connecticut area that fall under the review of the Region #3 Citizens Corp Council, which is the group that monitors all CERT teams. The #1 rated CERT team in the country is from Region #3, which Joe Palombizio was very proud to report.

5. EPPI - Governor's Yearly Emergency Planning + Preparedness Exercise

The 2018 EPPI exercise will involve a very strong, heavy windstorm that Ellington will be "experiencing." The Town will open their Emergency Operations Center and conduct a drill to take care of the downed poles, trees, and wires, road damage, and power outages that would be the result of such a storm. This exercise is scheduled for Wednesday, June 20. More updates will be forwarded to the councilors as they become available.

6. ROUNDTABLE – INPUT FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Joy Hollister reported that the Senior Center was starting to enforce the locking of doors to ensure security for those attending and teaching classes at the facility. A fob system of access was discussed as well to possibly be implemented in the future, pending fund availability.

Anna Turner asked if the June 20 EPPI exercise would impact the scheduled June 11 EMAC meeting. Joe responded that at this time, he planned to hold the meeting as planned, but would consider postponing or adding a special meeting to discuss how the exercise went.

Patrick Getler stated that they would have someone from the Health Department present for the EPPI exercise. He asked if there would be EOC involvement for the planned mass casualty exercise. Joe told him that they were holding the initial planning meeting the following night, so he would have more details at that time. Patrick will be attending NACCHO training in Atlanta as well as a Public Health Preparedness Summit; there is a DPH/CDC site visit on May 23 for the operational readiness review, which takes place biannually.

Peter Hany is on the committee overseeing the opioid grant that the North Central Health Department received. A big focus of the committees is education, especially geared towards young people. The State has a system in place to monitor controlled substances to try to limit availability to repeat customers. Patrick shared that the Health Department had a booth at the East Windsor home show, where they did educational outreach and shared information about turning in unused prescription drugs. Joy reminded the Council that the Town Drug Takeback Day is April 28, 10:00 am-2:00 pm at the State Troopers Office. Peter shared that small biohazard materials can be

dropped off at the Ambulance Building, as they have the means to dispose of them properly.

Peter also brought up a recent School Safety Committee meeting. One of his concerns was the March 14 student walkout. They are planning on starting an EVAC Safety Committee to discuss safety concerns; due to the Ambulance Building's proximity to the high school, there is a larger security issue about how they are to respond to an active situation, should one occur. Anna asked if Ellington was unusual in that the Ambulance Building is so close to a school. Pete responded that compared to surrounding towns, Ellington was unique. Anna wondered if Pete could reach out to see if there are similar setups and if they could share some information about what they do. Freddie recommended that a joint meeting between this new committee and the School Safety Committee would be beneficial, due to the unique issues that could arise. Patrick offered to share information from a Homeland Security manual he had that included EMS guidance in active shooter situations.

Joe asked Gary Feldman and Peter approximately how many calls they received per month that were opioid related. They agreed that it was usually around four or five, which is on the low side. There are new, more toxic products appearing on the street, which are creating new problems for users. The recent legislative push to legalize marijuana in Connecticut is, in theory, an attempt to lessen the toxic, mixed products that are showing up.

Frederica Weeks has been viewing webinars for Everbridge system updates. She also asked about the Town Health Fair, and Joy responded that it was being held every other year.

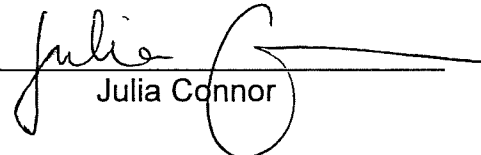
Tim Webb reminded the Council that they are holding their Fill-A-Truck event to collect non-perishable items for the food banks in Town. It will run the week of May 21-25.

Gary Feldman shared that there will be an Open House at the Fire Station on Nutmeg Drive on April 29.

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (WEBB), SECONDED (HOLLISTER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 2:58 PM.

The next EMAC meeting is scheduled for 2:00 pm, Monday, June 11, 2018.

Submitted by: 
Julia Connor