

ANSONIA RESCUE MEDICAL SERVICES COMMISSION

September 9, 2013

Regular Meeting

Present: Scott Nihill, Chairman
David Geloso
Anthony Delucia
Jared Heon

Absent: Peter Marcinko
Michael Hokanson

The Regular Meeting of the Ansonia Rescue Medical Services Commission was called to order by Chairman Nihill at 6:05 p.m.

All present rose and Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

The secretary called the roll.

There was a quorum present.

Public Session

Chairman Nihill asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to address the commission. He asked three (3) times.

There being no one, Chairman Nihill closed the public session.

Minutes

Mr. Heon made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 5, 2013 meeting as written and place on file. Mr. Delucia seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Bills

Chief Heon presented the following bills:

Bills:

1. Service Auto	Freeon,Fuses, T-Handle Tool	\$56.48
2. Valley Electric	GFI Breakers, Light Trailer	\$176.29
3. Stryker	Mounting Plates for chargers	\$59.91
4. Affiliated Computer	Firehouse Software Renewal	\$110.00
5. Jared Heon	Travel Exp To specialty Vehicles	\$36.80
6. Webster Procurement	Ambulance and General Supplies	\$349.72
7. Stevens Ford	Car 7 blower motor & service	\$489.67
8. Tracys Garage	Belt Tensioner Car 10	\$274.18
9. Tire Shak	Repair Tire for Car 7	\$262.25
10. Bethany Supply	Kohler Generator Voltage Regulator	\$347.75
11. EMMS	August Billing	\$3,704.48

Mr. Delucia made a motion to pay the bills listed above. Mr. Heon seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Correspondence

1. Rita St. Jacques: re: Letter commending ambulance attendants T. Dempsey and J. Oliwa on a recent ambulance transport. Dtd. 8/14/13
2. Northeast Communications re: Open House and lunch

Chairman Nihill said there are no late bills or late correspondence.

Reports

Chief Heon - Monthly ARMS Report – August 2013

Update on New Ambulance:

Chief Heon said the ambulances have arrived. The new ambulance is here. It has to be registered but we have to pay for it in order to receive the title to register it. The used ambulance is being re-lettered and we are adding a new white light and some other little things that the dealer is paying for.

Chief Heon said the white Expedition is being lettered. Brave 8 is waiting for a new camera. The wiring is bad for the backup camera. He said ARMS only has two ambulances in service. The drop chains are in and need to be installed on Bravo 8. He said ARMS has to wait until the new ambulance or the new "used" ambulance is put in service before Bravo 8 is repaired. Bravo 7 was repaired at Stevens Ford. The wires needed to be repaired as soon as possible so we had this repair done.

Update on Prendergast School:

Mr. Geloso said he spoke with John Coyne and they will continue the work at the school this week. They are getting ready for phase II. He said Mr. Coyne will get another electric permit for Phase II. The project is starting to move forward.

Mr. Heon said the last two things to be done – the generator and transfer switch were done and the project is closed out. The fuel tank is in and the cement pad is poured. The concrete posts are up. The new comparer for the Radio system will go in.

Mr. Heon said the Radio claim was sent to Corp. Counsel Blake and Rich Bshara. He said he heard from the Grantwriter, Eileen Krugel this evening and she had the Mayor sign the Radio claim paperwork today.

Mr. Heon said he spoke to Corp. Counsel Blake last week and he said ARMS has to wait for the bonding. Mr. Heon said he wanted to get the building repaired before the winter months. The cost is \$3628 for emergency repairs to the roof. Corp. Counsel Blake said to do the emergency repairs but we cannot do the replacement. He said ARMS will proceed with Corp. Counsel's guidance in making the repairs as soon as possible.

Mr. Heon said they still need to have the washing machine installed and the electric system needs inspection. He said Public Works Dept. conducts a risk assessment of all buildings and they have to have the electric system inspected every 10 years.

Mr. Heon said there is a problem with the Bay doors. They have to wait two weeks for new springs and there is a problem with the remotes. Crawford is working on a quote for the remote.

Mr. Heon said the VEMS subsidy has been sent and they received it. He said he has asked for a letter from them stating that there is no past due balance owed by the City of Ansonia.

Chairman Nihill said to ask for a new letter from VEMS stating that there is no past due balance because that was part of the agreement.

Mr. Heon said the Rate Application has been completed.

Mr. Heon discussed the grants that have been awarded. He said there is FEMA Grant and they do not want to do a third year on oxygen. He said he will try to go forward with a request for \$18,000 for the UTV Vehicle. He has sent out letters seeking donations for this. He said ARMS received \$1000 from the Valley Community Foundation. Mr. Heon said that Mr. Bshara has created an open line for donations for ARMS. He said Mr. Bshara will treat this line like the Dog Fund line and it will roll forward.

Mr. Heon said no EMS or Public Safety received any grant money this year. He said ARMS applied and was denied.

Collection Agency:

Mr. Heon said he met with EMMS and they contacted the Tax Office on their procedure. They have put a contract together pending Corporation Counsel's approval. The past due accounts will go into collection and will be sent to the Rossi Law Firm. EMMS stated they will bring their other clients to the Rossi Firm.

Mr. Heon said the collection for August is \$56,992. They are over \$50,000 every month for collection and they are receiving more and more payments and the collection is up. Medicare payments is down. He said the Rossi Law Firm will target the people who have received money from their Insurance companies to pay the ambulance bill but they kept the money and did not pay. Medicare and Medicaid past due accounts will not be sent to Rossi law Firm. They will be reviewed. If the people do not make payment it is attached to their Individual Credit report. He said he doesn't know who will make that decision.

Chairman Nihill said it should be across the Board. One department does it, they all should be the same.

Mr. Heon said none of these are hardship cases, they can pay but they refuse to pay. We contacted the Tax Collector and ARMS is getting a great rate from Rossi due to the City business. Mr. Bshara said he will keep ARMS collection separate from the Tax money.

Chairman Nihill said whose decision is it to notify the Credit Bureau.

Mr. Heon said it will be the Commission's decision. The Account Manager at Rossi said that a lot of people do it. He said we are at a dead end for collection. EMMS offers a payment plan which we are participating in. They have hired another employee and she dedicates one day a week to review all of our accounts before they send them to CAP or Collection. He said ARMS is good with EMMS procedure. Once the account goes to collection it comes off of EMMS's books and the reports are sent to Rich Bshara and myself.

Mr. Geloso made a motion to accept Mr. Heon's verbal report. Mr. DeLucia seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Chief Heon presented his August 2013 monthly report to the members as follows:

There were 247 responses dispatched to.

There were 171 patients transported and 78 transports with a Medic.

He said mutual aid from Ansonia: 23 Derby and 5 Seymour

He said mutual aid to Ansonia is: 0 first calls, 2 second calls, 4 third calls (3rd Ambulance was out of service on all of them)

Below is a listing of the Hospitals:

Hospitals:

# of Patients	Receiving Hospital	# of Patients	Receiving Hospital
127	Griffin	6	Saint Vincent's
13	Yale	0	Milford
5	Yale-Pediatrics	0	Waterbury
6	Yale-St Raphael's Campus	0	Saint Mary's
11	Bridgeport	2	VA- West Haven

Mr. Geloso made a motion to accept Mr. Heon's monthly report. Mr. DeLucia seconded. All in favor, so carried.

New Business

Emergency Repairs – Roof:

Mr. Heon made a motion to send a letter that in the best interest of the City of Ansonia, the offer proposed by Great American Insurance Company for the repairs to the ARMS building is to have RJB Contracting Company repair the roof in the amount not to exceed \$3628. Mr. Geloso seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Mr. Heon said he will send a letter recommending this action and suggesting they proceed accordingly.

ARMS Donation Line:

Mr. Heon made a motion to send a letter to BOAT requesting that an ARMS Donation Line be set up for any donations received by ARMS. Mr. Geloso seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Collection Policy:

Mr. Heon made a motion to allow the Rossi Law Firm to handle ARMS collection the same as they handle the Tax Office collection with regard to the Credit Bureau. Mr. DeLucia seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Mr. Heon made a motion to authorize Corporation Counsel to enter into an agreement with Rossi Law Firm to handle ARMS collections. Mr. DeLucia seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Unfinished Business

None

Report of the Asst. Chief – David Geloso

Hertiage Festival:

Mr. Geloso said he was contacted by Mary Gibson regarding the Hertiage Festival to be held on Saturday, October 5, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Main Street. She asked if ARMS would be setting up an information booth as they did in the past and if they would cover the Festival with an ambulance.

Mr. Heon said that she contacted him also and they will set up on Kingston Drive so that they can get an ambulance in and out of Main Street. He said they will cover the Festival and also have a booth.

Maintenance Report:

Mr. Geloso said Superior Spring repaired the springs on Truck 4. The vehicle was sagging in the rear and the springs were flattened out. The cost to repair was \$1000 for the springs which is reasonable. The King Pins also needed to be replaced in the front end. The cost to fix them is \$1100 to \$1400. There is a lot of play in them. There should not be any play in them and they have never been replaced.

Chairman Nihill asked if there was money in the budget to get these repairs.

Mr. Heon said they have spent about \$800 to \$900 this year from that line.

Chairman Nihill said that you cannot have the vehicle sagging and the wheels coming off.

Tower at Prendergast School:

Mr. Geloso said the tower at Prendergast School is loaded more than it should be. People were putting stuff on the tower and it will be adjusted. The cables are loose on the tower. This occurred when they repaired the roof and removed the cables. Three cables are loose and we have to make an emergency repair and get up there and tighten the cables up. If there is a strong wind, etc. it could be dangerous.

Mr. Heon drew a picture on paper to show the members where the cables are loose and not tied in. He said there is no direct building in front and they are mounted on the façade. They put a steel beam to mount them but it is not good enough. The State Police will not put the tower up if it will be compromised. He said the new section of the school where the Cafeteria is has new structural steel and we want to put the tie downs there the proper way.

Chairman Nihill said when will they do this work.

Mr. Heon said they discovered this last week. He said it will be done as soon as possible because it is a safety issue and it was reviewed by their Engineers. They initially thought it was to take off and replace. He said he has asked for a letter from Motorola on this. He said he met with Motorola Thursday evening.

Chairman Nihill said will they do the work now.

Mr. Heon said he will contact Northeastern and have them secure the Tower. It is free standing and should be taught and tensioned properly especially if there is wind from the back of the school. It is loose on the top of the school.

Chairman Nihill said to get the Tower fixed and to get a letter to Corporation Counsel to have him look into the roofing company's liability with regard to the cables if they were the ones who removed them and messed them up.

Mr. Heon said that there is video and they refused to pay.

Mr. Geloso said we have to fix the cables correctly. He said he is not comfortable leaving it the way it is. He asked to have funds allocated to repair the cables on top of Prendergast School.

Chairman Nihill said to have Northeastern come and give us a price to repair them.

Mr. Heon said that it was documented that the cables were intact.

There was a discussion on the importance of having AS-BUILT drawings for all projects. This insures that everything is built to specifications because in 10 years when you want to know what is there and what was built you will have the drawings. The drawings commit to code.

Mr. DeLucia made a motion to authorize Jared Heon to contact Northeastern to come out and inspect the Tower and expedite a written estimate to properly fix the support cables on the Tower on Prendergast School. Mr. Geloso seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Mr. DeLucia made a motion to send a letter to Corporation Counsel to have the roofing contractor pay for the damage to the Tower and cables and roof. Mr. Geloso seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Mr. DeLucia made a motion to accept Mr. Geloso's verbal report. Mr. Heon seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Any other business to come before the Commission

None

Executive Session

None

Adjourn

Mr. Heon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Mr. Delucia seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Lynn Flaherty
Secretary