



City of Ansonia

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ANSONIA RESCUE MEDICAL SERVICES COMMISSION

December 8, 2014

Regular Meeting

Present: David Blackwell, Chairman
David Geloso, Vice Chairman
Jared Heon
Michael Hokanson
Joan Radin

Absent: Anthony DeLucia

The Regular Meeting of the Ansonia Rescue Medical Services Commission was called to order by Chairman Blackwell at 7:05 p.m.

All present rose and Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

The secretary called the roll.

There was a quorum present.

Public Session

Chairman Blackwell asked three (3) times if there was anyone from the public who wished to address the commission. There being no one, he closed the public session.

Minutes

Chief Heon made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2014 regular meeting and the November 17, 2014 special meeting. Alderwoman Radin seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Bills

Chief Heon presented the following bills and requests:

Bills:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Grangers for cleaning supplies, disinfecting cleaners, etc. | \$492.86 |
| 2. CDWG for computer parts | \$624.93 |
| 3. W.B. Mason | \$166.83 |

Chief Heon discussed the purchase of tires for the vehicles and that the air extenders for the tires had to be replaced also. Stainless steel extenders were put on all the new tires purchased.

Mr. Hokanson made a motion to pay all bills if found to be correct. Alderwoman Radin seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Chief Heon said the budget line item for vehicle maintenance is at 94.4% expended. He said the purchase of the new tires for the two vehicles is the reason. He said ARMS did not expect to purchase tires this year. He said ARMS can do an interdepartmental transfer between line items that are available and this can be done between the Comptroller and the Mayor. If we need to get new money it would have to go to BOAT and then to the Board of Aldermen.

Correspondence

1. Ansonia Public Schools re: Kick off for Kindergarten registration on 1/24/15. They are asking ARMS to send an ambulance and crew for the event.

Mr. Hokanson explained that it is a big event at the school when they have this kindergarten registration. They serve breakfast, etc. and there is a Fire truck there and other entertainment for the children – it is something like “Touch a Truck” event.

Chief Heon said ARMS will send an Ambulance and crew for the event.

Mr. Hokanson made a motion to accept all correspondence and place them on file. Alderwoman Radin seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Reports

ARMS Chief - Report

Chief Heon presented his November 2014 monthly report to the members as follows:

He said the Mutual Aid is still not reporting properly with the new dispatch company.

There were 238 responses dispatched to.

He said the report for mutual aid from Ansonia: to Derby, to Seymour, to Shelton was not received.

He said the report for mutual aid to Ansonia: first call, second call, third call, fourth call was not received.

Below is a listing of the Hospitals:

Hospitals:

# of Patients	Receiving Hospital	# of Patients	Receiving Hospital
138	Griffin	2	Saint Vincent's
14	Yale	0	Milford
3	Yale-Pediatrics	1	Waterbury
5	Yale-St Raphael's Campus	1	Saint Mary's
3	Bridgeport	2	VA- West Haven

Chief Heon said that the Fire Department has started service with the new Dispatch company on December 1, 2014. He said the big difference is in the quality of the call. There is not a big difference in the radio. They are not sending paramedics every time a call goes in. He explained the billing process when an ambulance is called and paramedics are dispatched to the call. ARMS is getting to use their skills and there are no bills for the transports.

Mr. Hokanson asked about the collection rate.

Chief Heon said it is low this month but there was a holiday. He said they sent all accounts over 60 days to collection. Insurance doesn't usually pay for 45 days. The collection this month was \$44,538.90.

Discussion on sending an ambulance to a call and the payment procedure when there is a paramedic called. Chief Heon said if ARMS was a paramedic ambulance there would be one bill but they are two separate entities.

Chief Heon told the commissioners about his trip to the Conference. He said that he and Tom Dempsey learned a lot. They predict that in three years this company will be one of the top three vendors in the Country. They offer full interpretation, scheduling, billing, dispatch and they offer analytics and reporting that is unbelievable.

Chief Heon said their in-system data will be very beneficial to ARMS. They offer economics courses also. This course was informative but unrelated to the software. The Supervisor was the Doctor for Ebola patient in the Texas transport. He said at the EOC meeting there was discussion on what Ebola supplies ARMS should purchase. ARMS has supplies and equipment should there be Ebola. He said there were people from all over the country attending this conference.

Report – Michael Hokanson

Mr. Hokanson presented the monthly Run Stats for November 2014. He said ARMS volunteers covered 49 shifts equating to 294 hours of coverage. This coverage equals to \$4,736.34 in salary that is being saved. Total volunteer time contributed to date is 1,668 hours. Total saved in salaries by the volunteers is \$26,871.48 year to date.

Report - Dave Geloso

Mr. Geloso said the tires were put on the two ambulances. They have stainless steel air extenders. Bravo 9 had to have the alternator redone. The siren was not working on Bravo 9. It would turn on when the car was off and it would not work when the car was on. It was because the alternator was not working. Car 8 had the step repaired but he is still working on a technical issue. Mr. Geloso said there is an issue with the building repairs. The contractors are leaving stuff all over the place. He said he spoke to the Project Manager about the screws, etc. left on the floor. The Project Manager said he would take care of the situation.

Chairman Blackwell asked if they fixed the downspouts.

Chief Heon said no.

Alderman Radin made a motion to accept all the reports as given. Mr. Geloso seconded. All in favor, so carried.

New Business

Chief Heon said he received clarification on the budget. They asked for a 2% decrease for this year's budget but because ARMS was cut last year and they had a 5+% decrease in their budget, the Mayor said that ARMS did not have to decrease their budget. This year's budget is the same as last year's budget.

Chief Heon gave everyone a sheet consolidating the 40 line items down to 14 line items. He said he received permission from the Comptroller and the Auditor to do this. He said this is a bare bones budget this year and if there is a need for more funds, ARMS will have to go to BOAT and ask for additional funding.

Mr. Geloso asked about Capital Improvement expenditures.

Chief Heon said he is requesting to replace Bravo 7. He gave everyone a copy of the budget sheet for the new ambulance. He said this is not a bid but an estimate. He said he wants to get some type of commitment before he puts together specifications for the car and goes out for a competitive bid. He said that Bravo 7 was supposed to be replaced last time.

There was discussion on Brave 8 and Bravo 9 and the miles on each vehicle and the time on their engines. They base service for the vehicles on engine hours. The rate of idle is 35 miles per hour. Together with the idle time and the driven miles there is about a half million miles on the cars. The transmissions are ready to go and they are rusting out.

The proposed new ambulance specifications were discussed. Everything that is needed will be in the bid specs i.e. 4 wheel drive, chains, fully equipped, etc.

Chairman Blackwell discussed the budget process and the budget flow.

Chief Heon asked if ARMS needed to send a Capital Improvement Plan letter to the Board of Aldermen requesting the new ambulance.

Alderwoman Radin suggested that Chief Heon send the letter so they have the information.

Chief Heon made a motion to accept the Budget proposal and to send it to the Comptroller. Mr. Hokanson seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Unfinished Business

Chief Heon discussed the replacement of the Fly Car with a Pickup Truck. He said he would like to get a formal quote on a pickup truck. He is not sure if they want him to purchase an Expedition so he will get a quote on that also.

There was discussion on what extra's would be needed for the pickup truck. A list of items will be provided for a quote.

Chairman Blackwell asked about the stand by service ARMS provides at Nolan Field for the games. He said if there is an injury an ambulance doesn't transport?

Chief Heon said the stand by ambulance doesn't transport. An injury that needs to go to the hospital goes in an ambulance but you have to wait for the ambulance to get to the field. ARMS can't send a one person ambulance so if you have an ambulance there has to be two people. So we send the old Fly Car up there for Youth Football because it has the equipment and we have nothing else. AHS football games requires a full ambulance. We need a new vehicle to replace the Fly Car. He said we are putting in the Capital line to replace the Ambulance. The Fly Car was supposed to be in the budget for this year and we didn't get an answer to replace the Fly Car. We have to have the Fly Car because by the State we are the 1st Responder to calls. The first call the first crew goes. The Fly Car is used to go to the scene and take care of the patient until the ambulance gets there when we don't have a crew available. We were asked to hold over on the purchase until the surplus was determined.

Any other business to come before the Commission

There was discussion on the Incentive Compensation Proposal for the volunteers. Mr. Hokanson said they were supposed to meet with Corporation Counsel Marini.

Chairman Blackwell said Wednesday or Thursday night they can meet to go over the Incentive Program for volunteers. He will let Alderwoman Radin know what night and time and she will forward the information.

Chief Heon asked if there was any information on Truck 4.

Chairman Blackwell said that Truck 4 will remain with ARMS.

Chief Heon said OK because there are upgrades that they would like to do on Truck 4.

Chief Heon said the Ansonia Rod & Gun Club will have someone construct a structure on the back of the Polaris and put a cover over it to protect the patient. Jack Scanlon and Horace Behrle will be overseeing the project. Right now the back of the vehicle is open. There is a roll bar and the cover will keep the rain and snow off the patients. He said they are looking to get a better cabin closure on the Polaris and they sell a kit to close the inside which should be good. The Rod & Gun Club will help them with this project.

Executive Session

None

Adjourn

Mr. Hokanson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Mr. Geloso seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Jo-Lynn Flaherty
Secretary