MINUTES - for January 19, 2022 Emergency Management Committee Meeting

EMD Tom Williams called meeting to order at 6:01pm. Members present: Deb Coutinho, Joe Judd, Bob Manners, Penny Spearance.

Meeting began with a discussion about Rolling Blackouts. Tom explained that in the event of a Rolling Blackout (meaning that power demand exceeds capacity for a certain region) ISO should give sufficient notice to the community(s) if this should occurred. If a region is affected, it should not be for long or necessarily become a regular occurrence in the future. Tom’s goal is to create a plan of preparation in an attempt to be ready in the event this should happen here.

The group discussed ways to communicate with the new leadership at Mohawk Trail Regional High School, also to inform, and discuss with them, the MOU agreement at the same time. Discussion on this topic, with the entire group present, will be continued at a future meeting. Tom will call Herb Guyette regarding the status of the MOU.

Current PPE locations are Mohawk Trails Regional H.S. and Cowell Gym (discuss PPE supply with Town Clerk before using)

Tom reported that, Grant for the computer has been completed and is submitted. Tom continue to give updates on Grants and is now waiting to gain more information as he progresses through the process of applying for more Grants. Details are still being out in place and Tom will keep us posted as he continued to make progress. Tom will also get details into Town Administrator, Terry Narkewicz, for the Grants for the generator(s) so the Select Board can begin to discuss – in hopes of getting their approval.

Tom continues to work through the Hazard Mitigation Manual and will continue to update the group on different items as they come up. Tom mentioned that Trinity Church is discussing the possibility of a Transfer Switch. Also discussed what additional sites we might be able to place generators & transfer switches. Ideas were, Trinity Church, Community Room at Highland Village, Fellow Ship Hall, and Town Hall.

Tom also mentioned some high priority items he would like to see planned such as: after the Pandemic Planning, flooding exercises on the Deerfield River, and planning for extreme evacuation situations. Tom will plan a future meeting to specifically discuss this topic.

Budget: We currently have $909.00 in our account. Tom would like to furnish the new office for the EMD. He has already found many furnishings from other Town Departments. He is in hopes of being into this office by May of 2022. Tom will continue to review the budget for next year

Chris Marsden is the new Local Coordinator. Tom and Deb met with him and spent time discussing his role of support to the EMD and EMC. They both found the meeting very helpful and informative. They also discussed the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan which was very informative for both Town and Deb. Penny also filled the group in on the MRC in this area. ***WHAT DOES MRC STAND FOR?***

GETS/MAPS is a telephone survey that Tom has applied for which will allow us quicker access ***TO CELLULAR PHONE LINES*** in the event of an emergency. More on this topic will follow

Other Business: John Taylor tested the generators at the Fire Station and all were working fine.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32pm

Next meeting is June ***15***, 2022 - location and time will follow later

Minutes submitted by, Joe Judd