

FINAL

Present: T. C. Tocci, S. C. Hanson, M.J. Farinola, Selectmen;
E. N. Small, Town Administrator; Karen Sabatini, Deputy Town Clerk
J. Lord, Fire Chief, Paul Robidas, AMR

P. Robidas gave a brief outline of services provided to the town and acknowledged contracts dating back to 1999. Services are provided to the town of Hampton Falls between the hours of 6:00 am to 10:00 pm (7) days per week.

J. Lord explained the history of Hampton Falls fire/rescue and purchase of the ambulance in 2003. The ambulance was purchased with the intent to be used as back up services to AMR. Jay reported that in 2007 there were 55 ambulance calls that were transported and AMR transported 53.

J. Lord reported that as the renewal contract for 2006 was being negotiated with AMR, the decision was made that the Hampton Falls Volunteer Department would lead nights giving approximately 20K in revenue annually back to the town.

M. Farinola referenced to the 2003 town report where the ambulance was purchased and stated we have not followed the instructions of the Article. M. Farinola pointed out that a study was recommended to see if the town needed the ambulance and if not the town has the option of selling the ambulance and using the revenue for other fire/ambulance related purposes.

J. Lord discussed Article 11. The article was to raise and appropriate \$16,500 to conduct a professional study to determine the needs of fire and ambulance. Selectmen amended Article 11 to raise and appropriate \$25,000 for the study. A committee of 5 citizens was to be included in choosing a consultant. J. Lord said the study was not done because the DRA said that the intent of the article was changed and it could not be changed.

S. Hanson questioned how many towns are supported by AMR. It was determined that AMR is the primary provider for 99% of the towns. AMR is stationed in Salisbury and Newburyport, MA and tend to drift toward call volumes. J. Lord explained that when a 911 call is received they send AMR, if a truck is un-available within 2-4 minutes the town will respond. AMR also stated that they do not go to a call without a fire truck.

T. Tocci questioned who receives revenue when Hampton Falls and AMR respond to a call. It was determined that AMR receives the revenue.

S. Hanson questioned how AMR is able to make the shift work keep costs and be efficient. AMR is most efficient during the day when they are fully staffed by decreasing staff at nighttime hours they are able to keep costs.

J. Lord was asked how he saw the future of the department. J. Lord feels that the department can be staffed with part time employees to cover the shift.

The Selectmen agreed to continue researching other response services before renewing the current 2008 contract.

Meeting adjourned 7:30pm