

FINAL

PRESENT: T. C. Tocci, Chairman; S. C. Hanson, M. J. Farinola, Selectmen; E. N. Small, Town Administrator; L. A. Ruest, Administrative Assistant

PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE – AMBULANCE: T. C. Tocci reported that this meeting is to allow question and comment from those looking to participate in bidding on ambulance services for Hampton Falls. Introductions took place at this time. Those present included Beth Perry and Deb Curtis of Careplus, Roland Vaillancourt of Rockingham Regional Ambulance, Inc., Paul Robidas and another representative from American Medical Response and Jay M. Lord, Hampton Falls Fire Chief. T. C. Tocci opened discussion of questions regarding the Request for Proposal.

J. M. Lord referred the Board to Page 10, *item q*; specifically, *item i. a.* He stated that this section should read “Arrival” Times rather than “Enroute” Times. He indicated that enroute time includes on air responding and not that an ambulance has arrived on the scene. M. J. Farinola noted that it is hoped that bidders will provide the Board with information as to how much time it would take to respond.

P. Robidas inquired as to whether the Board would prefer to have ambulance services located in Town. M. J. Farinola stated he would prefer to have services in Hampton Falls in order to achieve a quick response. T. C. Tocci stated he would like to see the quickest response time possible but that it is not the intention to require services to be located in Hampton Falls.

J. M. Lord asked whether the Board is looking for answers to items listed in Section 2. It was determined that bidders need to meet the requirements of these items. With regard to Section 3, it was determined that items p through v require responses other than that the bidder agrees.

R. Vaillancourt requested the Board identify exactly what the response time standard is that they’re looking to achieve as well as the hours of coverage. T. C. Tocci stated that the standard is 12 minutes; the current contract provides for 15 minutes 90% of emergency calls for hours of 6 a.m. through 10 p.m. M. J. Farinola noted that *item q* asks bidders to design a plan that meets or exceeds response time standards. J. M. Lord stated that although the Fire Department’s average response time is six minutes that calls to Route 95 require additional time as access to the southbound lane as the emergency turnaround is in Hampton. In these instances, response time can be up to 15 minutes. He noted concern should a contract be cancelled in the future for response time when the RFP doesn’t define it properly.

M. J. Farinola asked J. M. Lord how he proposes to meet the requirements of Section 3.1.11 Independent Contractor. E. N. Small stated that should the Board decide to accept the proposal of the Fire Department, the Board can give exception to this Section.

E. N. Small asked the bidders present to provide a proposal for the entire year 2009 as well as a proposal for April 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010. This will allow for time to consider a warrant article if necessary. P. Robidas stated that AMR will be available to assist the Town for the months of January through March 2009.

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On behalf of the Board, T. C. Tocci thanked those in attendance for coming to this pre-proposal conference.

OTHER:

M. J. Farinola informed the Board of an issue involving Chris Merrill, East Road. He reported that a representative of the State Veterinary office contacted Mr. Merrill with regard to an investigation of a complaint indicating he is starving his animals. M. J. Farinola stated that only two agencies can pursue such an investigation, Animal Control or Police Department. He stated that if this matter is political, it will not fly, and referred to a pattern of behavior with a King Street incident that happened in the past where he feels the Police Department broke procedures. T. C. Tocci and E. N. Small were not aware of the C. Merrill issue. E. N. Small reported that there is no effort to do anything to harm C. Merrill and stated that facts need to be obtained. T. C. Tocci cautioned involvement of the Board of Selectmen between individuals and investigating parties. He expressed concern with prejudging and accusing the Police Department of being at fault before facts are obtained. M. J. Farinola stated that if the Town is doing something to persecute an individual he will not stop from acting on the matter as people have rights.

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.