

**Town of Somers  
Civil Preparedness Advisory Council  
Friday, October 4, 2013  
8:00 AM  
Fire House**

**Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dan Thayer at 0802 hours.

Members present: SGT Joseq Claudio, CSP, Mr. Peter DeBrino, Mrs. Karen Hocking, Mr. Tim Kradas, Deputy PWD Todd Rolland, Dan Thayer, and EMD Joseph Tolisano

Members absent: Supt. Maynard Suffredini, Fire Chief Gary Scheissl and 1<sup>st</sup> Selectman Lisa Pellegrini

Also present: DEMD Jeff Bord, Mrs. Paula LaFrance, Deputy Fire Chief Frank Falcone, Mr. Michael D'Amato, and Mrs. Amy Saada.

**Old Business**

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made and seconded to waive the reading of the minutes for the July, 2013 meeting. There was no discussion, and the motion was passed by voice vote.

A motion to approve the minutes of the July, 2013 meeting as submitted was made and seconded. There was no discussion, and the motion was passed by voice vote.

**New Business**

**New Members**

Two new Civil Preparedness Advisory Board members were recognized. Mr. Joseph Tolisano is the new Emergency Management Director for the Town, and Mrs. Karen Hocking is the recently appointed Leader of Somers CERT.

## **NIXLE**

A short description of NIXLE was presented by Michael DeAmato. NIXLE is a community information service that is available to the Town free-of-charge. It works best through mobile devices and text messages. It does require pre-registration of the recipient's device. The Town will explore this further.

## **CERT Update**

Karen Hocking presented a short report to the Council regarding recent changes in Somers CERT. CERT activity included attendance at the Citizen Corp training in September, and the scheduling of Red Cross training in shelter management. Somers intends to invite CERT members from area towns to attend this training. There was also discussion of staffing a CERT table at the Somers Fire Dept. Open House in October.

## **Charter Changes**

Dan Thayer commented on the impact that the proposed Town Charter changes would have on the Council. First, the name of the committee would be changed from Civil Preparedness to Emergency Management Advisory Council. Additionally, the membership of Town officials who are required to be members (Fire and Police Chiefs, School Supt, and Highway Supt.) would not be contingent on their being Somers residents. Finally, the Charter Revision Committee did not act favorably on permitting members to appoint or delegate a substitute member to the committee.

## **Shelter Supplies**

Mr. Thayer stated that additional shelter supplies, and an additional 25-person shelter supply cart, had been ordered. This gives the Town the ability to easily pre-position cots and supplies for up to 75 persons. In discussion, it was agreed that with the current purchases, the Town would seem to have sufficient supplies, and additional purchases are not needed.

## **2014 Meeting Calendar**

There was discussion regarding the tentative dates for the Council's 2014 monthly meetings. A tentative schedule had been distributed by Mr. Thayer. No objections were raised to its contents, and a finalized calendar will be presented at the November meeting.

## **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded, and passed by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 0820 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Thayer  
Chairman

**Minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.**