



**TOWN COUNCIL  
WORKSHOP  
MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 18, 2017**

Dale Crafts, At Large 2017  
Normand Albert, At Large 2018  
Kasie Kolbe, District 1 2018  
Allen Ward, District 2 2018  
Christopher Brunelle, At Large 2019  
Mark Lunt, District 1 2019  
Kris Crawford, District 2, 2019

**CALL TO ORDER.** The Chairman, Allen Ward, called the meeting to order and waived the pledge of allegiance to the flag at 6:10 PM.

**ROLL CALL.** Members present were Councilors Ward, Albert, Brunelle, and Lunt. Excused were Councilors Kolbe, Crafts, and Crawford. Also present were Diane Barnes, Town Manager; Sean Galipeau, Fire Chief; Marc Hagan, Police Chief; Ryan Leighton, Town Engineer; Tracey Steuber, Economic & Community Development; George Roy, Lisbon Emergency Board of Directors; Jim MacDonnell, Lisbon Emergency Board of Directors; Scott Smith, Representing Lisbon Emergency; Donald Fellows, Planning Board Chairman; Karen Paradis, Planning Board Member and approximately 10 citizens in the audience.

**WOKSHOP WITH LISBON EMERGENCY**

Scott Smith, representing Lisbon Emergency, introduced the Lisbon Emergency board members present. He reported Lisbon Emergency, Inc. is a private, non-profit 501 (c) (3) ambulance service operating 24/7 transporting for the towns of Lisbon and Bowdoin. They have mutual aid agreements with Topsham, Lewiston, Durham, Auburn, and United Ambulance. They are licensed by the Maine EMS at the EMT level and permitted to Paramedic.

Mr. Smith explained the amount of training that is required to be a licensed EMT, AEMT, and Paramedic. He mentioned they have a second ambulance as well. He reported many agencies, including Lisbon Emergency have had to comply with the "volunteer" definition under FLSA, meaning they have to pay employees for being on-call even if they are home. He said the majority of their income comes from ambulance billing; however the financial picture shows that income is not enough to fully sustain this operation. He indicated the 3<sup>rd</sup> party payer reimbursement formulas were very complicated. He said over the last four years Lisbon Emergency has not received any financial support from the towns of Lisbon and Bowdoin. He will be making the same presentation to Bowdoin this week as well.

Mr. Smith reported Lisbon Emergency receives around 800 calls a year from Lisbon and 200 from Bowdoin. He said the cost of supporting a full time paramedic level ambulance service requires an annual call volume of about 2,500 calls. He explained that the majority of billing revenue comes from Maine Care and Medicare, which reimburses at a flat rate that is well below the cost of providing this service and payments have been sporadic. Hospitals have stopped exchanging medical supplies now so Lisbon Emergency must purchase its own. Should cash reserves fall below \$35,000 the service level will need to be reduced to daytime shifts with no nighttime coverage, requiring residents to find alternative arrangements? If cash reserves fall to \$15,000, they will cease EMS coverage for the towns of Lisbon and Bowdoin.

Mr. Smith reported that if they are successful and are able to reach a per capita agreement with the towns of Lisbon and Bowdoin, then they will be able to use their line of credit to continue operations for the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 at current service levels (24/7). The funding requested is: FY 2018-2019 \$127,884.46 or \$14.20 per capita, FY 2019-2020 \$149,172.84 or \$16.56 per capita, and FY 2020-2021 \$199,245.74 or \$22.12 per capita.

The Chairman indicated he appreciated their coming in ahead of the budget schedule with this request and that a workshop would be scheduled to discuss it further.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Seeing no further businesses to discuss, the chairman adjourned the workshop at 6:55 PM.

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Twila D. Lycette, Council Secretary  
Town Clerk, Lifetime CCM/MMC  
Date Approved: August 1, 2017