

Preston Emergency Services Advisory Committee

February 5th 2019

Special Meeting Minutes

Preston Town Hall - Conference Room

1. Roll Call:

Co-Chairman Dave Paige called the meeting to order at 6:34pm.

Members Present: Jim Bell, Tom Casey, Dave Paige, Russ Holland, and Jarred Harris.

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Melissa Lennon BoF Chair, Andrew Bilodeau, and Kurt Turpe.

2. Fire and Emergency Services

Chief Casey presented the committee with his plan for the 2019-2020 budget, which includes additional paid staffing to cover the continuing decline in fire department volunteers.

David Paige inquired if the departments had considered parts of the American Ambulance proposal. Chief Casey stated that he would be signing a more aggressive mutual aid agreement with AA.

A motion was made by Jim Bell for the committee to recommend the BOS adopt Chief Casey's 2019-2020 budget proposal as presented to the committee. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment

Andrew Bilodeau questioned how often the ambulances are replaced. He questioned whether we could save money by delaying the purchases by an additional year or more. Russ Holland answered that the newest ambulances purchased are lasting longer than previously in service units, and this will allow for a longer time frame between planned purchases of new ambulances.

Andrew Bilodeau asked if increasing paid staffing would decrease volunteer participation. Chief Casey responded to the contrary. He stated members will be more comfortable to participate knowing that additional resources are guaranteed to respond.

Andrew Bilodeau asked if the deputy chiefs were qualified to respond in the ambulance.

Andrew Bilodeau asked who is receiving incentive with the newest adjustments to the program. Russ Holland stated that only individuals responding in the ambulances are receiving any form of incentives.

4. Adjourned

The motion to adjourn was made by James Bell, seconded by Chief Casey, and approved by the members at 8:01pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jarred J. Harris

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PESAC Secretary