

BROOKLYN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT / HOMELAND SECURITY

Regular Meeting

Thursday, March 21, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Clifford B. Green Meeting Center, 69 South Main Street Brooklyn, CT
and via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89451922885?pwd=ItfnluKx3CP6mDgXrGW6onkKylag8w.1>

Meeting ID: 894 5192 2885

Passcode: 525514

One tap mobile

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MINUTES

1. **Call to Order** – William Skene, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Attendance: William Skene; Richard Dvorin; Mark Spellmon; William Wheaton, Jr. (present in person).
Carrie Barna (present via Zoom).
Shawn Lisee and John Haeefe were absent.

Others Present (in person) – Austin Tanner, First Selectman (arrived at 7:04 p.m.), J. S. Perreault,
Recording Secretary.
There was one additional person present in the audience.

Present via Zoom – None.

2. **Approval of Minutes**

a. **February 15, 2024, meeting**

Motion was made by M. Spellmon to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 15, 2024, as presented.

Second by R. Dvorin. No discussion.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote (5-0-0).

2. **Public Comment** – None.

4. **Old Business**

a. **Training**

Mr. Skene explained that he has not heard of anything new coming up regarding training. He reported that there was a meeting of the Northeast Regional Emergency Management last week and that a CERT Team was started in the Coventry area. There is still talk about setting one up locally between Brooklyn, Killingly, Putnam and others, but he does not have anything more on that.

Mr. Skene explained that he is working on getting some training set up, but they are updating the computer sites, so we have to wait.

b. **CERT Training** – See above, Item 4.a.

c. EMPG Grants

Mr. Skene explained that the Board of Finance is concerned about the status of the EMG Grants. He gave an update on the status of the following four grants:

i. 2022 grant (Ran from October 1, 2022 to November 30, 2023).

Mr. Skene explained that this grant closed last year and he is in the process of putting together the paperwork for reimbursement which includes his stipend, purchase of the computers/monitor/printer for the office. The paperwork will be submitted and he hopes to have it done by the end of the month.

Austin Tanner arrived at 7:04 p.m.

ii. 2021 grant (Ran from October 1, 2021 to November 30, 2022).

Mr. Skene explained that a clerical error had been made when putting the paperwork together last year for reimbursement. Shelley Cates had submitted the paperwork to the State of CT, but somehow, the State never got it. He spoke with BEMHS today and tried to contact Ms. Cates regarding remedying the situation, getting it closed out and submitting for reimbursement as quickly as possible.

iii. Supplemental 2020 Grant

Mr. Skene explained that this grant was for the filing of the Emergency Operations Plan which had been submitted by the January 1st deadline, but it got kicked back for editing. It was approved and the \$5,000 will be coming to the Town, at some point.

iv. 2023 Grant

Mr. Skene stated that we are currently in the time period for the 2023 grant.

d. Future projects/goals for the Commission

Mr. Skene explained that this topic is an open discussion and he said that if anyone has an idea for something that we can do, it can be discussed.

e. Trauma Supplies – No discussion.

f. LESOP

Mr. Skene stated that the Emergency Operations Plan was filed (see above Item 4.c.iii). This Item will come off the Agenda – Old Business, as it is done for the next two years.

g. ARPA Grant – Radios

Mr. Skene stated that the radios are starting to come in and he explained that Tony said that the 26 Fire Department portables are in along with some mobile radios. The remainder of the mobile radios and the eleven non-Fire Department portables are still on backorder and showing a shipping date of mid-April. Still on budget for the financing, not looking for additional ARPA money.

Mr. Spellmon asked about needing to get signed-up with the State once the radios are in.

Mr. Skene explained that Tony is working on it and has submitted the serial numbers.

5. New Business

a. Storms and recent activities

Mr. Skene reported that there were a couple of storms since we last met, but nothing major.

Mr. Skene explained about the discussion that had taken place regarding Eversource Deathcom 5, at the Northeast Regional Emergency Management meeting that he attended last week.

b. 2024 Connecticut Emergency Management Symposium 4/23/2024

Mr. Skene stated that this event will take place at Camp NETTS in East Lyme.

i. Rodeo

Mr. Skene explained about this event which will take place on the same day as the Symposium on April 23rd. Information that he received in an email will be attached to the Minutes of this Meeting.

c. Northeast EMD Meeting 2/12/2024

Mr. Skene explained that the EMD of Eastern Connecticut met last Tuesday where there was discussion regarding CT Alerts and sending out notices/information/shelter in place orders in the case of a disaster.

d. Day Street

Mr. Skene explained that there was an informational meeting last Friday including himself, A. Tanner, T. Rukstela, NECCOG, and BEMHS Region 4 regarding the road having been washed out. He explained that we have assets involved (message boards, traffic-control trailer) and we may have to do additional things if the situation gets worse. The Highway Department is monitoring it closely in case the road needs to be closed.

e. Eversource Priority

Mr. Skene provided copies of “Back to Basics – Storm 101” from Eversource.

Mr. Skene explained about how he and Mr. Tanner meet quarterly with Eversource. He explained about his role as the liaison and about the three priorities after the storm passes:

- Priority 1 is life threatening;
- Priority 2 is a blocked road - trees and wires involved and not passable;
- Priority 3 is a road with trees and wires down, but can get around it in less than 15 minutes - not considered to be a blocked road.
- They also have to deal with critical facilities which may be considered a higher priority.

There was discussion regarding generators.

There was discussion regarding the priority of the Route 6 Businesses.

C. Barna suggested putting a manual together including protocol for Priority 1, 2 & 3, bucket trucks and windspeeds so the public can have an understanding of those things and also suggested putting it on FaceBook and on the Town website. Mr. Skene stated that the FaceBook is getting more of a following and that he would put something there before the next storm.

f. Other New Business – None.

6. Public Comment – None.

7. Adjournment

Motion was made by W. Wheaton to adjourn at 7:28 p.m.

Second by R. Dvorin. No discussion.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote (5-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

J.S. Perreault
Recording Secretary

Next meeting Thursday, April 18, 2024 (Green Building, 69 South Main St., Brooklyn, CT, at 7 p.m.)