



**TOWN OF
THOMPSON**
Board of Selectmen

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MINUTES - Fire Advisory Committee

Thursday July 28, 2022 7:00 pm
Quinebaug Fire Department

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by First Selectman Amy St. Onge, Chiefs, Steve Bodreau, Ron Fournier, Matthew Grauer, John Sharpe, and Mathew Whipple as well as Selectmen, Susanne Witkowski and Ken Beausoleil were in attendance.

Also present – Members of the Public and Fire Departments

II. Citizen Comments - None

III. Reports from Fire Chiefs- The Chiefs shared details from their departments regarding recruitment, retention, equipment purchases, grant applications in process, equipment and facility needs.

IV. Round II ARPA Funding Potential-Chief Bodreau expressed concern that Fire Departments in the surrounding Towns had received ARPA funding for the various equipment and vehicle needs of those departments. He questioned why the Town of Thompson had not allotted dollars to the departments (all of which need equipment upgrades). Amy St. Onge explained that each town and city received varying amounts of ARPA funding based on their size and demographics. The ARPA funds Thompson has received have been allocated and the new Public Safety Facility (to house ambulance service) and Salt Storage Facility have the largest allotment. There is concern that the ARPA funds currently earmarked for those two projects may fall short with the inflationary cost of building materials currently.

V. Fire Services Agreement-Chief Whipple suggested that the FAC analyze the agreement together, with it projected on a screen, making changes in real time. The group agreed to hold off the review of the agreement until the next meeting.

The next Fire Advisory Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 7pm at the Thompson Hill Fire Station, 70 Chase Road.

VI. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm