

Town of East Hampton
Town Council Special Meeting/Workshop
Tuesday, March 29, 2022
Town Hall Council Chambers and Zoom

MINUTES

Present: Town Council - Chairman Mark Philhower, Vice Chairman Tim Feegel, Council Members Pete Brown, Brandon Goff, Kevin Reich, and Alison Walck and Town Manager David Cox.

Ambulance Board – Chairperson Barbara Moore, Nancy Brown, Heidi Joseph, Kevin Kiely, Kate Morris and Karen Olson

Not Present: Town Council Member Eric Peterson and Ambulance Board Member Dave Shulman

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Philhower called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers and via Zoom.

Discussion of Ambulance Service in East Hampton with the East Hampton Ambulance Board

The Town Council and the East Hampton Ambulance Association Board met to discuss the future of ambulance service in East Hampton.

Council members noted that comments from ambulance staff on Facebook, in the paper and on the tv news sent a message to the public causing fear and concern that there would be a slow or no response to ambulance calls for service and reflected negatively on the Town Council members. The Ambulance members had requested \$600,000 from the ARP funds for paid staff but were told the funds would not be used for staffing. The Ambulance Board indicated they can continue to provide service to the Town with the funding they currently receive from the Town budget.

There was a discussion of working with Middlesex Hospital for ambulance service. The Ambulance board noted concern about volunteers for events such as Old Home Day and that the cost of the ambulance would be more for the residents. The Town would also have to pay for the maintenance and utilities at the ambulance building if Middlesex took over the service. Currently the Town does not pay the utilities and minor maintenance costs.

The Ambulance board noted the issue now is recruitment of volunteers and that providing more of an incentive could help the situation.

The next step is for the Ambulance board to put together a plan outlining how they plan to run the service including budget information.

Another meeting will be scheduled next month.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Goff, seconded by Mr. Feegel, to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 pm. Voted (6-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Clerk