

Greenville Board of Selectmen
Minutes of the Public Meeting
December 10, 2008

Members present: Scott Blease, Kathy Washburn, Brenda Bergeron

Meeting opened at 7:00 p.m.

SVAS, Greenville Fire/Rescue and New Ipswich Fire/Rescue

Board called meeting to discuss ambulance and fire rescue services for the town. Brenda Bergeron stated that on her behalf the letter went out after a meeting with SVAS concerning the budget for 2009 and additional personnel to cover the service from 6 am to 6 pm Monday through Friday. She stated that the increase in the budget was not known to them and she was taken aback by the amount of the increase as they were not given any previous notice so that they could prepare. Since then SVAS has sent a revised their budget and it is considerably lower than originally asked for and even less than 2008. Tom Liubakka said they did not blindsided them to the increase, they invited them to the meeting so that they could go over it. B. Bergeron stated that if this is where they were headed for an amount it should have been brought up earlier so that public meetings could have been held. T. Liubakka explained the process that SVAS has held over the past 5 years to do what ever they could to have their members handle the day time calls. As for the new budget, T. Liubakka stated that it still has the full-time coverage but they have offset the cost from their capital reserve. He stated that they need to go to full-time coverage and are not sure what the cost will be in 2010. Darrell Fournier stated that it is hard to give the town a budget until after Dec 31 as they do not know what their numbers for the current year is going to be. Kathy Washburn questioned if the full charge will be in the 2010 budget. T. Liubakka said no they don't know that right now as they do not know what their revenue is going to be. They are also looking into other ways to bring in revenue other than through the insurance. T. Liubakka stated that the article in the paper was not the minutes of the SVAS that referred to but that of notes from selectmen's meeting. He also wanted to correct the figures that were in that article, the SVAS attendants were to be paid \$3 an hour to be on call and an additional \$20 when called out, the correct amount is \$13 an hour for daytime coverage but can change depending on the level of training, it could be more. The night coverage will be \$3 an hour for on call and then an additional \$20 for the call. He stated that these numbers are not cast in stone but will depend on the level of training. B. Bergeron is concerned that no taxpayers have been told of this and how are they going to absorb this cost. D. Fournier stated that they first present this to the selectmen and if the board wants to have a public meeting he would be willing to present this at that time. They realized that this is a short amount time to get everyone in both towns to absorb this and now there is more time to present it to them that the budget has been reduced for 2009. B. Bergeron stated that she also feels something has gone astray for both towns and that they are going to have to face increase in costs due to it. She does not know what happened that they do not have the participation of people that could go on calls but do not. She questioned when they train individuals is there any expectations of what is required of them. T. Liubakka that there is but it is a volunteer services, not everyone can give the time and he wants to thank SVAS, Greenville Fire / Rescue and New Ipswich Fire/Rescue for their services. K. Washburn also thanked everyone for their services and for coming to this meeting. She stated that she invited everyone here to see what is keeping people from volunteering on SVAS, other than the time restraints. They wanted to get everybody together to air some

of the differences and hopes that maybe they could get more volunteers to help out. Those volunteers present were given the opportunity to speak. Brandi Stimans stated that Greenville Fire/Rescue met with SVAS Directors to address the issues and never heard back from them. D. Fournier stated that the issues were vague, Mike Washburn agreed. D. Fournier stated that he would like to hear those issues again tonight and stated that when they met with the Directors what was said were personal issues with individuals not with the service. Derick Fedders stated that some people were not required to hold the 4 days a month shift. T. Liubakka stated that when Greenville Fire/Rescue were on SVAS they were corporate members and never once did they come to a meeting to say there was a problem. He said that they left after the SVAS board called in Greenville Fire Chief Larry Legere to talk to him about Greenville personnel responding as rescue and not SVAS. T. Liubakka stated that SVAS told him that they are not helping a patient when they respond as rescue personnel and cannot transport, they need to get to them to the hospital and they asked Chief to go back to rescue personnel and ask if they would join SVAS to help them out with covering calls. It was shortly after that they did not have Greenville personnel anymore. Candace Fedders said she was part of SVAS and she was on her way out of town, she had time to go on a call that was just toned and start patient care but did not have the time to transport, she was put on the spot by SVAS for not responding as an SVAS member. She explained that she did not have the time to transport, she was told that it was not acceptable for her to respond to assist if she could not transport. Ricky White said often people use their lunch period to respond as rescue but do not have the time to respond as SVAS as it takes more time to transport, employers are more understanding of ½ hour than the 2 hours. B. Bergeron stated that it would be good if people could get past some of the things that have happened in the past and try to work together again. Brandi Stimans stated that they were told by Larry Legere that Daryl told him that if Greenville fire responded and then went on the ambulance to the hospital they would not be paid. Daryl Oja said that was changed at that same meeting that if Greenville Fire went on the call to hospital they would be paid by SVAS. B. Stimans and C. Fedders said that they were not made aware of this change. T. Liubakka stated that SVAS Board will hold a meeting the first part of 2009 and invite Greenville Fire EMT's and New Ipswich Fire EMT's to have this same type of meeting for discussion and have applications available. Anyone that wanted to be notified of that meeting was asked to sign a sheet with their name and phone numbers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes taken by,
Linda Langille

Minutes approved by,
Board of Selectmen

Scott Blease, Chairman

Kathleen Washburn

Brenda Bergeron