



**Office of Board of Selectmen
Town of Mason**

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Selectmen / Department Meeting 1/24/2023

Approved Minutes

Present: Selectmen Kate Batcheller, Charlie Moser, John Suiter; Admin Asst Jen Tenney; Accountant Brenda Wiley; Fire Chief Tony Burns, Police Chief Kevin Maxwell, Road Agent Dave Morrison

Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm by Chair Kate Batcheller, attendance was taken by roll call as reflected above.

New Business:

This meeting was called together given the most recent severe weather that has impacted the town and its residents. The goal of this meeting is to develop an efficient way for all of the departments to communicate clearly and efficiently with each other during times of need; and also, to determine what type of communication should be had internally between departments versus externally with residents. The Mason Elementary School needs to be included in these emergency communications.

Chief Maxwell will set up a department emergency contact messaging group. It was discussed that this group will be used for the following types of communications:

- Emergency Management Director, Chief Burns, will post to this group when the Emergency Operations Center deploys a message (received by Chief Burns).
- Dave will post in this group with any road closures or concerns.
- Chief Maxwell will post when the Police Department is informed and/or aware of concerns.
- Jen will be used as back up by the department heads to communicate via this group if they are unavailable to communicate to this group themselves.

Other discussion

- Jen will generate a list of the surrounding gas stations, to include which have generators and what locations are open even during power outages.
- Chief Maxwell discussed the need of residents to charge medical devices during power outages.

- Dave discussed difficulty turning on the compressor at the highway station while running off the generator.
- Brenda will check with the Elementary School to make sure the generator has been serviced and is in good working order.
- Chief Burns will check with Eversource to determine a “tree on powerline” protocol.
- All are in favor of generating a list of residents to check on during emergency situations. Jen to be the point of contact for this.
- Further discussions will be had for the best way to communicate alerts such as road closures, heating locations, accessibility to sand/water/heat etc to the residents.
- Chief Maxwell stated despite the weather and down trees/branches, the roads were well maintained by the highway department.

Adjournment: There being no further business at this time, Kate motioned to adjourn, second from John. Roll call vote Kate-aye, Charlie-aye, John-aye. Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Tenney

BOS Administrative Assistant