

MINUTES

Cumberland Town Council Meeting
Town Council Chambers

MONDAY, December 13, 2021

6:00 P.M. Workshop re: Marijuana Caregiver License Ordinance

7:00 P.M. Call to Order

Present: Councilors Copp, Foster, Gruber, Segrist, Storey-King and Vail

Excused: Councilor Edes

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilor Gruber, seconded by Councilor Copp, to accept the November 8, 2021, meeting minutes as presented.

VOTE: 6-0 UNANIMOUS

II. MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager Shane introduced Sean Allen, who described a fundraising campaign that he and his friend, Charlie Moore held the past two years. This year, they donated \$4,500 in gas cards to the Food Pantry and \$1,200 to the Town's oil fund.

Chairman of the Lands & Conservation Commission, Mike Schwindt, read the following in honor of Commission member, Sam York, who is retiring from the Commission:

Thank you, Sam, for all your years of service. We will all benefit from it well into the future. Thank you for your patience and answering questions and explaining the history to the new guy. I appreciate your time and your knowledge. Thanks for your guidance as we worked our way through the Ordinance. Your advice and counsel resulted in a better law. And thank you for your friendship, it's worth a lot.
Sam was presented with a town chair.

Police Sargent, Jake Lachance read the following:

As some of you may know, my name is Sgt. Jake Lachance, and while I am not a Cumberland resident, I have the honor and privilege of serving on your police department. I want to thank Chief Rumsey, Town Manager Shane, and the Council for allowing me to speak tonight and I must be honest, I am speaking with a heavy heart.

As you folks have gotten to know over the past few council meetings, our two newest officers and I all started our public service careers in South Portland. The South Portland community and the entire law enforcement community was shaken on the morning of Nov. 9th when it was made known that a 26-year veteran of the South Portland police department had taken his own life, months before he was set to retire in the spring of 2022.

While sad, frustrating, and perplexing don't begin to scratch the surface of the reality of suicide, I felt it appropriate to speak to the council tonight about mental health and suicide for two reasons. The first reason is that it is something that needs to be talked about. Historically in the law enforcement and firefighter/rescue community, and I'm sure Chairman Vail would agree this extends to our veteran community as well, talking about your feelings and things that are experienced as a part of these jobs are swept under the rug and dismissed. These people carry the emotional burdens of a given community day after day so that townsfolk can live in an "ignorance is bliss" capacity. For a long time, there has

not been any talking or check-ins. No debriefs or meetings. It has been a “take it on the chin and move on” mentality that has not been reserved to the physical breaking up of bar fights or domestic violence abusers. Over the past few years, the culture has gotten better but the unfortunate reality is that people fall through the cracks. The stigma of saying “something is wrong” or putting an emotional burden onto someone else is a tough hurdle to jump. Taking the “easy” way out of not talking about it outweighs being vulnerable and asking for help. We have become masters of rough exteriors and compartmentalization that only fuels the problem further. You could poll every police officer and fire rescue personnel member in the state, and they could tell you at least one traumatic experience they have had that will stick with them for their entire lives. Myself and members of our departments in Cumberland are no exception. Too often the only times those experiences will only be heard are when they are rattling around in people’s heads. We are better than that and we need to be better than that.

It needs to be talked about.

The second reason that I wanted to speak with you today is that the last few years have highlighted that this trend of unhealthy mental health habits does not discriminate by occupation, socioeconomic status, age, or political beliefs. Even in this community of about 8,500 people, we routinely respond to calls for service for a variety of mental health related issues, from folks having bouts of depression to completed suicides. With the emergence of Covid, social norms have been disrupted like never before, with screen time replacing the value of having conversations and basic human interactions face to face. This, accompanied with the longstanding stigma of being weak, bullied, harassed and a “loser” does not give those that are hurting a fighting chance. So, in an effort to break this stigma, I would like to tell you a story.

When I worked in South Portland our shift handled a call which started as a mom worried about her son, who was in his early 20’s. Due to circumstances between mom and son, he had been living out of his car for a short time and bought a firearm for protection. On this particular night, the mom had received some texts from her son which concerned her enough to call the police to do a welfare check and concerned us enough to “ping” the location of his cell phone. When we receive phone pings from the phone company, the area they give us can be quite vast, but it was not on this night, as it homed into a specific intersection. This intersection was in the part of the city I was assigned so I made my way there. My sergeant and I were in the area looking for the son’s vehicle for what felt like ages. After a while, I decided to start checking the area on foot, thinking he may have thrown his phone out the window in frustration. As I was walking around, I found the vehicle tucked into the back section of an apartment driveway, hidden by a tall fence. When I approached the vehicle, it was quickly apparent that he had very, very recently taken his own life with the firearm he had purchased some time ago. South Portland Rescue transported him to the hospital and attempted life saving efforts to no avail. I followed behind rescue in my cruiser and met with the son’s mother and family at Maine Medical Center. I told them about what I had found. They ended up taking their son off life support approximately 24 hours later. The only things that were running through my mind was “I should have found him sooner” “I was in the area for 15-20 minutes, how did I not find him sooner”

Now with all this being said, I was and am very close with my other shift mates, evident by the fact that two of them are now employed by Cumberland PD. I know they were always there if I needed to talk or vent or grieve, but I didn’t know how to do any of that. All of my thoughts and emotions came to a head when approximately 4-5 months later my roommates and I hosted a New Years Eve party. Drinks were had, which I’m sure was a catalyst in me having a severe mental breakdown, tears and all, in front of 20-30 of my closest friends. In those 5 months, I had never spoken about the afore mentioned night with anyone, outside of the next day saying “yeah it was a rough one at work”. Before that breakdown, I

never understood how to be in tuned with how my body and mind was feeling. I never understood how the toxic mental pretzel I was putting myself in was affecting others around me that care about me. Because we are built to compartmentalize so much and so well, I am still not great at expressing my feelings because I do not want to be a burden to others. I am getting better, but I have a long way to go. While I never had suicidal thoughts, I knew that my mind and day to day life had changed from what I was feeling 5 months previous. I have mentally and emotionally hurt people in my life that I care a lot about, and who care a lot about me, because I haven't been able to communicate with them how they deserve, and for that I am eternally sorry. I am fortunate that I have phenomenal friends and family that I can talk to and that want to be there for me. I am fortunate that more programs exist through municipalities and cities to be there for the countless people that are suffering from the breakdowns of this profession. The reality is that not everyone is that lucky and we need to be there for them and with them.

It needs to be talked about.

While this is a public forum, my purpose for speaking here tonight is not one of a political nature. I know that the first question that is going to be asked after I am finished speaking is "what can we do to help" and "how can we help things change". To be completely honest, I don't think I came here looking for answers or think there is a blanket solution. Yes, resources can be made available. Yes, administrators can be more in tune with what is happening with the people they oversee. All of that is important, but until individuals realize that the stigma of being tough and emotionally bullet-proof is damaging themselves and others around them, and it is not socially or career damaging... as the saying goes "you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make them drink"...

In closing, my purpose in speaking to you all is merely a call to ask for everyone's help. It's a call to ask people in the Cumberland community and beyond to look out for each other and have the hard conversations that need to be had. It's a call to habitually check-in on friends, family, neighbors, classmates, and colleagues. It's a call for people to be honest with themselves and recognize if you haven't felt like yourself in a while it is okay to seek help. It's a call to be kind to one another.

If you or anyone you know needs services, the phone number for the Maine Statewide Crisis Hotline is 1-888-568-1112. Everyone knows the three-digit number to reach us, but the non-emergency number is 207-893-2810. When we are called, we always show up and help however we can, whether it is a listening ear, providing contact information for further services, or facilitating a trip to one of the local hospitals to speak with mental health professionals.

A biproduct of tragedy is that it often springs a period of reflection, growth, and awareness. No one is ever alone.

It needs to be talked about.

Thank you for your time.

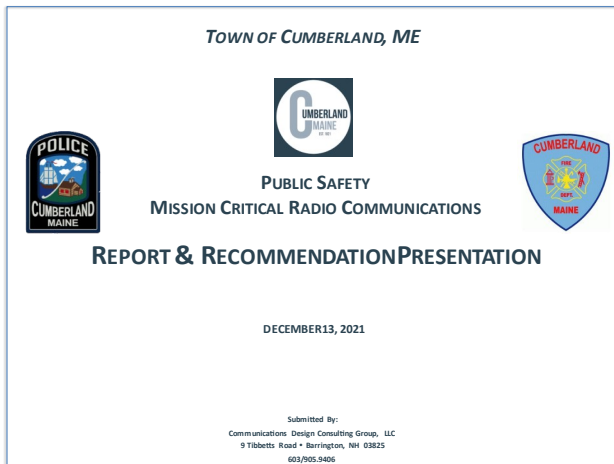
III. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

No public discussion

IV. LEGISLATION AND POLICY

21 – 116 To hear a presentation from the Communications Design Consulting Group on their engineering study of Cumberland's Public Safety radio system.

Police Chief Rumsey said that the terrain in the Town of Cumberland has made radio transmission between first responders and between first responders and dispatch, very difficult in certain areas of Town. Last year, Captain Dave Young applied for a grant through the County Emergency Management Association to hire a radio engineer to determine what we need to make our radio communication reliable. Ultimately, we contracted with Communications Design Consulting Group. They did a study and Norm Boucher is here this evening to report on their findings.



Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems

Purpose of the Project

THE TOWN OF CUMBERLAND DESIRES AN OVERALL OVERVIEW OF ITS MISSION CRITICAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM CURRENTLY IN USE BY THE TOWN'S FIRST RESPONDERS

- The Town of Cumberland requires technical consulting services necessary to upgrade the Town's Public Safety radio system currently in use by Law Enforcement, Fire Services, and Public Works
- The consultant is to identify and gather information regarding existing radio system equipment and its performance
- The Town is suffering from the lack of signal coverage at various locations throughout Cumberland. Consultant is to analyze signal coverage and make recommendation to enhance overall in-street and inside building signal coverage
- There are end-of-life equipment that is no longer supported by the manufacturer. Key radio system components, such as repeaters are beyond their lifecycle – critical equipment that may affect system reliability and uptime
- These are the overall driving forces behind the Town of Cumberland initiative

20 Sept 2021

2



Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems

What We Did

IN SUMMARY, THE RADIO SYSTEM EVALUATION AND THE RESULTING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT IS BASED ON THE FOLLOWING

- CDCG conducted on-site interviews with Cumberland Radio Planners, Law Enforcement, Fire Services, DPW, and the Parks department to identify and gather information regarding existing radio coverage, radio equipment, system loading, reliability problems, and other issues and concerns
- Performed radio site surveys to audit radio equipment and to inspect site facilities
- Other key items in the study were to identify key failure points; review historical failures; vulnerabilities, and to think where likely other failures can potentially occur
- Performed signal coverage analysis and provided coverage maps for in-street and in-building communications for 'as is', as well as recommended coverage performance
- Conducted signal coverage analysis work sessions to identify poor/no signal areas and site selection
- Reviewed current Cumberland radio system FCC licenses
- Recommendations based on current Public Safety Best Practices and current state-of-the-art radio equipment and networks

20 Sept 2021

3



Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems

What We Found

CUMBERLAND IS FACING SERIOUS SIGNAL COVERAGE PROBLEMS AT SEVERAL LOCATIONS WITHIN THE TOWN

Troublesome to both Law Enforcement and the Fire Services is the lack of signal or poor radio coverage

- This is the most overriding radio system issue; Cumberland's First Responders face this problem daily
- There are several locations throughout the Town where the signal is non-existent; and other locations where signals are weak, this is especially true when using handheld portable radios
- Also identified system performance issues affecting coverage
 - ✓ Excessive signal losses were identified in the coverage study that required system-wide RF audit testing to determine equipment performance
 - ✓ RF interference at the FAA transmitter site

20 Sept 2021

4



Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems System Operational Test & Measurement

SUMMARIZING RESULTS OF THE SYSTEMWIDE TEST AND MEASUREMENTS

Cumberland's radio maintenance provider conducted system test and measurement and found the following problems:

FAA Walnut Hill

The Town's only transmitter site is located at the FAA site located on Walnut Hill. The Town's equipment is housed inside the communications building inside a protected cabinet.

The FAA site is equipped with ASR (Air Surveillance Radar) approach control radar equipment, detecting aircraft and weather conditions for Portland Jetport. The radar operates in the E-Band spectrum, transmitting 1.25 mega-watts of power using dual-beam antenna. The radar antenna rotates at 12 RPM.

Walnut Hill Test Results

1 This is the main transmitter & receiver site. Noise floor measurements were extremely high affecting both Police and Fire receivers. Signal received by mobile or portable radios are seriously degraded; requires high transmit signal levels to overcome the noise levels, this results in poor/no coverage

2 Fire audio from West Station site low audio; needs repair



5



Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems System Operational Test & Measurement

SUMMARIZING RESULTS OF THE SYSTEMWIDE TEST AND MEASUREMENTS

Chebeague

1 This is a receive only site for police and fire. The receiver splitter [to feed one antenna] was found to have excessive attenuation and should be replaced

2 Antenna test was borderline; RCM recommends that the antenna be replaced

FD West Station

1 This is a receive only site for police and fire. The antenna tested bad and should be replaced.

2 UHF link radios not passing audio correctly and needs to be serviced

Town Hall

1 This is a receive only site for police and fire. The antenna tested bad and should be replaced

2 Police radios have poor sensitivity and needs to be serviced

Summarizing—The consequences of the multiple and accumulative problems listed above point to severe signal loss and coverage degradation throughout the Town of Cumberland. This is for both mobile and portable radio however portable radio is the most affected.

Note that there are still critical inherent system design issues affecting coverage, based on the current system configuration; these issues are addressed in this study.

20 Sept 2021

6



Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems End-of-Life [EOL] Issues

THE CUMBERLAND INFRASTRUCTURE USES KEY RADIO EQUIPMENT AS FOLLOWS

Town of Cumberland key infrastructure radio equipment

RF REPEATERS

— L3-Harris MASTR-III ***

VOTING RECEIVERS

— Kenwood 7180 [mobile radio] ***

UHF Links

— Kenwood 8180 [mobile radio] ***

*** This equipment has reached its end-of-lifecycle

Equipment end-of-life [EOL] marks the official end of vendor offering for the radio system components. At this point, support shifts from system platform to individual system component parts.

Typically, many manufacturers will support products for 5 to 7 years after manufacturing has ceased. Spare parts are stockpiled to meet the estimated need over this period. Support during this period is "best effort" as there is no guarantee that component parts will be available.

Moreover, used equipment can also be obtained online from various sources. Public safety systems should not reach this point for support.

Replacement parts becoming scarce and in some cases not available

20 Sept 2021

7



Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems End-of-Life [EOL] Issues

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20 Sept 2021

8



Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems Review of Cumberland Communications Sites

Cumberland has six [6] transmitter sites as follows:

| SITE | OWNER/LEASE | FUNCTION |
|------------------|--------------|---|
| FAA Walnut Hill | FAA | Police and Fire transmit & receive site |
| Town Hall | Cumberland | Police & Fire receive-only site |
| CFD West Station | Cumberland | Police & Fire receive-only site |
| Chebeague | Chebeague FD | Police & Fire receive-only site |
| Cumberland DPW | Cumberland | DPW transmit & receive site |
| Twin Brook | Cumberland | Parks transmit & receive site |

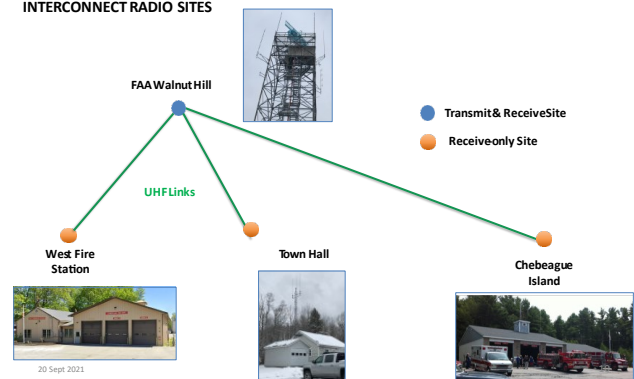
20 Sept 2021

9



Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems Connectivity – How Sites are Connected

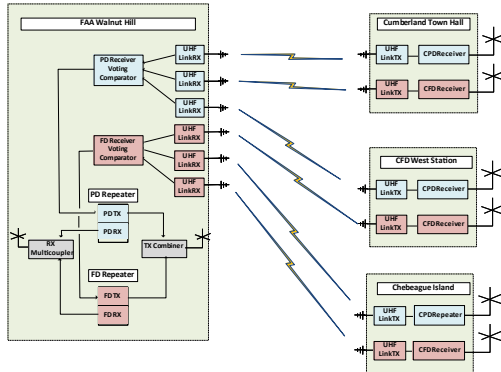
EXISTING CUMBERLAND POLICE & FIRE RADIO SYSTEM WITH UHF LINKS TO INTERCONNECT RADIO SITES



20 Sept 2021



Cumberland Communications System Diagram



20 Sept 2021

11

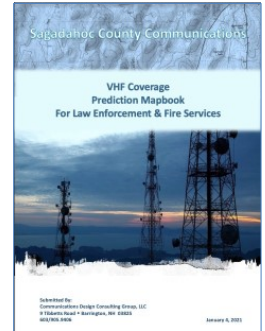


Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems Radio Coverage Summary Analysis

DETAILED COVERAGE ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION WAS PERFORMED AND IS PROVIDED IN SEPARATE COVERAGE MAPBOOK REPORT

- ❖ The Mapbook shows coverage for Police and Fire channels

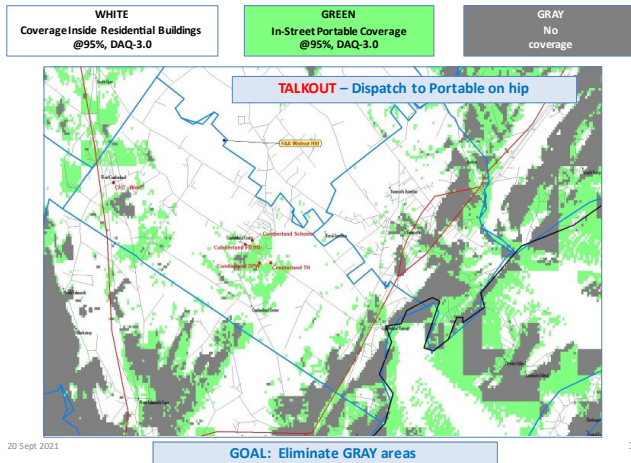
- The Mapbook provides an explanation of the coverage analysis process and parameters for 'As Is' and predicted coverage with new sites
- It includes TalkOut and TalkIn maps for:
 - ✓ Portables in street & insideresidential buildings
 - ✓ Portables atth level with speaker/mics
 - ✓ 50 w Mobileradio



12



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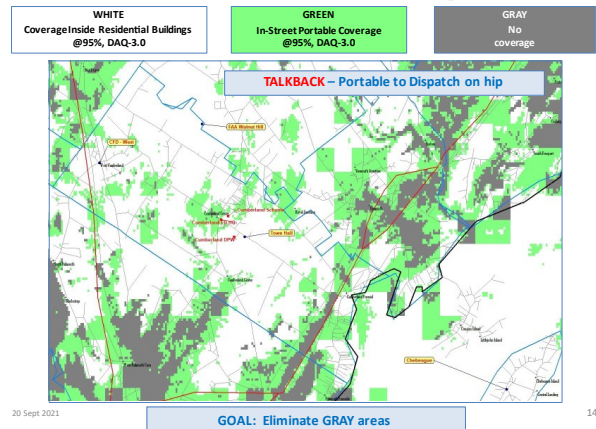


20 Sept 2021

13



Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems



20 Sept 2021

14



Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems Recommendations

❖ **System Coverage Design Work Sessions**

- There were two [2] work sessions with Cumberland radioplanners
- The outcome provided a consensus on tower placement needed to provide the required signal levels for handheld portable radio operation

- ❖ **Minimize the use of the FAA site located on Walnut Hill**

- This site is a radio system asset as it is the highest terrain point in town
- As tested and documented, the major issue is interference to *Cumberland Police and Fire two-way radio systems* by FAA radar equipment

❖ **Proposed Radio System Architecture**

- ❑ A single site system cannot provide reliable talkout coverage [current FAA site]
- ❑ Increase the number of transmitter sites from one [1] to four [4]
- ❑ Increasing transmitter sites provides 'distributed' antenna system throughout the Town providing overall better and more uniform coverage
- ❑ Implement transmitter simulcast techniques to provide larger coverage footprint
- ❑ Continue to use receiver voting to select the best audio for transmitter re-broadcast
- ❑ Discontinue use of UHF for radioist links
- ❑ Can add DPW radio equipment at minimal cost as basic IP infrastructure and transmitter simulcast equipment is in place

20 Sept 2015

14



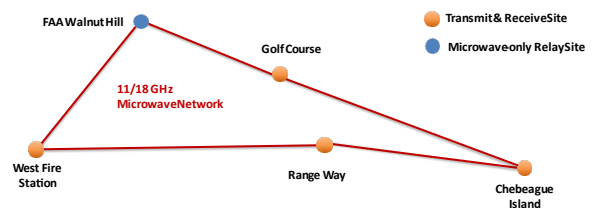
Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems Recommendations

❖ **Proposed Radio System Architecture, continued**

- Implement IP 11/18 GHz microwaveradioto linksites for synchingtransmitter simulcast equipment
- Microwaveradios should have sufficient bandwidth for radiooperations plus video monitoring of sites if this option is selected

❖ Proposed System Diagram

- Ring redundancy configuration



20 Sept 2021

16



Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems Recommendations

❖ System Design Notes & Comments

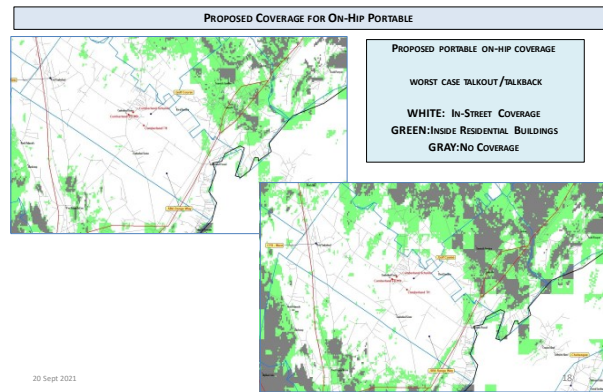
- New system utilizes four [4] sites for transmit & receive to uniformly provide reliable coverage
- Assumes that a lease can be negotiated with SBA at Range Way
 - ✓ Will require equipment shelter; outdoor enclosure proposed
- Assumes new 100' tower to be erected by others at the Golf Course
 - ✓ Will require equipment shelter; outdoor enclosure proposed
- Assumes the erection of a new 180' tower at CFD West station by the Town
 - ✓ Site would be a critical prime site housing the voting equipment for Police & Fire
 - ✓ Will require secure area to house equipment racks
- Continue to use the tower at Chebeague Island
- Migrate to mix mode DMR digital/Analog
 - ✓ New equipment to be placed at both; each department to decide converting to digital or remain analog
 - ✓ Migrating to DMR requires the replacement of all mobile and portables
 - ✓ Alert paging remain analog
- Replace UHF links with microwave radio
 - ✓ 11/18 GHz LP/Ethernet broadband microwave links
 - ✓ Ring redundancy configuration recommended
 - ✓ Require physical path survey to determine LOS and final antenna heights - all hops

20 Sept 2021

17



Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems Recommendations



20 Sept 2021



Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems Additional Recommendations

❖ Replace existing End-of-Life radio system components

- The proposed system expansion will replace all end-of-life equipment

❖ Upgrade transmitter site grounding

- It appears that the grounding & surge protection at the transmitter sites can be improved to meet the R56 grounding standard
- Recommend that a grounding and surge protection audit be conducted at all sites for effectiveness; this includes all network and radio related equipment

❖ DC Power Supply – DC Battery-Rectifier backup power

- Replace UPS equipment with DC powered equipment
- New infrastructure equipment should be 100% powered by DC battery/rectifier system with at least 4-hours of backup; this allows reserve power in the event the generator does not start or is out of fuel

❖ Alarm Monitoring

- The proposed infrastructure should employ performance type surveillance and site alarm monitoring of various equipment or conditions at the remote tower sites.
- Site alarms would be sent to the Cumberland Dispatch Center for monitoring

20 Sept 2021

19



Report on Cumberland Mission Critical Radio Systems Budgetary Cost Estimate

In recent times, due to Covid-19, many have experienced delays in manufacturing and/or delivery of equipment; also cost escalation; non-contractor 3rd party deliverables, and contractor personnel availability. Budgetary cost estimate may not reflect current conditions

Estimated Annual Maintenance Cost: ~\$30,000.00

| ITEM | Cost Estimate |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| RADIO SYSTEMS | \$409,500.00 |
| MICROWAVE RADIO | \$344,000.00 |
| SITE FACILITIES | \$248,000.00 |
| SERVICES | \$250,375.00 |
| MOBILE & PORTABLE RADIOS | 166,200.00 |
| GRAND TOTAL | \$1,418,075.00 |

Cost Assumptions - cost estimate for four [4] transmitter sites with microwave links is based on the following assumptions

- a. Conceptual design only; final design may alter budgetary assumptions
- b. Cost is added due to unknown site conditions such as grounding, power loading
- c. Currently, tower manufacturer only provides quotes for 120 to 200 weeks as pricing is increasing; this is true with the material (not copper wiring) quote currently valid for one [1] day
- d. Cost is added due to proposed tower failure structural analysis and may require tower strengthening
- e. Microwave links (LOS) path performance is ongoing; actual path conditions known until physical path survey; complete LOS path failure may result in modified system designs such as the use of an alternate site(s)
- f. Budgetary cost includes one [1] new 100' tower shelter and generator for CFD West
- g. Refer to separate budgetary cost estimate spreadsheet for detailed site cost details

20 Sept 2021

20

No public comment. No public present.

Town Manager Shane said that this will be discussed further because it is part of the Town's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

21 – 117 To consider and act on a funding request from the Police Department for body cameras, in-car cameras and TASER's, as recommended by the Finance Committee.

Chief Rumsey said that he presented this request to the Finance Committee a couple of weeks ago. This request is for AXON body cameras, in-car cameras, and TASER 7s. He personally believes that this is a very important initiative for the Police Department, and would be one of the biggest achievements and accomplishments for his time here as Police Chief to be able to provide the transparency that this system will allow.

Chairman Vail said that the community has heard some reports recently about activities at our schools (students bringing weapons to school) and asked the Chief to explain what our School Resource Officer does.

Chief Rumsey said that the School Resource Officer is positioned to play a number of rolls within the school. They are a liaison between the Police Department and school staff, to build lifelong relationships with school children, to offer resources, knowledge, and insight, and to be present should the need arise for someone to take immediate action.

Chairman Vail asked the Police Chief if he feels that we are adequately staffed with a single School Resource Officer.

Chief Rumsey said that in his experience, the high school is a strong pull on the Resource Officer, leaving little time for them to spend in the middle and elementary schools.

Councilor Foster said that some people may say that we are the safest community in the state, why do we need body cams? Think about accountability and the act of being able to reference an unbiased document. A couple of summers ago there was an accusation made toward the Police Department, and after the investigation was completed, the outcome was that it was one word against the other. She looks at this as an accountability and a documentation measure where we don't end up pitting one word against another when there aren't any witnesses.

No public comment. No public present.

Motion by Councilor Gruber, seconded by Councilor Copp, to approve the funding request from the Police Department for body cameras, in-car cameras and TASER's, as recommended by the Finance Committee.
VOTE: 6-0 UNANIMOUS

21 – 118 To consider and act on authorizing the use of American Rescue Plan funds, as recommended by the Finance Committee.

Town Manager Shane said that we have had multiple discussion about the use of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds. The use of the funds is broken down into 4 different categories. One of the categories is premium pay for those who worked over the last 18 months, during COVID. He and the Finance Director met with the Finance Committee and presented a proposal that included all Town staff who worked during the pandemic. We wanted to recognize all the employees who gave a lot, and he is very proud and thankful of his staff. We were one of the first Town Hall's to open in our area. We felt it was important to show some normalcy during abnormal times. Our Public Safety, Public Works and Parks employees never stopped working. Almost every employee was involved at some level in working during the pandemic. We are proposing to use a portion of the ARP funds for hazard pay, the cost of safety glass partitions at Town Hall and reimbursing our senior tax program. These are all eligible expenses. This is only a small portion of the funds, and the remainder will likely be used toward infrastructure in some form or another.

No public comment. No public present.

Motion by Councilor Gruber, seconded by Councilor Segrist, to authorize the use of American Rescue Plan funds, as recommended by the Finance Committee.
VOTE: 6-0 UNANIMOUS

21 – 119 To hear a report from Councilor Storey-King re: Marijuana Caregiver Licensing Ordinance, and to discuss amending the Registered Caregiver Overlay District from the Town’s official zoning map to EXCLUDE the Village Center Commercial (VCC) zone as a Medical Caregiver Overlay area.

Councilor Storey-King said that the Town Attorney will be present on December 27th to answer any legal questions in regard to this ordinance. The Council met in workshop earlier this evening and reviewed the ordinance. Some background on this: in 1999 medical marijuana became legal in our State. At that time, every town had to designate an area where medical marijuana could be grown and/or sold. We chose a small parcel between Route One and 295 that the Town owned in order to prohibit anyone from doing any marijuana related business in Cumberland. In 2016, adult use marijuana became legal (Cumberland narrowly voted against this). State legislation keeps changing. Not long ago, we were not allowed to know who the registered caregivers were in our community. That recently changed and we are not only allowed to know who they are, but also can require them to obtain a license from the Town. This ordinance addresses only marijuana being grown for patients of registered caregivers. In November 2018, the Town approved an overlay zone that allowed medical caregivers in three parts of Town: Route 100 (Village Center Commercial Zone), Route One and the southern end of Route 9. This did nothing to regulate the caregivers who operate out of their homes. To date, there are 30 – 40 state licensed caregivers in our community. Over the last year, we have had various complaints from citizens about odor and the number of establishments in West Cumberland. Approximately 3 months ago, the Town Council passed a moratorium to allow us the time to catch up on the state regulations and amend our ordinance. We looked at ordinances from other Towns and met with our legal counsel and the Code Enforcement Officer and worked on the new ordinance. We determined that the state would allow us to require caregivers to become licensed with the Town. The goal of the ordinance is to minimize the impact that registered caregivers have on their neighbors, and we will remove the overlay area from the Route 100 area. Three establishments are enough for that area. She encouraged the public to attend the next two Town Council meetings to learn more. If this passes, registered caregivers will then have 60 days to obtain a license with the Town.

No public comment. No public present.

Motion by Councilor Copp, seconded by Councilor Gruber, to set a Public Hearing on December 27th with the Town Attorney present for the purpose of hearing public comment on a Marijuana Caregiver Licensing Ordinance and to set a Public Hearing date of January 10th to consider and act on the adoption of Chapter 86 (Marijuana Caregiver Licensing) of the Cumberland Code, as recommended by the Ordinance Committee.

VOTE: 6-0 UNANIMOUS

21 – 120 To set a Public Hearing date of December 27th to consider and act on a Liquor License renewal for Flannel Shirt Food Company, LLC d/b/a Cumberland Food Company.

No public comment. No public present.

Motion by Councilor Copp, seconded by Councilor Segrist, to set a Public Hearing date of December 27th to consider and act on a Liquor License renewal for Flannel Shirt Food Company, LLC d/b/a Cumberland Food Company.

VOTE: 6-0 UNANIMOUS

21 – 121 To set a Public Hearing date of December 27th to consider and act on a Liquor License renewal for Louie’s Grille, LLC.

No public comment. No public present.

Motion by Councilor Storey-King, seconded by Councilor Segrist, to set a Public Hearing date of December 27th to consider and act on a Liquor License renewal for Louie's Grille, LLC.

VOTE: 6-0

UNANIMOUS

V. NEW BUSINESS

Councilor Segrist – he has been working very closely with the Town Manager and Town staff in gathering data to potentially roll out an additional senior property tax assistance program. There has been a lot of discussion throughout the community about property tax increases, who pays them, and what we can do to help folks stay in their homes and age in place in Cumberland. He is hopeful that the final plan can be presented to the Town Council very soon.

Councilor Storey-King – we will have a workshop at 5:30 p.m. on December 27th with Tyler Norod from Westbrook Development Corporation to discuss next steps in creating assisted living in our community. Westbrook Development Corporation is a non-profit who does similar projects to what the Bateman's did with the Drowne Road School.

Last week, she met with Mike Schwindt, Chairman of the Lands & Conservation Commission. Because she is the Chair of the Ordinance Committee, Mike wanted to make sure that the Lands & Conservation Commission's goals matched up with the Town Council's goals. One of the things that Mike pointed out was that we do not have a definition for farmland. We have inventoried what we think is prime farmland within our community, but we do not have a definition of what farmland is. They discussed community gardening on the land in front of the brush dump. They also talked about the need for cold storage and how that would help our farmers.

She will attend a Zoom meeting later this week regarding the CMP corridor to see if she can get any updates on that.

She attended a fabulous breakfast yesterday that benefited Firefighters for Kids. They did a great job, and it was well attended.

She had a conversation with a staff member of our school district, who said that morale at the school is really on edge. This is driven in large part by angry parents who call the school and are just mean to the staff. She realizes that people are stressed, and they don't want their kids out of school, but when you're having an interaction with a public servant, please consider kindness. Let's all go into the holidays and try to be kind. Merry Christmas.

Councilor Gruber – he had the opportunity to see the Community Band recently. They were terrific.

The Food Pantry is doing amazing work. Thank you to the volunteers who make it happen.

Chairman Vail – no new business.

Councilor Foster – we were supposed to have a community event on December 8th as part of the Smash the Stigma campaign, that was cancelled. It was going to be a poetry jam aimed at mental illness and the fact that mental illness has no face. It can be anyone. We are hoping that we will be able to incorporate this into our hope garden celebration in May, so keep a lookout for it.

We are also looking at partnering with the PTO in having a screening of a movie then a panel discussion, but with COVID, this is on hold for now. Even though there may be a pause in some of our events, there will still be highlights of information being shared. Mental illness is not something to be ashamed of. It is like a headache or a heart attack. You stay on top of it so that you don't get to crisis point, but if you do, there are resources on the Town website. The holidays can be exceptionally hard for some people, so she wants everyone to know that those resources are there if you need them.

Councilor Copp – he asked the Town Manager when the train would stop blowing their horns.

Town Manager Shane said that it should be soon.

He thanked Sergeant Lachance for his words. They were very touching, great job.

He donated \$100 to the food pantry, Councilor Foster donated \$20, Alex Foster donated \$10, Councilor Gruber donated \$20, and Chairman Vail donated \$31.

Merry Christmas to everyone.

Town Manager Shane – reminded everyone that on Wednesday, December 15th at 6:00 p.m. there will be a public meeting in the Town Council chambers with Maine Department of Transportation to discuss what we can do along Main Street and Tuttle Road to make it safer for bikes and pedestrians.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilor Storey-King, seconded by Councilor Gruber, to adjourn.

VOTE: 6-0 UNANIMOUS

TIME: 9:28 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

Brenda L. Moore
Council Secretary