

Board of Selectmen Meeting
Minutes

Date: August 3, 2012

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Members present: Peter McMurray, Dan Meunier and Mike McCallum

IMC Software Capability Presentation (Dennis Snow, Sales Manager)

Introduction to residents was made including a brief history of the company and its involvement in the State of Mass. Police Departments using this system. (Approximately 230 use the system). He will provide a live demonstration of the system at work, if so desired, after the presentation. He used the Town of Dunstable as an example of how the system works as a shared informational tool. Approximately 94 Fire Departments in the state also use this system. Examples were given on how the information sharing can be used. Live data is used in queries from law enforcement.

Question: PM - has Fort Devens made a decision on this system?

Answer: Things are moving along well.

Question: Does this have anything to do with the prison being in Shirley?

Answer: No, but prison system software is available.

Question: Is Ayer, Harvard and Shirley in the system at present?

Answer: Yes, but at a local level at this time.

Question: Is there any information available on current software compatibility with several towns that have recently joined the system?

Answer: If there are compatibility issues, programs can be created to solve these problems.

Question: Will the Highway Dept. be compatible with this system?

Answer: Yes and communication will improve.

Question: How many work stations does this allow?

Answer: Currently 3 but can be increased to 5 if it is needed.

Question: What is the lag time with information from live time?

Answer: As soon as information is entered into the system.

Question: Will Ashby be able to share information with the State Police?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Will Supervisor approval be needed before certain crimes or incidents are posted in the system?

Answer: Yes

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Question: What would the cost of the conversion of all records be?

Answer: Company has a conversion specialist who could work up those figures based on what conversation information the town would like to have imputed.

Question: Can Ashby apply for its own 911 system grant?

Answer: No, this is a regionalization grant only.

Question: For those who are skeptical on how well this system works how do you convince them this is a good system?

Answer: He usually spends at least a full day with the managers giving information and answering their questions.

Question: How are hackers prevented from accessing information?

Answer: The system is equipped with safeguards to prevent this and any information that they do get would be scrambled.

Question: With all the enhancements shown can anything be eliminated?

Answer: This would be up to BOS and Dept. Heads.

Question: What is the complication with software within 2 different counties?

Answer: This can be dealt with within the system.

Question: Joint coverage can be obtained?

Question: Board of Selectmen. Is this a done deal?

Answer: PM - No the State 911 system has asked for this presentation.

Statement from resident: "If it's not broke, don't fix it". Feels the services the town already provides are excellent and sees no need to get involved with regionalization.

PM explained the State will eventually mandate every city and town to regionalize, thus the reason for looking into this and getting something in place before this happens. We also did not want to miss out on the grant that was being offered. He also stated in no way would he put the town and its residents in jeopardy.

Question: What was the reason for not pursuing regionalization with Townsend?

Answer: They wanted nothing to do with the pursuit of this system. Ashby would have to do it on its own.

Question: Resident asked for live demonstration of system. (Shown)

Question: Are there any other companies in Mass that offer the same services?

Answer: We are the leader in this service in the State. (Ranked #1)

Question: Have any towns signed up with your company and then backed out or not been happy?

Answer: No

Question: Would 2 people working on the same case cause a double entry into the system?

Answer: (Ashburnham Chief) explained how this is avoided.

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Question: Why are we going to spend more money on a system when we already have a “right to know” coordinator in town?

Answer: He cannot answer that question. Ashburnham Chief tried to show the benefits of this system.

Question: How does all information get to the cruisers? Some areas of town are not accessible to the cruisers.

Answer: (Chief from Ashburnham) it provides much better coverage, but not all areas of town can ever be 100% covered. He offered to bring a cruiser to Ashby to check out difficult areas of town with their system.

PM suggested that Dennis could come back and meet with police and fire to answer questions that could not be covered in this forum. The BOS will also come over to the police station to get information on exactly what Ashby already has for software and systems.

He also thanked everyone for coming to this meeting.

Any other business not reasonably anticipated by the Chairman:

Public Comments (If any)

2) Motion to adjourn at 11:01 a.m.

Motion: Dan Meunier

Seconded: Mike McCallum

Vote: Unan

Signed by: _____

Dates Minutes Approved by Board of Selectmen: _____