

A Resolution Reaffirming the Town of Enfield’s Support of a County-Funded Rapid Medical Response Service

RESOLUTION #2024-_____

Whereas, Tompkins County has embarked on a two-year Pilot Rapid Medical Response (RMR) service, one which supplies rapid response vehicles with trained Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT’s) to supplement the services rendered by the Enfield Volunteer Fire Company’s Rescue Squad and other volunteer medical rescue services in Tompkins County; and

Whereas, Tompkins County has committed itself to operate this RMR program for years 2024 and 2025, with New York State grant funding and Tompkins County budgeted funds covering all operational costs during 2024, and with cost-sharing options for 2025 currently subject to negotiations between Tompkins County and its component municipalities; and

Whereas, the Tompkins County Department of Administration convened the first of several planned meetings with municipal leaders on February 29, 2024, a meeting well-attended and at which service requirements, benefits, and funding alternatives received ample consideration and discussion among the many who attended, with future discussions planned; and

Whereas, subsequent to the initial meeting, one of its participants, Rordan Hart, Mayor of the Village of Trumansburg, communicated to this Town’s Supervisor on March 1, 2024 his request for her, and by implication, this Town Board, to support and to sign a letter Mayor Hart intends to present the Tompkins County Legislature, that letter expressing the preference of its signatories that Tompkins County’s Rapid Medical Response program become a “fully funded County service”; and

Whereas, this Town Board agrees with Mayor Hart’s rationale for full County funding as it would provide “the best possible solution” to assure the RMR service’s long-term viability; and

Whereas, other representatives, including Tompkins County legislator Anne Koreman, who represents portions of Enfield, have expressed similar support for full County funding of the RMR, legislator Koreman equating the service to the Tompkins County Sheriff’s Department, whose funding is fully borne by Tompkins County without the request or requirement for municipal cost-sharing; and

Whereas, on December 13, 2023, this Town Board adopted a Resolution stating, in part, that the Town Board, while not foreclosing other cost-sharing options, “encourages Tompkins County Government to underwrite the costs of the Pilot Rapid Medical Response System to the greatest extent possible, including up to 100 per cent (100%) of the program’s cost, based on this Board’s conclusion that County Government stands in the best fiscal position to provide such support,” a position this Board continues to support; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Enfield Town Board hereby endorses the text contained in, and the reasoning supporting, Trumansburg Mayor Rordan Hart’s letter to the Tompkins County Legislature, communicated to this Town’s Supervisor on March 1, 2024, and that this Board authorizes the Town Supervisor, Stephanie Redmond, to sign said letter on behalf of the Town Board.

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