

North Plainfield Volunteer Rescue

Borough Report

Council Meeting: November 14<sup>th</sup> 2011

Compiled by: Captain Lawrence D. Lee Jr.

Operations Update

### Expansion of Services:

Working with our newly installed EMS Education Manager and our Medical Directors, North Plainfield Volunteer Rescue Squad (NPVRS) is continuing to expand both its operations and training. Our Medical Director has approved our agency to carry the medication epinephrine. CVS will be distributing these units. We expect to be utilizing this medication within active fieldwork in early December.

### Certified Nursing Assistant Program:

A State official has reached out to NPVRS to reassure our request has not been overturned. A new individual has been appointed into the approval seat, and is in the process of being trained. Upon completion of training that individual will be evaluating NPVRS on its final stage prior to being granted teaching capabilities.

### Upcoming Partnership:

NPVRS has been invited into partnership with a nursing residence for training purposes. NPVRS will be overseeing their Resuscitation Program, in addition to First Aid and Blood Borne Pathogens. This oversight will be for their multiple campuses. A few additional requests have been received and are being reviewed by both the Captain and the office of Medical Direction.

### Public Relations:

The newly formed Resource and Support committee has replaced the functions of the previous Auxiliary committee. This committee is comprised of both community representatives and cadet parents/guardians. This organization runs under the direction of the Public Relations Supervisor and is solely responsible for not only keeping NPVRS actively involved within community but organizing effective fundraisers.

NPVRS has been featured in the local Courier News, The Wheeled Coach Fleet, Fire Rescue (1) Newspaper, and News 12 NJ, all of which should be accessible for viewing soon.

### New Ambulance:

The newest addition to the fleet has been out for test drives and is now at the manufacturer for some "fine-tuning." It is expected to have this ambulance fully operational in two weeks. In response to potentially sharing this resource with Station 50, is a matter of which both administration and legal advisors are looking into.

## **Services to North Plainfield Borough Financial Review**

Police Department

| Item Name                                                  | Usage                                                   | Price*                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Oxygen Cylinder Refill                                     | Approximately 5 cylinders a week                        | \$25.00 per bottle            |
| Fix Broken Cylinder                                        | Approximately 1 a month                                 | \$25.00 to \$50.00 per bottle |
| Refill Used 1 <sup>st</sup> Aide Supplies                  | Every Call<br>Items used are relevant to patient status | Noted below                   |
| Adult Non-Rebreathers                                      | -                                                       | \$2.00 a piece                |
| Pediatric Non-Rebreathers                                  | -                                                       | \$2.00 a piece                |
| Adult Bag Valve Mask                                       | -                                                       | \$25.00 a piece               |
| Child Bag Valve Mask                                       | -                                                       | \$16.00 a piece               |
| Pediatric Bag Valve Mask                                   | -                                                       | \$16.00 a piece               |
| Adult AED Pads                                             | -                                                       | \$50.00 a piece               |
| Infant/Child AED Pads                                      | -                                                       | \$85.00 a piece               |
| Gloves                                                     | -                                                       | \$15.00 per box               |
| Sanitation                                                 | -                                                       | \$10.00 per bottle            |
| Fast courtesy turnaround of requested patient care reports | Fluctuates as per cases                                 | \$15.00-\$25.00 per copy      |

### Fire Department

| Item Name                                          | Usage                          | Price*                    |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Fire Standby Service                               | Fluctuates as per requests     | Starts \$100.00           |
| Fire Rehab                                         | Every Fire Call                | Noted below               |
| Water Cases                                        | Approximately 5 cases per fire | \$10.00 per 12 count case |
| Gatorade<br>(Special request from NPFED personnel) | Approximately 3 cases per fire | \$15.00 per 12 count case |
| Energy Bars/Snacks                                 | 1 Case                         | \$10.00 box               |
| Staging equipment Costs                            | Fluctuates per Usage/Repair    | Noted below               |
| Tent Repair                                        | Cut during last fire call      | \$40.00                   |
| Emergency Staging Equipment                        | Initial Cost                   | Over \$400.00             |

### Board of Education

| Item Name                                      | Usage        | Price*            |
|------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| EMS Standbys                                   | As requested | Start at \$100.00 |
| School Health Visits                           | As requested | Start at \$100.00 |
| Cadet Program<br>(Refer to membership section) |              |                   |

### Borough Residents

| Item Name                  | Usage                               | Price*                           |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Emergency Service Coverage | Daily between 06:00pm to<br>06:00am | \$600.00-\$800.00 per patient    |
| CPR Class                  | Once a month                        | \$60.00-Basic<br>\$80.00-Advance |
| Return Transport Service   | As requested                        | \$600.00-\$800.00 per patient    |
| Health Clinics             | As requested                        | Start at \$100.00                |

### General Membership

| Item Name              | Price*             |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| CPR Class              | \$80.00            |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Aide   | \$40.00            |
| EMT Class              | Starts at \$800.00 |
| Uniforms (Shirt/Pants) | \$80.00            |
| Jackets                | Start \$100.00     |

\*Prices are estimations from current medical supply providers and known field work figures

Total Calls: 43  
 Borough Calls: 41  
 Mutual Aid: 2

| Call Type                | Number |
|--------------------------|--------|
| General Medical          | 15     |
| Cardiac                  | 4      |
| Respiratory              | 4      |
| Trauma                   | 8      |
| Motor Vehicle Accident   | 4      |
| Intoxicated Individuals  | 4      |
| Psychologically Unstable | 3      |
| Undetermined             | 1      |

**43 (Calls) x \$600.00 (Minimal Cost) = \$25,800 (Revenue)**  
**OUR SERVICE COST = \$0.00**

**Municipal Budgets at Random Selection\*\***

| Municipality     | EMS Fund 2010                  | EMS Fund 2011             | Police Salary 2011 | Fire Salary 2011          |
|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| North Plainfield | No Funding                     | 10,000 for ambulance only | 5,134,000          | 2,435,000<br>14,875 (EMS) |
| Watchung         | 22,000 + New ambulance support | 20,412                    | 3,112,000          | Volunteer                 |
| Sayreville       | 100,000                        | 100,000                   | 10,765,000         | Volunteer                 |
| Bridgewater      | 40,000                         | 50,000                    | 8,581,413.85       | Volunteer                 |

|             |         |                                     |           |           |
|-------------|---------|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Bound Brook | 50,000  | 45,000                              | 2,850,772 | Volunteer |
| Bedminster  | 307,741 | 291,900+<br>Radio Upgrade<br>33,000 | 2,004,120 | Volunteer |

\*\*From published municipal budgets

### Council Statement/Review

On September 26th 2011, Council President Stabile stated that the North Plainfield Volunteer Rescue Squad was not part of the Borough and the Borough does not owe the Squad anything. His recommendation is that the Squad is not placed in the 2012 budget. He also states that he would like to see if the Squad could prove being financially stable on its own till 2013.

### Captain's Response

Withholding funds within the 2012 budget would mark 3 years that the Squad stood finically on its own without a Borough contribution to the general operations account. It has thus far been 2 years since the Squad received funds into this account from the Borough (as noted above). In spite of this lack of funding the North Plainfield Volunteer Rescue Squad is mandated to provide the Borough with a quarterly Financial Report, and receives scrutiny if the report is felt to be incomplete.

I have taken time to meet with some Captains, Chiefs, and Presidents within the surrounding communities and throughout Somerset County. It is refreshing to hear of the support they receive from their respected towns. It was interesting to learn that not only are these squads fully supported by their community and council, but there are no expectations of services outside of general EMS coverage.

A neighboring Fire Chief summed it up best, "the Squad is expected a lot with a little, sounds like a setup for failure."

### Internal Financial Review

September 27, 2011 to Current

## Current Account Status

| Account         | Total Amount |
|-----------------|--------------|
| General Account | \$ 5,088     |
| Donation/Grant  | \$ 12,957.20 |

## Expense Review

The fixed expenses include Insurance premiums, utilities, vehicle maintenance, and vehicle payments. Variable expenses include but are not limited to member training, medical supplies, fire rehab supplies, and oxygen therapy. Station 48 has been effectively able to allocate funds to ensure operations remain sustainable. North Plainfield Volunteer rescue spends over \$100,000 within yearly operations.

| Line Item                     | Expense                         |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Insurance                     | \$2,000                         |
| Utilities                     | \$1,250                         |
| Vehicle Maintenance           | \$400.00                        |
| Vehicle Payments              | \$1952.80                       |
| Training                      | Waived by Captain               |
| Medical Supply Order          | \$475.00                        |
| Fire Rehab Supply Replacement | No fire Call                    |
| Oxygen Tank Maintenance       | Gave Police Department new tank |
| New Ambulance Cost share      | \$12,142                        |
| <b>Line Total</b>             | <b>\$18,219.80</b>              |

## Revenue Review

Due to lack of Borough support as noted within the Municipal Budget Table, North Plainfield Volunteer Rescue has to strategically organize events and fundraisers that will not only keep North Plainfield Volunteer Rescue in-service for day to day operations, but provide a comfort cushion for unexpected events such as increased vehicle maintenance and additional support for Borough agencies.

| Events                 | Revenue  |
|------------------------|----------|
| Hall Rentals           | \$2,500  |
| Arrirang Hibachi Grill | \$150.00 |
| Bake Sale              | \$75.00  |

|                   |                                               |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Blood Drive       | \$300.00                                      |
| Fund Drive        | \$10,099.50 (fund allocated based on request) |
| <b>Line Total</b> | <b>\$13,124.50</b>                            |

## Spotlight on Revenue

### Hall Rental Revenue: \$2,500

In spite of Captain Lee's hope to suspend Hall Rentals in the near future, and utilize the hall strictly for educational purposes, its original purpose must remain as such due to its positive impact on funding (approximately \$500.00-\$750.00 per party). The hall rentals have begun to increase drastically due to increased promotion, competitive pricing, and size/presentation of hall.

### Arrirang Hibachi Grill Revenue: \$150.00

Arrirang is one of the easiest fundraisers North Plainfield Volunteer has ever partaken in, which is one reason why its utilized so frequently. North Plainfield Volunteer Rescue receives 15% of proceeds from each bill when a guest hands in a flyer with a NPVRS logo on it.

### Bake Sale Revenue: \$75.00

Station 48 participated in selling baked goods at the North Plainfield High School football game. While there was some revenue, North Plainfield Volunteer Rescue utilized this event for mostly community outreach purposes. It was also an opportunity to speak to potential cadet members.

### Blood Drive: \$300.00

Due to the shortage of blood, the blood center of NJ offers a compensation program for successful hosts of blood drives. In spite of the snowy weather our supporters were faithful, and we were able to be compensated for the event.

### Fund Drive: \$10,099.50

All fund drive letters have been successfully mailed out to every resident within the borough. In spite of the economic downfall, residents within the community still continue to show tremendous support, proven by the daily donations being received.. 90 % of donation received thus far were allocated for general operation as requested by donor.

## Review of North Plainfield Volunteer Rescue Administration



Head Executive Officer

Captain Lawrence D. Lee Jr.

Medical Control

Medical Director

Dr. Mark Merlin

Asst. Medical Director

Ellisa N. Lee

Executive Line

Administrative Manager

Building Manager

EMS Education Manager

Thushan Nithiananthan

Alexander Quesada

Michael Pardi

Support Line

Administrative Assistant- Andrea Hernandez

Cadet Supervisor-Daniel Smith

Tour Supervisors- under direction of Jaime Mendez

Public Relations- Shannon Harrison

Spotlight on Administration

**Mr. Lawrence D. Lee Jr., EMT**

Current Position: Head Executive Officer/Captain

Length of Seat: Over one year (previously served as Lieutenant in 2006)  
 Currently enrolled Forensic Psychology Masters Program  
 Currently works as a Field Emergency Service Supervisor/Specialist, Senior Emergency Services Instructor, and Patrol Officer.  
 Worked in Medical field over 11 years  
 Worked Public Safety Division for 3 years  
 Ventured many channels before finding a passion for Emergency Medicine  
 Worked advance life care/specialized rescue while studying undergrad in Pennsylvania  
 Has held numerous prestigious positions within the state of NJ and PA  
 Achieved workplace honors recognized by organizations such as the NJ Department of Health  
 Sat on an accreditation committee which was successful in achieving three accreditations and now stand as the only triple accredited EMS agency in the United States.

**Dr. Mark A, Merlin, D.O., EMT, FACEP**

Current Position: Medical Director  
 Length of Seat: Over one year (appointed by Captain Lee)  
 Has worked in pre-hospital care field for over 25 years  
 Chair of the NJ Mobile Intensive Care Unit Advisory Board  
 Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics at RWJ Medical School  
 Authored over 50 peer reviewed manuscripts and abstracts  
 Medical Director of the prestigious Statewide Disaster Task Force  
 Support of numerous SWAT operations

**Ms. Ellisa N. Lee, RN, BS, CDP, OCN, EMT**

Current Position: Assistant Medical Director  
 Length of Seat: Over one year (appointed by Captain Lee)  
 Worked in medical field over 13 years  
 RN for 7 ½ years gradating with academic honors  
 Dementia Practitioner  
 Oncology Specialist  
 Geriatric Specialist  
 Certified Nurse Aide Instructor  
 Certified Home Health Aide Instructor  
 Currently sits as Director of a NJ prestigious non profit agency  
 Previously sat as director of hospice care and director of quality assurance  
 A member of the national council of dementia practitioner and oncology nurse association

**Mr. Thushan Nithiananthan, EMT**

Current Position: Administrative Manager  
 Length of Seat: Over one year (appointed by Captain Lee)  
 Current Degree in Business Management/Accounting  
 Has over 5 years of emergency medicine experience  
 Has over 5 years of banking experience  
 Specializes in budgeting and financial planning  
 Has been recognized for numerous emergency medical excellences

**Mr. Alexander J. Quesada, BA**

Current Position: Property Manager

Length of Seat: Over one year (appointed by Captain Lee)

Studied business administration for undergrad

Currently enrolled in a Business Masters Program

Held prestigious positions at many well known companies

Currently holds the position of CEO within a company

Fluent in multiple languages

Found a passion in the medical field, and currently working on expanding knowledge within the business aspect of it

**Mr. Michael Pardi, MPA, NREMT-P**

Current Position: EMS Education Manager

Length of Seat: 3 months (appointed by Medical Director's office)

Over 13 years in the medical field

Director of Resuscitation Services of a well respected NJ Hospital

Works Advance Life Care within a surrounding hospital

Received a BS in Allied Health Services and a MPA in Public Administration

Oversees the training of approximately 13,000 clients a year