

Emergency Management

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES:

The Emergency Management Department operates under the direction of the Emergency Management Director. It is tasked with coordinating the response of all town agencies during declared emergencies, developing and maintaining the towns' emergency response plan, and coordinating with local, state and federal agencies on issues of homeland security and disaster response. All these activities encompass the areas of planning, preparation, response and recovery from emergencies both man made and natural. All phases require continuing, proactive interagency efforts to ensure the highest level of service to the public. The Winthrop Auxiliary Police Department is also funded under the Emergency Management budget, a holdover from the days of Civil Defense, which encompassed the Auxiliary. The Director also chairs and coordinates the efforts of the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), which brings all town, as well as private agencies, into the planning and public education effort. Several of the issues mentioned below also appear in the Fire Department document, as these overlap both agencies.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Re-instituted the LEPC.
- Developed and distributed the first of four planned public education brochures using grant funding.
- In conjunction with neighboring UASI communities developed a communications interoperability plan and equipment funding to ensure the ability to communicate during large emergencies
- Working with the Town Council and UASI partners began the process of developing a permanent Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
- Participated as a member of the Mystic Region LEPC to obtain Federal LEPC certification
- Coordinated with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in efforts to obtain financial assistance for local homes and businesses after the large rain storms and resulting flooding in 2006

BUDGET ISSUES:

- Need for staffing support to continue in process projects as well as identify areas needing improvement
- Evaluation of department funding to ensure adequate support of technical/mechanical systems in the new EOC

STAFFING:

Emergency Management Director, Assistant Emergency Management Director

Element Totals	FY2006 Expended	FY2007 Appropriated	FY2008 Dept Request	FY2008 Recommend
Compensation	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500
Expenses	7,562	10,916	21,060	21,060
Total	12,062	15,416	25,560	25,560