

At the 28 Feb 2023 Citizen's Forum T. Jandebour raised questions and made statements regarding the Fire Department. In response, the Select Board members and Town staff gathered pertinent information and details. Third parties were contacted directly. This document reports the findings.

1. Ambulance Frame Inspection in Tilton

QUESTION: Why take the Ambulance 'all the way' to Tilton to have the frame inspected? Why not have local vendor do the frame inspection?

FINDINGS: Use of the frame is proposed in Warrant Article #15. An inspection report would help voters in their decision making. A local vendor suggested getting a certified inspection that would be documented officially in writing. An oil change was due; certified vendor in Concord had no openings for another month. Travel time difference is only 10 -15 minutes.

QUESTION: Why does local vendor refuses to do business with the Town?

FINDINGS: Town did over \$5,500 of business with the local vendor in 2022.

2. Ambulance Equipment Issues

STATEMENT: Ambulance hinges failed and as a result trapped patient inside for over 1 hour.

FINDINGS: No records anywhere of any hinge failures. Over a year ago, there was a door latch failure. Latch stuck and had to be opened from the outside. The delay was less than 2 minutes.

STATEMENT: The "hinge problem" indicates that the Fire Department is not aware of equipment problems; does not do necessary maintenance.

FINDINGS: FD is well aware of the potential problems that may arise with older equipment. That is why they proposed refurbishments to this one, our oldest ambulance. Please see Warrant Article #15 – Ambulance Cab and Chassis.

3. Fire Fighter Capabilities

STATEMENT: FD Chief does not know how to run the pump on our pumper.

FINDINGS: Incident records and training records indicate this claim is not true. Epsom running our pump was based on best use of available staff. Chief urgently needed to do site 360.

Conclusions Department is running as desired. There are no actionable items.