

STATE OF NEW YORK
ONONDAGA COUNTY
TOWN OF CICERO

SS:

The Cicero Town Board held their regular meeting on Wednesday, January 26, 2011, at 7:00 p.m., at the Cicero Town Hall, 8236 S. Main Street, Cicero, NY 13039.

Present: Judy A. Boyke, Supervisor
Jessica Zambrano, Councilor
C. Vernon Conway, Councilor
Lynn Jennings, Councilor
James Corl, Jr. Councilor
Tracy Cosilmon, Town Clerk

Others Present: Christopher Woznica, Highway Superintendent
Sharon Edick, Receiver of Taxes
Joseph Snell, Police Chief
Jody Rogers, Director of Parks & Recreation
Wayne Dean, Director of Planning & Development
Shirlie Stuart, Comptroller
Brad Brennan, Assessor
Linda Losito, Secretary to Supervisor
Brenda Colella, Town Attorney
Ronald DeTota, II PE, C & S Engineers

The meeting was opened at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of our men and women serving in the Armed Forces in harms way.

Ms. Boyke indicated where the fire exits were and read the following statement:

The Cicero Town Board acknowledges the importance of full public participation in all public hearings and, therefore, urges all who wish to address those in attendance to utilize the microphones located in the front of the room. At this time please turn of your cell phones and be sure to speak into the microphones to enable all to hear.

S.E.Q.R.
(State Environmental Quality Review Act)

Motion was made by Ms. Boyke, seconded by Ms. Zambrano, that all actions taken tonight are Type Two (2) actions under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act unless otherwise determined.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway: Yes
Mr. Corl: Yes
Mr. Jennings: Yes
Ms. Zambrano: Yes
Ms. Boyke: Yes

Ms. Boyke stated that agenda item 7A will be added to the agenda which will be a discussion with John Winters in regards to the IT system.

APPROVAL OF TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF
JANUARY 12, 2011 MEETING MINUTES

Motion was made by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Conway, to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2011 town board meeting.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway:	Yes
Mr. Corl:	Yes
Mr. Jennings:	Yes
Ms. Zambrano:	Yes
Ms. Boyke:	Yes

DEPARTMENT HEAD INPUT

Town Clerk

Tracy Cosilmon asked for approval from the board to authorize the Supervisor to execute the agreement with Patricia Richards and Jessica Fowler to serve as back up dog control in the absence of Barbara Chiarizia at the hourly rate of \$15.00 per hour, which is a budgeted item.

Motion was made by Ms. Zambrano, seconded by Mr. Conway, to authorize the Supervisor to execute the agreement with Patricia Richards and Jessica Fowler to serve as back up dog control in the absence of Barbara Chiarizia at the hourly rate of \$15.00 per hour, which is a budgeted item.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway:	Yes
Mr. Corl:	Yes
Mr. Jennings:	Yes
Ms. Zambrano:	Yes
Ms. Boyke:	Yes

Highway

Chris Woznica requested approval to add Jason LaMacchia as a Wingperson.

Motion was made by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Corl, to add Jason LaMacchia to the list of Wingpersons for the Town of Cicero at the payrate of \$15.00 per hour, effective immediately.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway:	Yes
Mr. Corl:	Yes
Mr. Jennings:	Yes
Ms. Zambrano:	Yes
Ms. Boyke:	Yes

Police - None

Assessor - None

Zoning

Wayne Dean stated that he put a memo in the board’s boxes relative to the Beacon Light that is out on Lakeshore Road that is used for navigation by the boaters. The upkeep of that is the town’s responsibility. I have contacted Mid State Communications, who is the company that maintains the light for us and it will be \$700.00 to re-lamp and \$1,300.00 for a re-inspection of the tower. An inspection was done a couple of years ago in 2009 and I don’t think it is necessary to do the inspection now, but, we should get the light re-lamping done and the next time the light goes, out, we should have an inspection. It appears that the lamp lasts about two years.

Motion was made by Ms. Zambrano, seconded by Ms. Boyke, to authorize an expenditure of \$700.00 to Mid State Communications, to re-lamp the navigational beacon on the tower on Lakeshore Road.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway:	Yes
Mr. Corl:	Yes
Mr. Jennings:	Yes
Ms. Zambrano:	Yes
Ms. Boyke:	Yes

Wayne Dean stated that he would like authorization to dispose of some old furniture in his office that is of no use to his office, which includes a metal desk, a rolling desk chair, a metal file cabinet, a wall mount cabinet, a wooden desk top hutch and a typewriter cart.

Motion was made by Ms. Boyke, seconded by Ms. Zambrano, to declare the old furniture in the Zoning office of no use to the town and authorize it be disposed of in the dumpster.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway:	Yes
Mr. Corl:	Yes
Mr. Jennings:	Yes
Ms. Zambrano:	Yes
Ms. Boyke:	Yes

Wayne Dean asked for approval for the Codes Enforcement Officers and himself to register for their annual required training. John Dunham, Maureen Wafer and Steve Procopio would take the training in Liverpool and he would attend the session in Rochester, which is at a different time, so that we can keep coverage in the office. The total cost is a \$1,440.00 for all four people.

Motion was made by Ms. Zambrano, seconded by Ms. Boyke, to authorize an expenditure of \$1,440.00 for Codes Enforcement Officers, John Dunham, Maureen Wafer, Steve Procopio and Wayne Dean to attend the required annual training.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway:	Yes
Mr. Corl:	Yes
Mr. Jennings:	Yes
Ms. Zambrano:	Yes
Ms. Boyke:	Yes

Wayne Dean stated that they have been notified by the County DOT that they are going to replace the culvert which meets at South Bay Road at Tuller Road just north of the 481 bridge this summer and it may cause an inconvenience.

Park & Recreation

Jody Rogers stated that Zachary Coleman, Recreation Attendant has been deleted.

Motion was made by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Ms. Zambrano, to accept the following staff deletion as follows:

Zachary Coleman, Recreation Attendant from the FWS Program.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway:	Yes
Mr. Corl:	Yes
Mr. Jennings:	Yes
Ms. Zambrano:	Yes
Ms. Boyke:	Yes

Comptroller

Shirlie Stuart stated that payroll two of every year has to be certified with the Onondaga County Personnel Department. In doing so, you simply have to certify the positions, titles and salaries. It is more or less a clean up and allows them to know exactly what the salaries are. There are two positions, we need to abolish. The first position is entitled Clerk I and the second position is an Assistant Development Program Leader and I need a resolution to abolish both of those positions.

Motion was made by Ms. Zambrano, seconded by Ms. Boyke, to abolish a Clerk I and an Assistant Development Program Leader position.

The motion was approved as follows:

- Mr. Conway: Yes
- Mr. Corl: Yes
- Mr. Jennings: Yes
- Ms. Zambrano: Yes
- Ms. Boyke: Yes

Shirlie Stuart explained that she had an invoice from Germain and Germain for some litigation regarding a zoning issue and for retaining them from the period of October through December 1st. The invoice was just received and is in the amount of \$1,596.00

Discussion:

Mr. Corl asked what this was for and who engaged them.

Shirlie Stuart stated it was for a zoning litigation matter we had with a town resident.

Mr. Corl – Was that on the abstract?

Shirlie Stuart – No, it’s over \$1,000.00 so she needed to get permission to pay it.

Mr. Corl – Who was the work done by?

Shirlie Stuart – Germain and Germain.

Mr. Corl – Who requested the work to be done?

Shirlie Stuart explained that she wasn’t sure of the process.

Ms. Boyke explained that it came through the codes office and that there was a conflict of interest so it went to Germain and Germain because it was sent to the County.

Ms. Zambrano asked if it is a codes enforcement issue.

Ms. Boyke - Yes

Ms. Zambrano asked Wayne Dean if he was familiar with this.

Wayne Dean stated he was not.

Ms. Boyke - It’s the on-going Avi’s situation.

Wayne Dean stated that he was familiar with that.

Mr. Corl asked Wayne if he had spoken with this firm, retained them and authorized them to go forward.

Wayne Dean – No. I’ve talked to them as this has been an ongoing problem for years and I have been dealing with the County on it.

Mr. Corl asked Brenda Colella if this was done by their firm.

Brenda Colella stated that there was a conflict with our office and they couldn’t handle it.

Mr. Corl stated he didn't know about this and wanted to know if the town has a backup before the town moves forward and incurs these expenses. Do we have a retainer with this firm?

Brenda Colella stated that she didn't know.

Motion was made by Ms. Boyke, seconded by Ms. Zambrano to authorize an expenditure of \$1,596.00 to Germain and Germain for litigation services.

The motion was approved as follows:

- Mr. Conway: Yes
- Mr. Corl: No
- Mr. Jennings: Yes
- Ms. Zambrano: Yes
- Ms. Boyke: Yes

APPROVAL OF ABSTRACT #2 OF 2011

Motion was made by Ms. Zambrano, seconded by Mr. Jennings, to approve Abstract #2 of 2011 as follows:

General Fund Voucher #56 to Voucher #139 in the amount of \$731,398.43
Highway Fund Voucher #34H to Voucher #66H in the amount of \$331,850.66

The motion was approved as follows:

- Mr. Conway: Yes
- Mr. Corl: Yes
- Mr. Jennings: Yes
- Ms. Zambrano: Yes
- Ms. Boyke: Yes

BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

Motion was made by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Ms. Zambrano, to approve the following 2010 budget modifications for closing the books, as follows:

BUDGET MODIFICATIONS 2010
TOWN BOARD MEETING

AMOUNT	FROM CODE	TO CODE	
\$ 237.48 B731041 FR	RAINING/TRAVEL	\$ 1.05 B7310402 NO	PROGRAM SUPPLIES
\$ 109.15 B731042 FR	UTILITIES	\$ 236.43 B73101 FR	PERSONAL SERVICES
\$ 765.88 B73109421 NO	FUEL	\$ 109.15 B73101 FR	PERSONAL SERVICES
\$ 166.47 B90608 C	MEDICAL INS.	\$ 765.88 B731041 FR	TRAINING-TRAVEL
\$ 305.99 B90608 C	MEDICAL INS.	\$ 166.47 B90308 C	PROGRAM SUPPLIES
\$ 42.44 B990558C	DISABILITY INS.	\$ 348.43 B90308 C	UTILITIES
\$ 875.03 B731041 FR	TRAINING/ TRAVEL	\$ 675.03 B73101 FR	PERSONAL SERVICE

The motion was approved as follows:

- Mr. Conway: Yes
- Mr. Corl: Yes
- Mr. Jennings: Yes
- Ms. Zambrano: Yes
- Ms. Boyke: Yes

SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE ON PROPOSED LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE GRIEVANCE DAY DATE FOR REAL PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS.

Deferred to the next town board meeting as the dates we have set need to be revisited.

AGENDA ITEM 7A
JOHN WINTER'S, IT PRESENTATION

John Winters stated that there have been several issues with the IT infrastructure over the past nine months underscoring an issue that we need to address. He suggested contracting with a local professional organization for the rest of this year on a time and material basis. He also recommended setting up a small Citizen's Advisory Committee of experienced IT professionals in the community to develop a plan for the future of IT that can develop a plan for the future of IT in the town and present that to the board and over time monitor that plan.

Ms. Zambrano stated that she recently reviewed John's September 10, 2010 assessment report and after that, there were some other issues regarding a breach in confidentiality security, etc. The recommendations that you're making now are largely based on that September 2010 report. After that breach, the Supervisor asked you to do more digging into the extent of the problem.

John Winters - It was a matter of policy and regulations that was addressed in the September 2010 report. It came to the front in October or November that the IT infrastructure needed to be stabilized.

Ms. Boyke asked John for a little background on himself.

John Winters stated that he has been in IT for 45 years and started when they had the wire boards and punch cards and was in upper management at a large scale computer center and at BOCES for 20 years. He went into consulting and still dabbles in that right now.

Motion was made by Ms. Zambrano, seconded by Ms. Boyke, to form the IT Advisory Committee as recommended by John Winters and to create a plan to configure the network, infrastructure and stabilize the IT System for the Town Hall and supporting units and for John head up the committee.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway: Yes

Discussion:

Mr. Corl asked John Winters if he was setting up an Advisory Committee of Citizens to give recommendations on an IT system and wanted to know why he couldn't just reach out to specific firms, as it is too technical.

John Winters expressed that there are people in the community that have the skills that we could bring together and it would be an attempt to save some money.

Mr. Corl stated that it seems like the logical thing would be to reach out to research firms and for their recommendations to the town and what it would cost, opposed to forming a committee of citizens. That may sound nice to do, but who may not have the expertise as a professional firm analyst, who would tell us, what we need and what it would cost us.

John Winters explained that it is something that could be done, but, their time is money and they charge for all of the time they spend with you. A group of citizens would have the skills and he knew that.

Ms. Boyke – That's going to be my recommendation.

John Winters – By bringing those skills all together, it won't cost the town anything. Secondly, those people aren't going to go away for awhile, so we would have an ongoing contact for the future.

Mr. Corl – I understand what you're saying, but, I would prefer to see you as the point person, to get all these firms to come in and provide proposals without any cost to the town and see what we need to do.

John Winters stated that he would do that but, from his experience, they will not provide the kind of proposal that he would be looking for to move forward with this. They would come in at a higher level and drill down and a committee would do the drill down and not charge the town.

Ms. Zambrano – One of his recommendations, was to bring in such a firm.

Mr. Winters – Absolutely and I am a very detailed oriented person.

Mr. Corl explained that there are IT issues that have to be taken care of at best and forming a committee may take a bit of time.

John Winters – Part of my recommendation is to form a very small committee.

Ms. Zambrano stated that we had professional at the town under contract but, the problem with that is that we didn't get any reports and we never knew what was going on. We could get such a firm, but, I'd like to make sure that there is enough scrutiny for this community's investment.

John Winters – The alternative is for the town to hire an IT Professional to manage the IT infrastructure and in my opinion, it is not large enough or complex enough to do that and at best you could do it with a part time person, though you wouldn't get the level of expertise.

CONTINUATION OF THE VOTE:

Mr. Corl: No, the scenario requires that we reach out to professional firms to give us a quote. As far as the advisory committee, you can be the point person for that.

Discussion:

John Winters, we're not excluding that?

Mr. Corl responded no.

CONTINUATION OF THE VOTE:

Mr. Jennings: Yes
Ms. Zambrano: Yes
Ms. Boyke: Yes

Ms. Boyke asked anyone who is interested in working on the Advisory Committee with John Winters, and has experience in network and hardware experience to contact her office or the Town Clerk's Office and your names will be forwarded to Mr. Winters. This committee will obviously, will be intense, due to the magnitude of the town's operations system.

APPROVAL FOR C& S COMPANIES (ENGINEERING SERVICES) DESIGN PHASE CONTRACT FOR MAINTENANCE OF DRAINAGE FACILITIES

Discussion:

Ron DeTota stated that the previous year's 2010 contract was awarded to Fisher Construction Associates. The original contract called for service of one year, with two, one year options if the town and Fisher were in agreement to extend that. It was his understanding that Fisher has submitted a letter to this town, requesting that they no longer wish to continue with the contract and are therefore removing themselves from that. Tonight, we have a proposal to re-bid, the contract. The work on our part, is to prepare the documents and modify them and bring them up to current year, provide a copy to the board for their review and approval, take those comments back and incorporate them into the contract itself and put it out to bid and canvass the bids and come back with a recommendation to the board. I have a few suggestions, for the board to consider as follows: One item that was in the previous contract identified the magnitude of the project at roughly \$150,000.00. The work involved as part of that was less than \$150,000.00. After going through the contract and listening to the board as well as Department Heads and other parties, there was a little concern with that number. I would like the board to consider possibly reducing this number and having some discussion as to what that number should be. Also, instead of less than, I would recommend using the term approximately, so whenever a number is generated and decided upon by the board, the word approximately would give more flexibility to the board and if that number is not met, they can not be held to it and it would be beneficial. The last item of suggestion for consideration pertains to the town providing the materials for the projects. I know for Chris it is a frustrating thing, when the contractor didn't show up, or on very short notice they would put in a list for materials. There is a lot of stress for Chris and I thank him for bearing with them as it is very burdensome. We would also recommend that language be provided in there, allowing the town to exercise the right to provide the materials as part of the contractors project and also to have the right to say no, and therefore the contractor would be the one to purchase and buy the materials and there would

be a 5% cost markup on that purchase. Standard is usually, 10%. In our conversations with Fisher last year, we had asked them about that and they asked why we don't go with a 5%.

Ms. Zambrano asked for the cost for C & S to do this.

Ron DeTota – It would be \$3,250.00.

Ms. Zambrano explained that there was another change during this program which is an extra \$100,000.00 for maintenance projects. The total budget would be \$400,000.00. We have to assume that part of the contract is for the maintenance portion and not for just a few drainage projects. That's the reason we need a new document.

Mr. Corl – The \$400,000.00 that was budgeted was not for the sole purpose of this type of maintenance to facilities but, for other costs that go into that line item.

Ms. Zambrano – Last year \$150,000.00 was budgeted for drainage for the contractor. We actually spent about \$225,000.00 and there was \$75,000.00 left over. With maintenance we will have a larger budget to work with.

Ms. Boyke explained that last year the Drainage Committee got a later start but, they are already working on it for this year and we will be proceeding in forming the Drainage Committee. We will have the opportunity to have these proposals sooner and will bring them before the board.

Ms. Zambrano – Yes, that is correct, but, I would like to appropriate an amount of \$150,000.00 for drainage projects, plus the \$100,000.00 for the maintenance projects.

Shirlie Stuart – The budgeted amount is \$400,000.00.

Ms. Boyke - \$100,000.00 is for maintenance and \$150,000.00 is for drainage projects.

Mr. Corl – Last year the \$150,000.00 for Fisher, was for drainage, maintenance and projects.

Shirlie Stuart – All projects.

Ms. Zambrano explained that Fisher was paid \$132,281.00 and that we did not exceed the \$150,000.00 that was appropriated.

Ron DeTota needed clarification about the \$100,000.00 for maintenance projects and asked if it wasn't the intent of this contract, that it would serve that type of work and that the \$150,000.00 for the major projects would be bid out specifically, or would that be relative to this contract.

Wayne Dean stated that when they met the other day it was his understanding that the contract for the Fisher type projects, is separate from a large maintenance projects that we would identify and do and that we may have two or three of these large maintenance projects that are bid out separately as a separate projects. Those project bids may go to someone else.

Ron DeTota – Would \$150,000.00 be allocated towards those types of projects?

Wayne Dean thought it was \$100,000.00 for those type projects.

Ms. Zambrano suggested that the amount should be \$150,000.00 as it was last year.

Wayne Dean explained that there are other costs that go into that such as salaries and other overheads costs on our part.

Ms. Zambrano - Right, and out of that \$300,000.00 approximately half that is designated for drainage.

Wayne Dean - Miscellaneous costs are roughly \$75,000.00 and that would leave us \$325,000.00 for other items and I agree that \$150,000.00 looks to be more money than what will be needed.

Ms. Zambrano – The \$100,000.00 is not necessarily earmarked just for maintenance.

Mr. Corl asked Ron DeTota if the amount of \$3,250.00 is for them to draw up some contracts for people to bid on.

Ron Detota – Yes

Mr. Corl - Will encompass the same work that Fisher did last year?

Ron DeTota – That would be the type of work that would be charged and you would be looking for a contractor to do those services.

Mr. Corl stated there is no guarantee that and would like a set a dollar amount included as in the previous contract. He also wanted a provision that if work is done on a particular project that the board gets a PO, of the approximate cost up front so that we'll know what that project will cost.

Ms. Boyke – That was my recommendation. Projects will be brought before the board before being done unless there was an emergency situation and in that situation, Wayne would be involved and that would be something we couldn't stop.

Mr. Corl – That's fantastic. My biggest issue with this is the overruns. This will avoid all of those issues as you will come to the board and the board will make an approval on the expenditures. Whatever you can do to incorporate that would be a great.

Ron DeTota – We will incorporate where we can.

Ms. Zambrano stated that these things are procedural and she thought it was up to the committee to address these issues. It's very difficult to have a small project and have a contractor waiting for approval. We need to identify the projects we need to do and put them on a quarterly basis, rather than individually.

Mr. Corl – I don't care if it's quarterly, but, at least we'll have what the projects are and the approximate cost enabling us to know a head of time and keep track. If they come in higher, we could track that.

Motion was made by Ms. Boyke, seconded by Ms. Zambrano, to authorize an expenditure of \$3,250.00 for C & S Companies, to proceed in preparing the contract for Design Phase Contract for maintenance of drainage facilities.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway:	No
Mr. Corl:	Yes
Mr. Jennings:	Yes
Ms. Zambrano:	Yes
Ms. Boyke:	Yes

APPROVAL FOR C & S COMPANIES (ENGINEERING SERVICED) DESIGN PHASE CONTRACT FOR SANITARY SEWER REPAIR

Ron DeTota explained that his next item is for consideration is a contract to bid out the towns sanitary sewer services and prepare that infrastructure on an as needed basis. The current contract ran from 2006 until the end of 2010 and has lapsed and is up for renewal. The current contract holder was Lan Co and it is my understanding that Wayne is very satisfied with their work. This contract will question the number of hours as tied to labor and equipment and they would submit that bid back. We would review it, canvass it and make sure that the company we recommend is qualified to serve the town and then we will come back with our recommendations. It is pretty much the same format that was described for the drainage contract. The preparation of those documents will cost \$5,500.00 which is a little more compared to the other one that was done in 2006. The standards have changed and include more legal language that protects the town and insures the services are provided in a timely and efficient manner.

Mr. Corl stated that the current contract, that began in 2006 expired the first of the year so we don't have a contract.

Ron Detota – That's correct.

Mr. Corl – This needs to be done right away.

Ron DeTota – I agree.

Mr. Corl stated that he did some research and that in 2006 it was about \$4,100.00 and that C & S's fee was reasonable.

Motion was made by Ms. Boyke, seconded by Ms. Zambrano, to authorize an expenditure of \$5,500.00 for C & S Companies to do a design phase contract for sanitary sewer repair.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway:	No
Mr. Corl:	Yes
Mr. Jennings:	Yes
Ms. Zambrano:	Yes
Ms. Boyke:	Yes

2011 BREWERTON AMBULANCE AGREEMENT

Ms. Boyke stated that the town has received the 2011 Brewerton Ambulance Agreement and that the budgeted line item amount is in the amount of \$93,000.00 and that we needed to supply the Comptroller's Office with the sufficient records that go along with the agreement to fulfill the obligations.

Shirlie Stuart stated that she has not received 2008's 990.

Ms. Zambrano – The issue was that we didn't have an agreement.

Mr. Darby - That's right. It was signed by the Brewerton Ambulance, but, the town didn't sign the agreement prepared by the previous attorney and it had not been executed by the town. As far as the 2008 issue, the Brewerton Ambulance wasn't a 501C3 and only became that in 2009. A form 990 was produced in 2009 and both attorneys agreed because we weren't a 501C3 in 2008 we weren't required to produce it.

Ms. Boyke – Is that what a 501C3 is?

Mr. Darby – Yes, meaning not for profit.

Brenda Colella stated that they are not required to provide by the IRS to file a form 990. They would still be required to provide us with financial information and they did give us some very brief high level financial information, but nothing that detailed for 2008. From what I understand, that's all there is.

Mr. Darby – Yes, and we agreed to go to quarterly reporting under this contract, so we will be in constant contact with the Comptroller's Office. We will be filing a 990 for 2010 because we are still not for profit.

Ms. Boyke explained that the report will include the calls made in and out of the Town of Cicero.

Mr. Darby - That's correct.

Ms. Zambrano stated that it doesn't sound like we're going to get anything else for 2008 and she didn't think we could enforce that, as we didn't have a contract.

Shirlie Stuart stated that she felt that we could enforce it. By law since we dispersed tax funds out to this company, in the amount of \$100,000.00 in 2008 they can be required to give us some kind of financial accounting. Maybe there isn't anything from their bookkeeping end, but, for a town, to disperse a check for \$100,000.00 to generate tax levy, I would think we would need to have something.

Mike Stassi – I thought we turned over the 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 budgets.

Shirlie Stuart – Not the budget, but, the financial.

Ms. Boyke – Evidently, we have everything but, 2008 breakdown of it. So, we need a breakdown of not just the final item of expenses, but, where it went.

Mike Stassi stated that he thought they were all set with that. As far as the call breakdown, I just got it yesterday and I will e-mail it to you and e-mail you a quarterly.

Ms. Boyke asked Mike to be sure he also sends it to the Comptroller’s Office.

Mike Stassi stated that they did 686 calls last year and 512 were in the Town of Cicero’s district. That averages about 58 calls in the other areas. They received a \$10,000.00 check from West Monroe and have contacted the Supervisor for the Town of Hastings and they’re still blaming the attorney. I hope by this time next year, between Hastings and Clay, we can offset the cost and are able to leave it at \$93,000.00, so we can save \$7,000.00.

Ms. Zambrano – We appreciate you taking the time to do that as it is tax payers money.

Mike Stassi – I have no problem giving that information and feel we could have been handled a little differently on both ends.

Ms. Zambrano stated that we had been paying a lot of attorney fees and had no follow up on our end.

Mike Stassi stated that they went to the taxpayers and had overwhelming support and had only 17 no votes compared to 500 yes votes to give us \$100,000.00. It wasn’t like we went to the board and they just gave it to us. We aren’t going to make an issue out of only getting \$93,000.00 as we understand everyone is hurting. The cost for a Paramedic at \$10.00 per hour and an EMT at \$16.00 per hour for 8,760 hours per year is \$227,000.00 and doesn’t count overtime. With taxes, insurance and other stuff, it’s another \$68,000.00. Maintenance cost is \$10,000.00, gas is about \$12,000.00 and rent is about \$18,000.00. Last year basic costs were \$360,000.00 to operate the ambulance. Our 990 in 2009 had an income of \$267,000.00 and we lost \$93,000.00. I can’t see any other agency coming in and say they’d lose that amount of money. We’re trying very hard to generate funds from the other towns. We have cut costs dramatically and TLC has eaten the cost two years in a row. What happened with Rural Metro, 10 years ago, could happen again. They may say, we just can’t do it. That is why we went to the town residents and ask for a vote.

Ms. Boyke asked if they have fund raisers.

Mike Stassi – No, they don’t. We told the residents that we wouldn’t do fund raisers to hit them up, because, we’re competing with fire departments. We do get some donations, but, we didn’t go to the residents because they are already paying. There goal is to stay in service.

Mr. Corl – When that was established up there, the people in Brewerton really wanted to keep the ambulance there, as it was a public safety issue.

Ms. Zambrano – Hopefully, this will straighten everything out and that we can support the community and you will provide us with the information from 2008.

Mike Stassi - Yes

Motion was made by Mr. Corl, seconded by Mr. Jennings, to authorize the Supervisor to execute the 2011 Brewerton Ambulance Agreement as presented.

The motion was approved as follows:

- Mr. Conway: Yes
- Mr. Corl: Yes
- Mr. Jennings: Yes
- Ms. Zambrano: Yes
- Ms. Boyke: Yes

YOUTH BUREAU AND PARKS & RECREATION PURCHASE APPROVALS

Motion was made by Mr. Conway, seconded by Mr. Jennings, to authorize and expenditure of \$1,157.00 to Parish Maintenance Supply Co. to purchase two tons of ice melt, Budget Codes A16204, A677242 and B731042.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway:	Yes
Mr. Corl:	Yes
Mr. Jennings:	Yes
Ms. Zambrano:	Yes
Ms. Boyke:	Yes

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
3 sander chains

Motion was made by Mr. Corl, seconded by Ms. Boyke, to authorize and expenditure of \$2,351.04 to Oswego Tool & Steel to purchase 3 sander chains for trucks 10, 49 and stock, Account Code DB513055.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway:	Yes
Mr. Corl:	Yes
Mr. Jennings:	Yes
Ms. Zambrano:	Yes
Ms. Boyke:	Yes

Rebush Walking Beams for Truck #20

Motion was made by Mr. Conway, seconded by Mr. Corl, to authorize an expenditure of \$1,450.00 to Allied Spring to rebush walking beams on truck #40, Account Code DB513044.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway:	Yes
Mr. Corl:	Yes
Mr. Jennings:	Yes
Ms. Zambrano:	Yes
Ms. Boyke:	Yes

3-Upper Push Arms

Motion was made by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Conway, to authorize an expenditure of \$1,991.07 to Crossroads Highway to purchase 3 upper push arms, Account Code DB513055.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway:	Yes
Mr. Corl:	Yes
Mr. Jennings:	Yes
Ms. Zambrano:	Yes
Ms. Boyke:	Yes

3 - Lower Push Arms

Motion was made by Mr. Jennings seconded by Mr. Conway, to authorize and expenditure of \$2,180.52 to Crossroads Highway, to purchase 3 lower push arms, Account Code DB513055.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway:	Yes
Mr. Corl:	Yes
Mr. Jennings:	Yes
Ms. Zambrano:	Yes
Ms. Boyke:	Yes

EMERGENCY PURCHASE FOR TRUCK #19

Motion was made by Ms. Boyke, seconded by Mr. Conway, to authorize an emergency expenditure of \$1,475.00 to Allied Spring Account Code DB513044.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway:	Yes
Mr. Corl:	Yes
Mr. Jennings:	Yes
Ms. Zambrano:	Yes
Ms. Boyke:	Yes

Ms. Boyke asked Sharon Edick if she had anything to bring to the board as she inadvertently forgot to ask her under if she had anything to bring up under Department Head Input. She also stated that Sharon Edick will be sitting up front with the remainder of the Department Heads at meetings, starting in February.

Tax – None

PRESENTATION BY SUPERVISORS COMMITTEE FOR
FIRE EMERGENCY SERVICES

Chris Bitner was elected to be the speaker and to give a power point presentation regarding fire emergency services that was formed in 2008. The report is as follows and is also available for in the review in Town Clerk's Office and will also be posted on the town's website.

REVIEW OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
IN THE
TOWN OF CICERO, NY

JANUARY 2011

Prepared By
The Supervisor's Special Committee on Fire and Emergency Services

Table of Contents

Purpose of This Report2

Methodology2

Demographics of The Town3

Unique Response Areas4

Water Supply6

Fire Service in the Town of Cicero.....7

Fire Department Profiles.....9

The Fire Department Dispatch..... 15

Fire Department Resources Available to the Town 15

Services provided to the Town (in addition to fire suppression) 16

Response Districts 17

Projects Undertaken By This Committee..... 24

Future Needs and Concerns 27

Summary..... 28

PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

Assignment

In January 2008 Cicero Town Supervisor Chet Dudzinski convened a committee to examine fire and emergency services in the town and recommend whatever was necessary to ensure that the residents of the town are receiving the best possible service. Underlying this were a number of issues, including initiatives to consolidate municipal and public safety services in other regions of Onondaga County, and less than favorable publicity about the capabilities of the fire service in the county.

Supervisor Dudzinski designated representatives of the town’s five fire departments, the primary ambulance provider, and members of the community to comprise this committee and undertake this project.

Committee

The current committee is comprised of the following individuals:

- Brewerton Fire Department Chief Duane Otis, Firefighter Chip Piraino
- Bridgeport Fire Department Chief James Ostrowski, Past Chief Paul Smith
- Cicero Fire Department Chief David Pangaro, Deputy Chief Jon Barrett,
Past Chief Richard Carvel

- NAVAC Ambulance Executive Director Christopher Bitner
- North Syracuse Fire Department Chief Mark Hogan, Past Chief John Linnertz
- South Bay Fire Department Chief Kevin Purdy, Assistant Chief John Pertgen
- Town Resident Charles Abbey
- Town Resident James Delladonna
- Town Resident William Purdy

METHODOLOGY

The first Town Fire / EMS committee meeting was held in February 2008 at the South Bay Fire Station to discuss the intention of Supervisor Dudzinski. Through this discussion he emphasized that there was no specific agenda for this committee other than to insure that the taxpayers of the Town of Cicero are receiving the most effective fire and emergency service.

As a first step the committee reviewed the organization, capabilities, and services provided by each of the five fire departments that serve the Town of Cicero. The five departments that provide fire protection to the town are Brewerton, Bridgeport, Cicero, North Syracuse and South Bay. This is an important component of any review and report done for the Town, and it proved educational for members of the committee. Over the ensuing months the committee met in the stations of these departments, received reports and presentations by their chief officers, and toured and viewed demonstrations of their equipment. The results of this work follow in subsequent sections of this report.

Building upon the above, the committee then identified prevailing issues and concerns relating to fire service in the Town. These items were researched, with conclusions and recommendations being developed for a presenting to the Town and its taxpayers.

An assessment of the state of fire protection services in the Town of Cicero comprises the fourth section of this report.

Finally, the committee developed a list of future issues and concerns that both the fire departments and the Town should be considering as they develop plans.

DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE TOWN

Geography

According to the [United States Census Bureau](#), the Town of Cicero has a total area of 48.5 square miles (125.6 km²), of which, 48.4 square miles (125.5 km²) of it is land and 0.1 square miles (0.1 km²) of it (0.10%) is water.

The north town line of Cicero, marked by the [Oneida River](#) is the border of [Oswego County](#). The east town line is the border of [Madison County](#), marked by the [Chittenango Creek](#).

At the Northern border of Cicero is [Oneida Lake](#), one of the largest bodies of water located within [New York State](#). Also within Cicero is a fairly large [swamp](#) named Cicero Swamp. Cicero consists of mainly [wetland](#), [forests](#), [farms](#) and a large and growing number of housing developments encroaching on farmland. The soils are mostly brown silt loams and loams with slight to moderate acidity in surface layers (subsoil's may be somewhat alkaline); their drainage varies.

[U.S. Route 11](#), [Interstate 81](#), [Interstate 481](#), and [New York State Route 31](#) pass through Cicero. [New York State Route 298](#) intersects NY-31 near the east town line.

Demographics

As of the [census](#)^[1] of 2000, there were 27,982 people, 10,538 households, and 7,692 families residing in the town. The [population density](#) was 577.4 people per square mile (222.9/km²). There were 11,033 housing units at an average density of 227.7/sq mi (87.9/km²). The racial makeup of the town was 96.31% [White](#), 1.19% [African American](#), 0.38% [Native American](#), 0.71% [Asian](#), 0.02% [Pacific Islander](#), 0.22% from [other races](#), and 1.17% from two or more races. [Hispanic](#) or [Latino](#) of any race was 0.88% of the population.

There were 10,538 households out of which 38.7% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 58.9% were [married couples](#) living together, 10.1% had a female householder with no husband present, and 27.0% were non-families. 21.3% of all households were made up of individuals and 8.3% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.65 and the average family size was 3.10.

In the town the population was spread out with 28.1% under the age of 18, 5.9% from 18 to 24, 33.2% from 25 to 44, 22.1% from 45 to 64, and 10.7% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 36 years. For every 100 females there were 96.5 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 93.6 males.

The median income for a household in the town was \$50,055, and the median income for a family was \$57,531. Males had a median income of \$41,038 versus \$26,983 for females. The [per capita income](#) for the town was \$21,527. About 3.9% of families and 5.1% of the population were below the [poverty line](#), including 6.0% of those under age 18 and 3.5% of that age 65 or over.

Population Growth

With the continued population growth within the town, it has been noted that the Town of Cicero is currently the fastest-growing town in Central New York and continues to be in the lead in Onondaga County in new home construction for past several years. Its unique location has provided the town with future residential, commercial and industrial growth.

The Town of Cicero is not only the home of residential properties, however the town serves as the home of several large commercial and industrial businesses, schools for our children, hotels for the citizens who travel through the town and several other businesses who are in current talks with the town zoning board.

UNIQUE RESPONSE AREAS

The Town of Cicero’s unique location has made it an easy choice for several commercial, industrial and lodging establishments to call it home. With the increase in commercial development, the five fire departments are working together on a daily basis to provide the best Fire and EMS protection to the community. The committee has outlined by Fire Protection Districts, several different areas of concerns.

Brewerton Fire Department

- Brewerton Elementary
- Holiday Inn
- Oneida Shores Park
- Oneida River
- Interstate Route 81
- Schneider Packaging
- Fuel storage & supply depot with 140 fuel tankers passing through the area daily
- CSX Rail Road
- Multiple Marina’s
- Buckeye Pipeline
- Bay shore North Apartments
- Strip Malls

Bridgeport Fire Department

- Cicero Swamp
- Chittenango Creek
- Agricultural
- ESTA Drag Strip
- Oneida Lake

Cicero Fire Department

- Cicero North Syracuse High School
- Cicero Elementary School
- Gillette Road Middle School
- Target
- Syracuse Castings
- Syracuse Pool Supply
- The Home Depot
- Wal-Mart Super Center
- Clintons Ditch – Pepsi Bottling
- Paul Delima Coffee
- Wegmans Grocery
- Tri-State Auto Auction
- Interstate Route 81
- Holiday Inn and four other hotels in the development stages
- Michael’s Air Field
- Gander Mountain
- Barone Farm and Feed

North Syracuse Fire Department

- ICM Corporation
- GA Braun Building
- Lowes
- Drivers Village (Vehicle Auto Mall)
- Several Churches (Large assembly)
- North Medical Center Complex
- North Syracuse Junior High School
- Bear Road Elementary School
- Allen Road Elementary School
- Smith Road Elementary School
- Main Street School
- United State Post Office General Mail Facility
- Syracuse Research Corporation
- Albany Molecular
- Cannon Pool Supply
- Tarson Pool Supply
- The Market Place shopping complex
- Interstate 81 and 481

South Bay Fire Department

- Oneida Lake
- Marinas
- Agricultural
- Lakeshore Yacht Club
- Lakeshore Elementary School
- Wysocki’s Lake Park Manor
- Borio’s Restaurant
- Churches

It is clearly identified above there are several schools, industrial business, residential, agricultural land, Syracuse Airport Fight Line, bodies of water that make it a challenging task for these fire departments to provide Fire and Medical Service Protection. Listed below you will find some examples and hazards that are considered when managing an incident scene.

Commercial Businesses

- The many different types of chemicals, pesticides, products and fire loads that are stored onsite (Home Depot, Lowes, Pool supply companies, Albany Molecular testing facility)
- The high volume of people that may be within the building

Areas of Assembly

- The many large churches and the volume of people who gather within
- The many schools within the town and the total number of students and staff onsite (Cicero North Syracuse High School – has approximately 2600 – 3000 students on an average day and the North Syracuse School district is one of the largest in this county)
- Oneida Shores Park and the several large events held there (Bass Master Tournament with an average attendance of 7,000 people)
- Oneida River and Brewerton Fourth of July fireworks (attendance of 11,000 people)
- The area Yacht Clubs and Banquet facilities (attendance of 400 plus people)

In addition to the concerns and hazards listed above, another priority area of concern for the emergency responders is the style of building construction. Due to the affect that fire has on the integrity of buildings especially related to truss construction, it is paramount that the Town of Cicero local codes support installation of sprinklers, stand pipes and safety features to assist the responders with fire suppression efforts. This is not only important for the emergency responders, but most importantly to the occupants who may be trapped inside during an emergency.

WATER SUPPLY

A majority of the Town of Cicero is fortunate to be covered with fire hydrants and water supplied by Onondaga County Water Authority. Those areas of the town that do not have fire hydrants make the task of fire suppression challenging as the fire departments have to establish alternative ways to bring water to the scene of the incident and request mutual aid assistance from neighboring fire departments.

It is known that sufficient and continuous water supply for fire suppression services is a very critical component to the overall fire suppression capabilities of a community. Typically, rural areas do not have the necessary infrastructure to support "urban type" water delivery systems. Where fire hydrants exist, they are typically on smaller water lines with relatively low flow capacity and are generally spaced quite some distance apart. In several of the districts where there are hydrants, the main is of sufficient size. Spacing and varying threads of discharges are more of a concern. As a result, fire departments within the Town of Cicero with large rural areas within their protection areas must rely on alternate means of providing adequate water flow during fire suppression activities.

As a result of these areas of interest without fire hydrants, several contain large residential structures, agricultural farm land and commercial businesses such as.

- Sneller Road – Cicero Fire District
- Island Road – South Bay & North Syracuse Fire Departments

As a result of the lack of fire hydrants in these areas, the fire departments have developed hose relay procedures or a tanker shuttle system using a fleet of tankers, each of which carry 1,000 to 1,500 gallons of water. These tankers are specifically designed to allow for a "quick dump" capability at the site of a fire. A tanker can off-load 1500 gallons of water in less than 60 seconds. These tankers respond to the scene of a structure fire and quickly dump their water into a collapsible tank that is carried on certain fire department apparatus. This allows the tanker to off load its water supply into this portable tank and return to a water source to refill while the engine company at the scene of the fire uses water, as needed, from the collapsible tank. Using a fleet of these tankers with this type of dump time, the fire departments may be able to deliver large volumes of fire suppression water for an extended period of time.

Obviously, the variables that will dictate the final outcome of water supply are distance to fire hydrants for refill, water main capacity at fill sites and road conditions. While this system of water supply works, it is not a steady, reliable means of providing water. Efforts should be made to install water systems in the areas which have residential and / or commercial properties.

How Much Water Will Be Required?

Residential buildings up to 3,500 square feet usually require a minimum of 500 gallons per minute (gpm) for a minimum of 30 minutes. Larger homes and commercial properties require additional fire flow based on the size and use of the site. The minimum fire flow for these properties is 1,500 (gpm) for a minimum of two hours with increases for large buildings. Fire flow must be provided at a minimum of 20 (psi). Most departments require the acquisition of two hydrants during a building fire for safety reasons (one as a back up in the event of failure).

FIRE SERVICE IN THE TOWN OF CICERO

The Town of Cicero is currently covered by five fire departments NAVAC and Brewerton Ambulance as the primary EMS Providers.

Fire Department Organization

The organization and administration of fire services in the Town of Cicero, and the State of New York for that matter, is more complicated than the average person would expect.

Fire Districts

A fire district is a political subdivision of the State of New York, formally defined as a district corporation, formed to provide fire protection and to respond to certain other emergencies. Conceptually a fire district is very similar to a school district. Fire districts are governed by a five member board of commissioners comprised of residents of the fire district and elected by the residents of the district. Each commissioner is elected to a five year term, with one commissioner being elected each year.

Fire districts are created, extended, or dissolved by the town board. However this must be at the request of a majority of the fire commissioners or a majority of the residents in the fire district, and it must be approved by a referendum. Certain financing arrangements of a fire district must be approved by the New York State Comptroller.

The fire district is virtually autonomous from the town in its day to day operation; however the powers granted to fire districts are very specific and narrowly limited by municipal law. Fire districts establish taxes to fund fire protection within the district; these taxes are collected by the town.

Fire districts are empowered to establish fire companies, contract with fire companies, purchase equipment, and incur debt for the purpose of providing fire protection services within the district.

There are two fire districts within the town of Cicero: the Brewerton Fire District and the Cicero Fire District.

Fire Protection District

A fire protection district is a geographic area of a town established by the town board for the purpose of fire protection. Towns contract for fire protection within fire protection districts at the expense of property owners within the district.

There are five fire protection districts within the Town of Cicero.

Independent Fire Company

As the name implies, an independent fire company is a not-for-profit corporation established to provide fire protection services that is independent of any entity of government. Independent fire companies contract with towns, villages, and fire districts to provide fire protection services therein.

The South Bay Fire Department is an independent fire company that contracts with the Town to serve fire protection districts therein.

Village Fire Department

A village fire department is simply a fire department that is a part of a village government, much like a police department or department of public works.

The North Syracuse Fire Department, a department of the Village of North Syracuse, serves a portion of the Town of Cicero. Specifically the Village of North Syracuse contracts with the Town to serve a fire protection district.

Funding Fire Protection Services in the Town of Cicero

The five fire departments contract with the Town for some or all of their operating funds.

- The Bridgeport and South Bay fire departments, contract to serve specific fire protection districts
- The Brewerton and Cicero fire departments, contract to serve fire protection districts beyond the borders of their respective fire districts
- The village of North Syracuse contracts for its fire department to serve a fire protection district

Each year the five fire departments are required to submit a budget identifying those requested funds needed to continue operations to provide Fire / EMS protection to the residents of the town. It's the responsibility of the Town Board to review and to schedule a meeting with each fire department on a separate basis to discuss the requested funds.

Some examples of budget items that are requested by the fire departments:

- Replacement of a Fire / EMS vehicle (due to age or costly repairs)
- Purchase of a Fire or Rescue vehicle (Ladder Truck) to reach the upper floors or roof of the hotel / school
- Repair or replacement of building items (new roof, parking lot)
- Funds to provide firefighters with the best equipment
- Building maintenance and daily up keep
- Increased operating costs associated with fuel, utilities, insurance costs, and included but not limited to unfunded state mandates
- Training classes that are not offered by NYS to help provide continuing education to improve our level of expertise in services delivered to the Town residents.

Once the town board has reviewed and finalized the requested fire budget contracts, this item is placed on the town board agenda. Those town residents who wish to attend the board meeting are welcome to address the town board and the fire department's representatives with comments or concerns before a vote is taken by the board members.

The taxes borne by property owners in the Town of Cicero to fund fire protection are some of the lowest in Onondaga County. The low tax rate is a result of pooling all five fire protection districts charging the same rate. This information can be obtained by accessing Onondaga County's website at www.ongov.net.

FIRE DEPARTMENT PROFILES

Brewerton Fire Department

The Brewerton Volunteer Fire Department has been proudly serving Onondaga and Oswego counties since 1921. Brewerton is situated at the western end of Oneida Lake in northern Onondaga County. The Brewerton fire protection district encompasses a land area of approximately 23 square miles. This is complimented by an almost equally large area of water on Oneida Lake. The protection area is primarily residential but also includes parts of Interstate 81, State Route 11, a stretch of CSX Railroad, Oneida lake, Oneida River, New York State Canal Lock #23, several marinas, Brewerton Speedway, a county park, an Agway fuel tank farm and other commercial structures which include hotels, apartments, strip malls and manufacturing facilities. The department presently provides services from two stations. Land has already been purchased for a third station which will be utilized as development progresses in the area.

The Brewerton Fire District is comprised of a one mile radius of Station # 1. The Brewerton Fire Department is also responsible for providing Fire and EMS protection for the remainder of the Brewerton Fire Protection District.

Station Locations and Information

- Station # 1 is located at 9625 Brewerton Road – (Town of Cicero)
- Station # 2 is located at 6362 Muskrat Bay Road – (Town of Cicero)

Contact Information

- Station # 1 – 676-7724
- Station # 2 – 676-2088
- Website – www.brewertonfire.com
- Mailing Address – P.O. Box 708, Brewerton NY 13029

Apparatus and Resources

Apparatus	Vehicle Year	Comments
Chief # 1	2009	
Chief # 2	2005	Scheduled for replacement
Chief # 3	2006	Being replaced this year
Engine # 1	2007	AED-equipped
Engine # 2	2005	AED-equipped
Rescue # 7	1986	Scheduled for replacement – aed equipped
Rescue # 3	1994	Dive bus
Squad # 4	2005	AED-equipped
Squad # 5	2005	AED-equipped
Truck # 9	1976	Refurbished vehicle
Engine # 3	1991	AED-equipped
Water Rescue # 1	1982	Scheduled for replacement this year
Water Rescue # 2	2004	State grant funded

Bridgeport Fire Department

The Bridgeport Fire Department Inc. was organized in 1935 chartered as a fire corporation in the State of New York in 1949.

The Bridgeport Fire Protection District is comprised of (14) square miles covering the Town of Cicero. The Bridgeport Fire Protection District is also responsible to provide Fire and EMS protection in the Town of Sullivan Madison County which consists of (64) miles.

Mission Statement

It is the goal of The Bridgeport Volunteer Fire Department to answer the call for help as quickly and efficiently as possible, to protect and preserve life and property of our community to the best of our ability. No matter if it is day or night, weekend or holiday, emergencies will not wait. No matter what the request is.

Station Locations and Information

- Station # 1 is located at 427 State Route 31 - (Bridgeport)
- Station # 2 is located at 2219 State Route 31 – (Lakeport)

Contact Information

- Station # 1 – 633-9048
- Station # 2 – 633-8691
- Website – www.bridgeportfd.com
- Mailing Address- P.O. Box 600, Bridgeport NY 13030

Apparatus and Resources

Apparatus	Vehicle Year	Comments
Chief # 1	2009	
Chief # 2	2007	
Chief # 3	2003	
Engine # 1	2007	
Engine # 3	2003	
Engine # 4	2000	
Rescue # 1	2003	Refurbish 2003 Body 1986
Rescue # 2	2009	
Squad # 1	2005	
Squad # 2	2003	
Water Rescue # 1	1987	

Note: All Bridgeport’s Fire Apparatus is purchased and owned by the Town of Sullivan.

Cicero Fire Department

The Cicero Volunteer Fire Department was founded in 1883 and is a not-for-profit organization with two stations. The Cicero Fire Department holds a Class 4 I.S.O. rating and serves the Cicero Fire District and Fire Protection District consisting of 12 square miles. Our protection area is primarily residential with a large portion of commercial and includes parts of Interstate 81, State Route 11, State Route 31, several schools, hotels, apartments, strip malls and manufacturing facilities. The Cicero Fire Department provides Fire and EMS protection from two stations.

The Cicero Fire District is comprised of one square mile from Station # 1 extending to the Village of North Syracuse and Brewerton District lines. The Cicero Fire Department is also responsible to provide Fire and EMS protection in the Cicero Fire Protection District which consists of 11 square miles.

Station Locations and Information

- Station # 1 is located at 8377 Brewerton Road - (Town of Cicero)
- Station # 2 is located at 6109 State Route 31 - (Town of Cicero)

Contact Information

- Station # 1 – 699-7721
- Station # 2 – 699-4693
- Chief’s Office Fax – 699-2723
- Website – www.cicerofd.org
- Mailing Address – P.O. Box 1111, Cicero NY 13039

Apparatus and Resources

Apparatus	Vehicle Year	Comments
Chief # 1	2009	AED-equipped
Chief # 2	2008	AED-equipped
Chief # 3	2005	AED-equipped
Chief # 4	2004	AED-equipped
Engine # 1	1995	Scheduled for replacement - AED-equipped
Engine # 3	1998	Scheduled for replacement - AED-equipped
Misc. # 1	1996	AED-equipped
Rescue # 1	1993	AED-equipped
Rescue # 3	1997	Scheduled for replacement - aed equipped
Squad # 1	2008	AED-equipped
Truck # 1	2006	AED-equipped – 100 foot platform

North Syracuse Fire Department

The Village of North Syracuse Fire Department is an all-volunteer Municipal Fire Department which began in 1913. The North Syracuse Fire Department holds a Class 3 I.S.O. rating and provides fire protection services to the Village of North Syracuse and contractual fire protection for portions of the Town of Clay and Cicero. Our total fire protection district is about fifteen square miles with a breakdown of about sixty percent residential and forty percent industrial/commercial properties. The estimated population of our district is about 25,000 residents. Our district borders the Syracuse Hancock International Airport and as such we are in the glide path for commercial and military aircraft. We have two interstate highways running through our district, Route 81 and Route 481. The district also includes five schools, a major medical complex, several scientific research companies and major commercial properties, which can and some have presented significant challenges for fire suppression and hazard mitigation.

The North Syracuse fire department operates two stations, one in the village of North Syracuse and the second in the Town of Cicero portion of our fire district.

We provide various fire and rescue services to the residents, workers and visitors in our district. Our average number of calls for service usually averages about 1,000. In addition to the “regular” calls for service, we also respond as a New York State certified Advanced Life Support rescue with many EMT’s and several Paramedics. The department also has Hazardous Materials capabilities with members being NYS certified at various levels up to and including NYS Haz-Mat Specialist. We currently have 2 paid staff positions, a Firehouse Caretaker and an Administrative Assistant. There are 43 members of the department and we respond utilizing four engines, one aerial truck, one heavy rescue, two light rescues, one Haz-Mat/Command post retro-fitted bus and one utility squad vehicle.

Station Locations and Information

- Station # 1 is located at 109 Chestnut Street - (Village of North Syracuse)
- Station # 2 is located at 70 General Irwin Boulevard - (Town of Cicero)

Contact Information

- Station # 1 – 458-5345
- Station # 2 – 458-0632
- Recruitment Hotline – 458-8562
- Website – www.northsyracusefire.com
- Mailing Address – 109 Chestnut Street, North Syracuse NY 13212

(North Syracuse Fire Department – continued)

Apparatus and Resources

Apparatus	Vehicle Year	Comments
Chief # 1	2006	AED-equipped
Chief # 2	2007	AED-equipped
Chief # 3	2003	AED-equipped
Engine # 2	1991	AED-equipped – elevated master stream
Engine # 4	1995	AED-equipped
Engine # 6	1989	AED-equipped – designated rapid intervention vehicle
Engine # 8	2004	AED-equipped – high volume water tank
Rescue # 3	2003	AED-equipped – paramedic level advanced life support equipped
Rescue # 5	1996	AED-equipped
Rescue # 7	1997	AED-equipped – technical heavy rescue
Squad # 1	2003	AED-equipped
Squad # 2	1979	Mobile command post – hazardous materials equipped
Truck # 1	2007	AED-equipped – 95’ ladder / aerial master stream

South Bay Fire Department

The South Bay Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. was established in the spring of 1954. The South Bay Fire Department Inc. is an independent organization chartered as a fire corporation in the State of New York.

The South Bay Fire Protection District is comprised of 9 square miles and responsible for providing Fire and EMS protection within the South Bay Fire Protection District.

Station Location and Information

- Station # 1 is located at 8819 Cicero Center Road - (Town of Cicero)

Contact Information

- Station # 1 – 699-2893
- Mailing Address – 8819 Cicero Center Road, Cicero NY 13039

Apparatus and Resources

Apparatus	Vehicle Year	Comments
Engine # 1	1994	AED-equipped
Rescue # 3	1994	AED-equipped - Capabilities to transport patients if needed
Rescue Pumper # 2	2000	AED-equipped
Six Wheeler	2008	Off road rescue capabilities / stokes basket – state funded
Snowmobile	1998	Capabilities of attaching rescue sleigh
Water Rescue # 58	2005	De-watering pump and fire suppression capabilities

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT DISPATCH

The five Town of Cicero fire departments and ambulance agencies are dispatched by the Onondaga County Emergency Communications Center which is located at 3911 Central Avenue in Syracuse, New York.

Contact Information

- Business Line – 435-7911
- Fax Number – 435-8620
- Website – www.ongov.net
- Mailing Address – 3911 Central Avenue, Syracuse, New York 13215

FIRE DEPARTMENT RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THE TOWN

Apparatus

Department	Engines	Trucks	Heavy Rescue	Light Rescue	Boats	Chiefs	Rescue Pumper
Brewerton	2	1	1	2	2	3	1
Bridgeport	3	0	1	2	1	3	0
Cicero	2	1	1	3	0	4	0
North Syracuse	4	1	1	2	0	3	0
South Bay	1	0	0	1	1	0	1

Personnel

Department	Total Personnel	SCBA-Qualified	Exterior / Support	Diver	EMS
Brewerton	67	27	40	8	26
Bridgeport	40	18	22	0	12
Cicero	69	46	23	0	22
North Syracuse	43	41	2	0	21
South Bay	39	24	15	1	11

Services provided to the Town (in addition to fire suppression)

Apparatus

Each of the towns agencies have apparatus that is well maintained and ready to respond to emergency incidents. While it may appear that there is more equipment in some stations than needed, it should be noted that responders utilize the appropriate equipment for the type of call, rather than responding each time with the same or large apparatus on each emergency. Each department currently maintains maintenance and replacement plan based on National Standards, vehicle usage, vehicle maintenance and cost effectiveness.

EMS First-Response

Each department has established response plans to respond on medical emergencies as first responders to initiate treatment prior to the arrival of an ambulance for further treatment and transportation. The fire departments prompt arrival has a beneficial impact on patient survival. It should be noted that it is often not understood by the average citizen why the fire department is dispatched on a medical emergency when they request an ambulance for a transport to the hospital.

It should be a goal of each agency to provide some insight and public education to the community of why the fire department responds with the ambulance as outlined in each departments response protocol on medical emergencies. By doing this, it will help eliminate the confusion of trying to educate the patient, patients family while on the emergency scene taking away the ability to provide and concentrate on quality patient care.

Each fire department has met the minimum qualifications outlined by the New York State Department of Health to provide a first response "Emergency Medical" care when called upon. The scope of practice for these personnel may range from basic first aid to the level of Emergency Medical Technician and some Paramedic Level. The First Responder Agency is usually known as a public service agency.

Those fire department rescue vehicles are equipped with emergency medical supplies and are staffed by New York State certified Emergency Medical Technicians as outlined by each departments Standard Operating Guidelines.

- Advanced Life Support (ALS) care is provided by the North Syracuse Fire Department which provides its personnel with the proper equipment to respond to medical emergencies to provide immediate "Advanced" life support care prior to the arrival of an ambulance.
- Basic Life Support (BLS) care is provided by the Brewerton, Bridgeport, Cicero and South Bay Fire Departments which provides its personnel with the proper equipment to respond to medical emergencies to provide immediate "Basic" life support care prior to the arrival of the ambulance.

The Brewerton Fire Department currently has an independent ambulance and an established ambulance district which is served by Brewerton Volunteer Fire Department Ambulance. An Ambulance District is a special taxing district, like a sewer district or water district created to raise revenue to fund emergency medical services. The Brewerton Fire Volunteer Fire Department Ambulance has a board that contracts with a qualified emergency services provider to supply ambulance service to the district. Unlike a fire district, an ambulance district has the benefit of being able to participate in third party (insurance) billing to defray costs.

The Bridgeport, Cicero, North Syracuse, and South Bay fire department response areas are served by the North Area Volunteer Ambulance Corps (NAVAC). NAVAC is headquartered in North Syracuse, and staffs a first-response vehicle in the South Bay Fire Department station.

Motor Vehicle Accidents

The five fire departments currently have and maintain apparatus with those necessary extrication tools to handle incidents to remove occupant(s) from damaged vehicles. These tools can consist of a simple tool know as a halligan bar, axe, air bags, shoring or can be as complex as a hydraulic spreader (known as the Jaws of Life) and hydraulic cutter.

With the changing of vehicle dynamics and propulsion systems changing from gasoline powered to high voltage electronic systems, motor vehicle accidents have changed in scope as to how departments respond. A motor vehicle accident is now involving high velocity air bags and passenger restraint systems, which help in protecting a vehicle occupant but presents a new danger to emergency responders. Also, several larger commercial vehicles and buses are now operating on our

roadways, increasing the number of accidents we respond to involving these larger vehicles. As such, fire departments are forced to bring a larger composition of specialty tools to these incidents to mitigate all the new hazards which are encountered.

Water Rescue

The Brewerton, South Bay, and Bridgeport fire departments provide ice and water rescue services operating boats and maintaining water and rescue personnel year round. This response requires those departments to maintain specialty equipment and training for their personnel to handle these types of events. The Brewerton Fire Department currently supports a dive team that responds with Onondaga and Oswego County Dive teams.

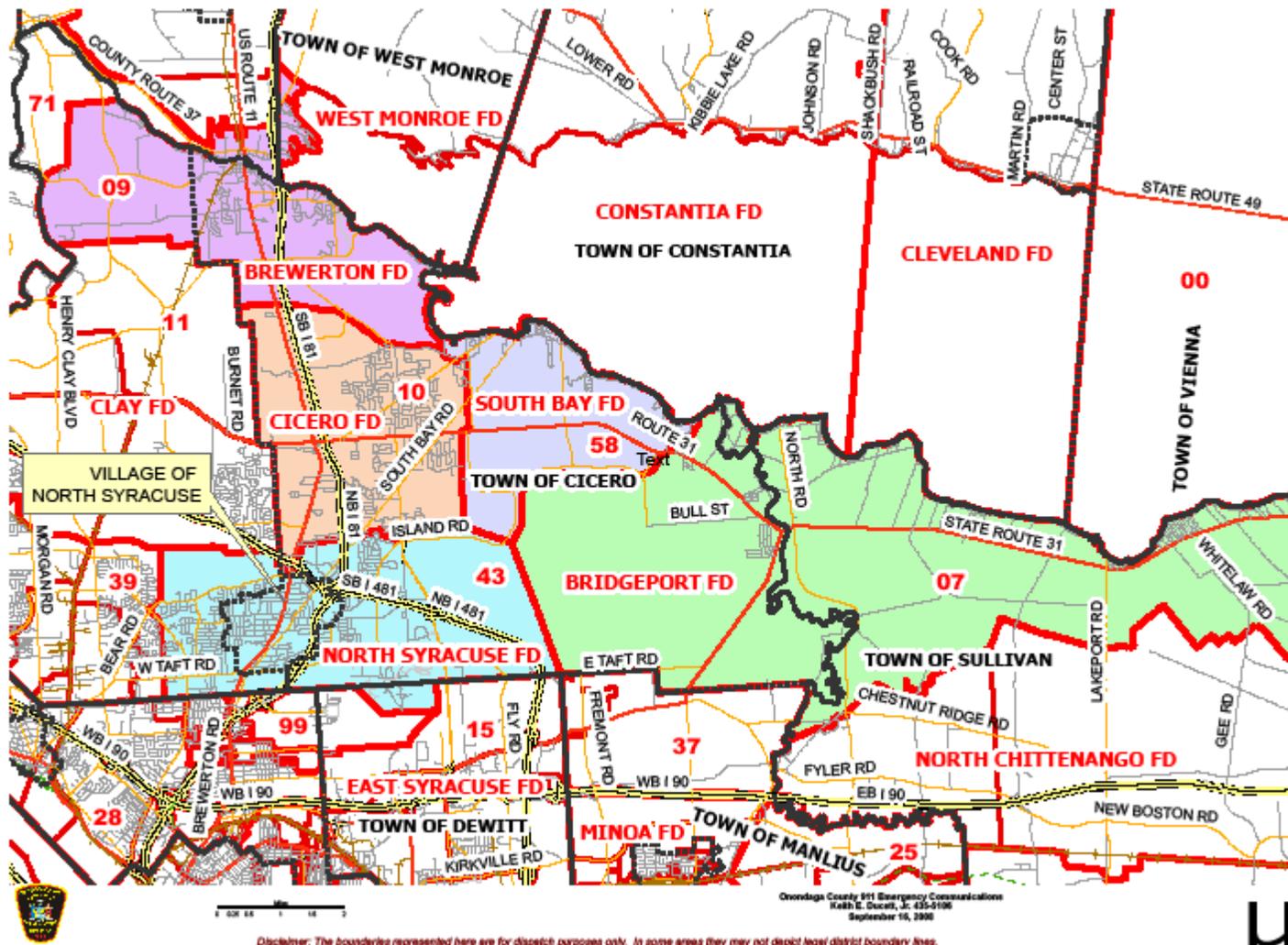
Fire Prevention and Education

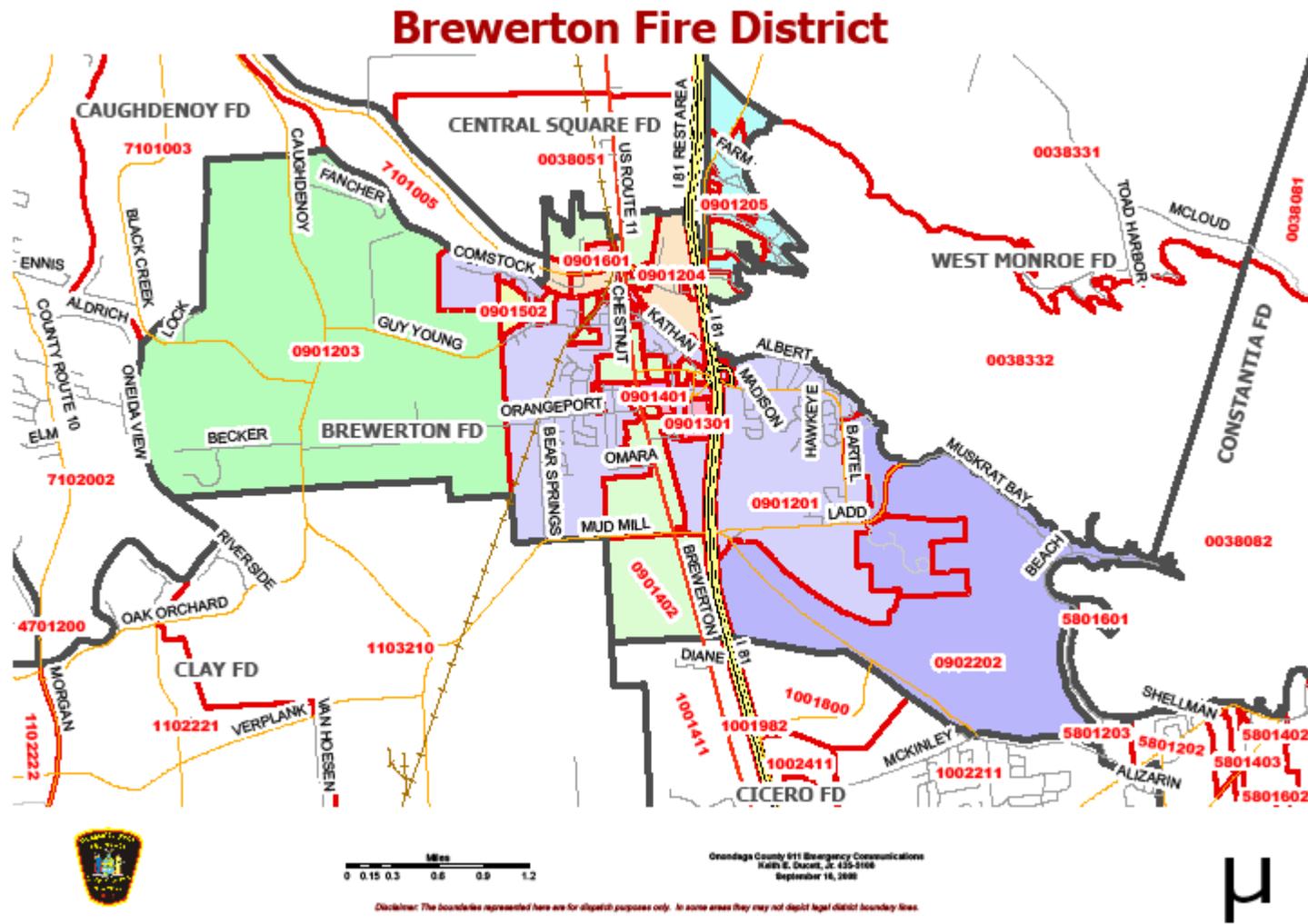
The five fire departments provide a structured fire prevention program that is presented year round to the residents, businesses and schools of their districts to provide them with the education of those hazards they may encounter in a fire or medical emergency.

RESPONSE DISTRICTS

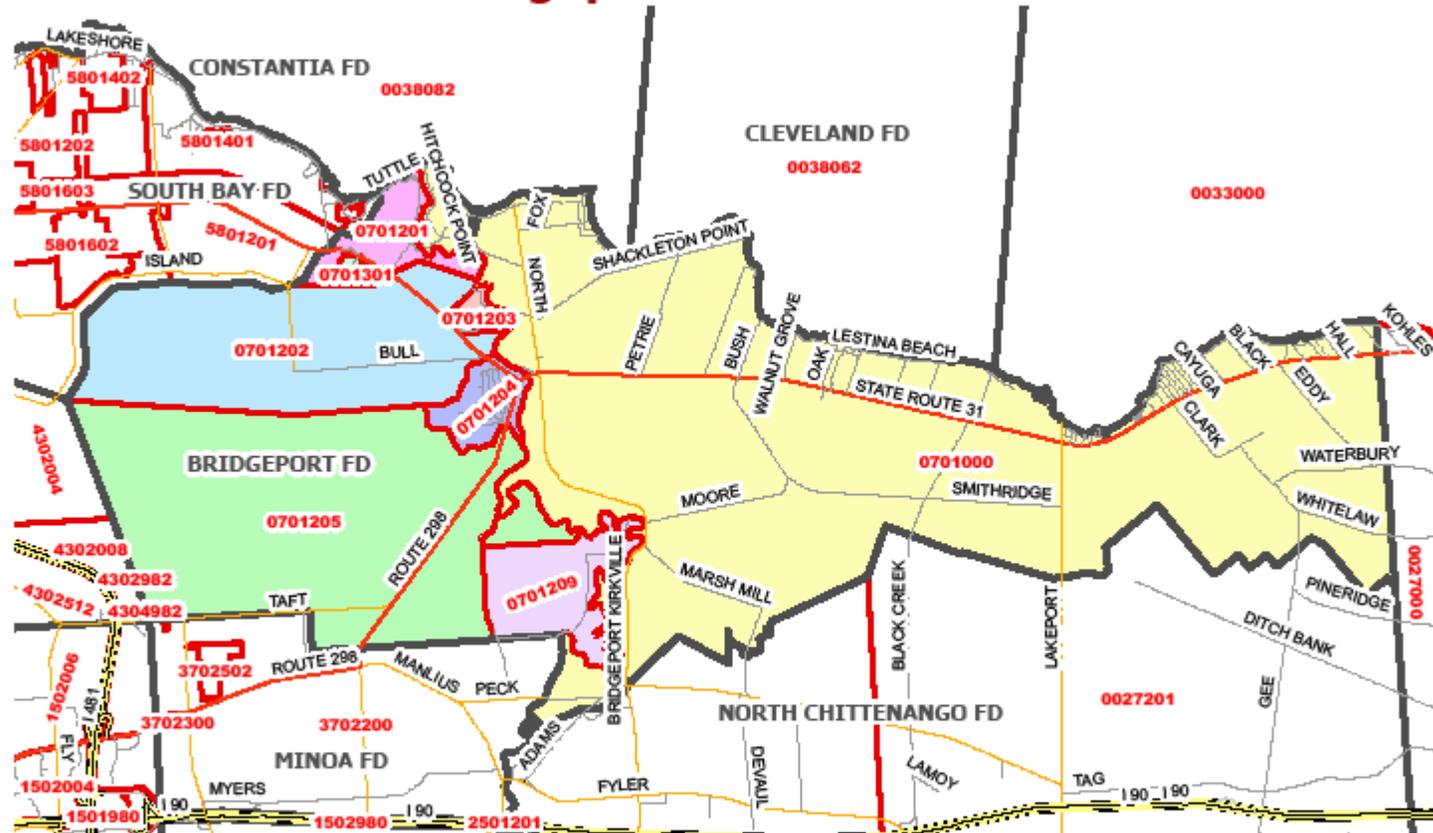
The following maps have been provided by the Onondaga County Department of Emergency Communications, and depict the response areas of the five fire departments serving the Town of Cicero.

Town of Cicero Fire Departments





Bridgeport Fire District

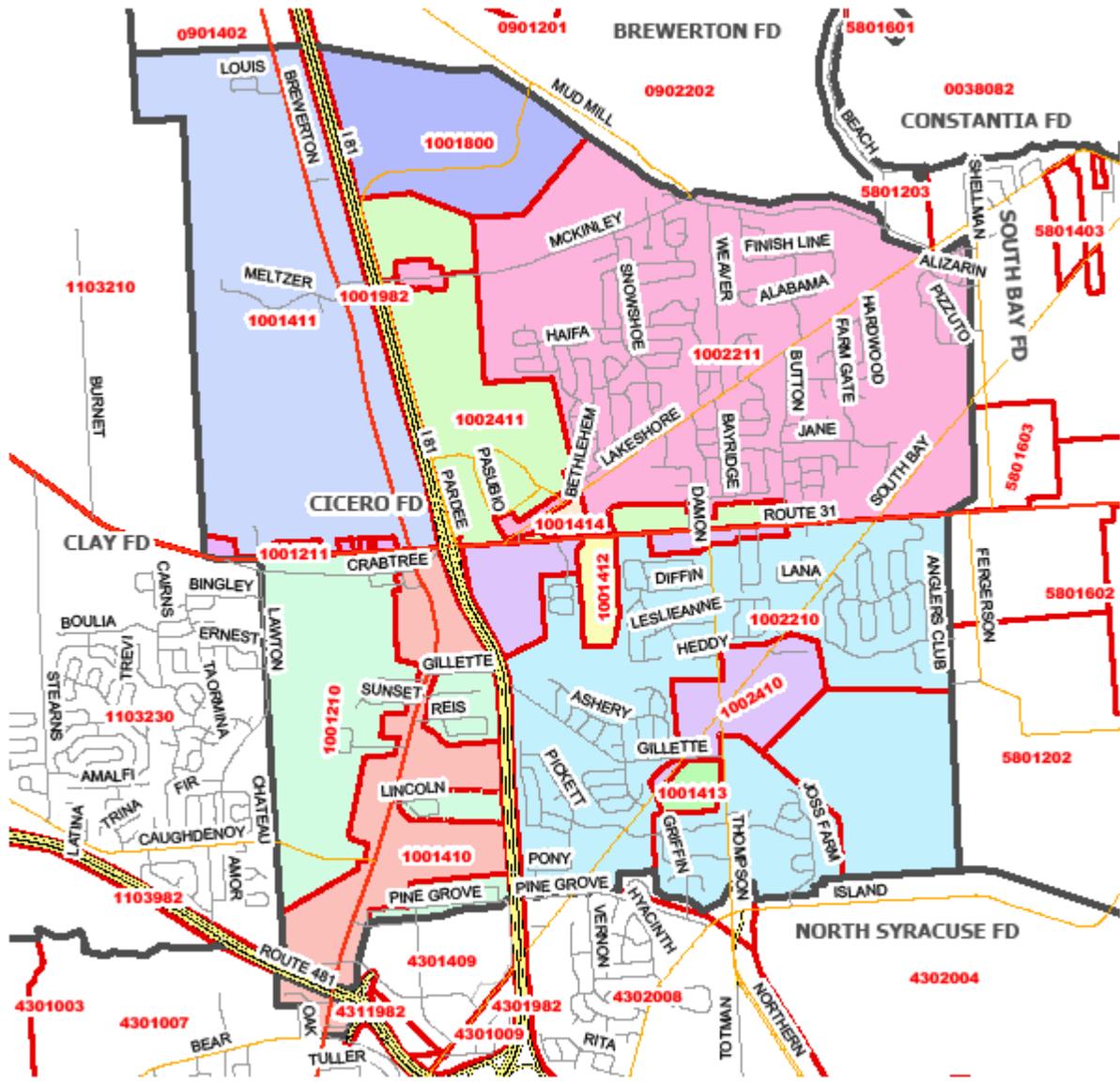


Orangetown County 911 Emergency Communications
Keith E. Duart, Jr. 435-3168
September 16, 2008

Disclaimer: The boundaries represented here are for dispatch purposes only. In some areas they may not depict legal district boundary lines.



Cicero Fire District



Orange County 911 Emergency Communications
Field & District, c. 2008
September 10, 2008

Disclaimer: The boundaries represented here are for dispatch purposes only. In some areas they may not depict legal district boundary lines.



PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY THIS COMMITTEE**Consideration of Consolidation of Departments, Personnel, and Equipment**

One of the first, and most obvious, items addressed by the committee was that of consolidation of the five departments into one department serving the entire town.

The first reaction of the committee was that there were some obvious advantages to consolidating the departments:

- Fewer pieces of apparatus may be required
- Support functions, like purchasing, training, finance, and administrative support, can be consolidated
- It may be easier to implement and manage compensated fire fighters in the future

As the committee explored this further however it became apparent that there are some drawbacks to consolidation. It should be noted that consolidation in itself may not result in cost savings and may increase cost more to the taxpayers.

- Additional management personnel (i.e. fire chiefs) may be required.
- The town will not be adequately served from one station, and as a result multiple stations will still be necessary.
- The existing fire stations may not be located to ideally support one department
- The two fire districts, Brewerton and Cicero, must be considered and accommodated in any consolidation.
- There is a tremendous amount of commitment and camaraderie within each of the five departments that is invaluable to their success but can not be measured in monetary terms. This might be lost, and may be very difficult to maintain the existing membership roles if these departments were replaced with a town-wide department.

While the committee did not reach the conclusion that consolidation is detrimental, it did agree that it is an issue to be investigated further. It was also readily agreed that there are many other initiatives that can yield more immediate benefits to the fire departments and the residents they serve.

From the discussions, it was also noted that with a consolidation study, it will take a large time commitment by those committee members to properly investigate each department and all aspects of consolidation. This time commitment would be in addition to the increasing time constraints that we are already placing on our volunteer members. The other option to having the local volunteers spearheading this study is by hiring an outside contractor. This does have a big drawback, as anyone from outside this area would have no local firsthand information on the departments providing services.

It is also important to understand the dynamics of belonging to a team in the fire service and it can never be underestimated. In sports, members of the team motivate and encourage each other to strive for winning the game. Team members wear the same colors to identify themselves as part of the group that will come together to win the game and succeed. Lifelong friendships are often the result of being on the same team.

In the fire service, the need to feel that you are a member of a team far exceeds the need just to win a game. Firefighters and their officers each understand and trust that their safety and lives depend upon the abilities of the people they respond with at emergency incidents. The bonds that are built within the group in a fire station give each member the confidence and ability to perform even the duties that place them at risk, because they know that the other members of their team will be there to assist if things go wrong. In every volunteer station the members of that station “knows” that they are in the best station in the county.

Consideration of Utilizing Compensated Firefighters

The committee recognized that another common opinion deserving the committee's attention is that of utilizing compensated firefighters to supplement staffing. As a result the committee examined a number of issues relating to this:

Benefit

The committee first examined data which included number of calls, location of calls and the time it takes for fire departments to arrive at those calls. This review did reveal the need for potential improvement in response times to the extent that compensated firefighters may be considered in the future. The unknown variable that would drive any improvement would be the level of paid staffing (i.e. the addition of a single paid driver may not realize the same benefit of a decreased response time as would a four person crew).

Cost

The cost of implementing compensated staff was identified as a real concern that will have to be borne by the Town and its taxpayers. The direct costs of employing firefighters are rather obvious: wages, benefits, uniforms. Some less obvious costs that need to be considered however include training and retirement.

Location

Another issue is in which of the existing fire stations in the Town career staff should be stationed. Ideally career staff should be located in a station that is equidistant to a majority of the town. This is complicated however by the fact that while an engine is housed in every station, specialty equipment is located in various fire stations throughout the town:

- Ladder trucks are housed in Brewerton station #1, Cicero station #2, and North Syracuse station #1.
- Heavy rescue trucks are housed in Brewerton station #1, Bridgeport station #1, Cicero station #1, and North Syracuse station #1.
- Boats are housed in Brewerton station #1, Bridgeport station #1, and South Bay.

Impact upon the Town's Fire Service

It was the consensus of the committee that the addition of career firefighters would not be a one-time solution to a problem, but rather would be the beginning of a process that will continue to grow and take on a life of its own. Once this threshold is crossed we may face the mindset of "let the career firefighters do it" among the existing departments and members. The fear of many is that the current commitment of existing personnel may begin to erode losing the current volunteers, and the need for compensated firefighters will increase, thus a further increase in cost to the taxpayers.

When considered in conjunction with the previous issue of cost, it is very possible that the Town will reach the point that it can not afford to pay the number of career firefighters necessary to meet the staffing need, and the volunteer system will have been eroded to the extent and can't be reestablished.

The committee acknowledges that preserving the volunteer fire service is not unto itself a legitimate reason for not hiring compensated firefighters. Rather the committee has concluded that there are deficiencies in staffing or response and to the extent to justify future exploration for additional solutions.

Assessment of Common Expenses

The analysis of consolidation did spark some tangential discussions about costs common to all of the departments that could be reduced by cooperative purchasing.

Fuel

Some departments purchase fuel from the North Syracuse Central School District. Because the district and fire departments are exempt from state and federal taxes fire departments purchasing fuel from the school district do not have to pay fuel taxes.

Other departments purchase fuel from commercial "gas stations". Fuel prices at these businesses are higher than that of the school district. Departments purchasing from such vendors must pay fuel taxes at the time of purchase and at the end of the year submit applications to have those taxes refunded. Some departments do not apply for such refunds, which is an added cost borne by taxpayers.

It was acknowledged that the school district fuel facility on East Taft Road is far from some fire departments, and the committee is submitting a recommendation to the Town that a facility to fuel Town vehicles be established in the northern

area of the town. Fire department vehicles could then more conveniently fuel at this facility, paying Town costs for fuel, and not paying fuel taxes.

Equipment

It was quickly realized that while the five fire departments purchase considerable quantities of similar equipment each year (i.e. SCBA cylinders and pack, hose, protective clothing, gloves, helmets, and hand tools), they purchase individually and in some cases from different vendors. It was agreed that combining purchases will allow the departments to better negotiate with vendors as well as receive quantity-based discounts, and the departments have begun doing so on an informal basis. It was also agreed that the town facilitating such purchasing would be of great benefit to the fire departments and ultimately the taxpayers they serve.

Supplies

Similarly it was realized that the five fire departments use the same consumable supplies (i.e. disposable gloves, EMS supplies, etc.) and that similar savings could be achieved by coordinating purchases. NAVAC offered to assist with the purchases of medical supplies and some of the departments are currently using this service.

Utilities

Similarly it was also realized that the five fire departments and two ambulance services utilize the same utilities (cell phones, pager service, cable television, and internet) and savings may be beneficial by participating in a franchise style or town wide agreement to reduce costs.

Consideration of Consolidating Insurance Policies

One of the largest expenses in all of the fire departments is that of insurance. Past Chief Mike Stassi of the Brewerton Fire Department undertook a project of comparing the departments' policies and attempting to negotiate one insurance policy covering all of the departments in the town. This was hampered by the fact that two of the five departments are not exclusive to the Town, but instead serve other municipalities as well. This topic could be further explored, and even facilitated/coordinated by the Town.

Assessment of Funding Process

Fire departments must submit individual budgets to supervisor, and then attend individual meetings with members of the board.

There is currently no means of seeking reconsideration, however a method should be established

Assessment of Coordination with Town Government

Weaknesses in the funding process as described above illustrate a disconnect between Town government and the fire departments that serve the Town.

There are regular meetings among the heads of the Town's various departments for the purpose of communicating plans and activities and facilitating coordination among them. The fire departments are not represented here and it should be clearly defined if we are welcome as department officials.

The Town's department heads attend Town board meetings, and sit in positions representative of Town government. The fire service is represented at these meetings when individual fire departments choose to send representatives. There is no coordinated representation of the Town's fire service at Town board meetings, and it is inefficient and even unrealistic to expect each of five fire departments to send representatives of their volunteer leaderships to these meetings. Worse, the role of fire department representatives at Town meetings is that of members of the audience. This committee quickly came to a consensus that there needs to be better communication between the five fire departments and the Town government. Some responsibilities of this individual that were quickly identified include formally representing the fire service to the Town board and administration, coordinating the fire protection budget process, facilitating coordination among the five fire departments – at least on an administrative level.

FUTURE NEEDS AND CONCERNS**Response Times**

Each department shall understand the importance of monitoring and tracking their response times making sure the apparatus is responding to the emergency scene in a timely fashion. Once the task of monitoring and tracking the response time for a certain time frame, each department should review this information establishing a standard for acceptable response time covering every emergency.

During the dispatch of large or critical emergencies, several of the departments currently utilize the Mutual Aid system which is an agreement between departments addressing the shortfall of manpower, apparatus or specialized equipment and training.

Recruitment and Retention

The most important part of the volunteer fire service is establishing a recruitment and retention program to seek those potential members and to retain those current members. It is obvious that new volunteers are and will always be required as the current membership continues to age or leave for other reasons.

The recruitment efforts should focus on community members who are stay at home workers, business owners within the community, high school and college aged adults both male and female.

There are many opportunities for the town to become involved with recruitment and retention from advertising and public education of volunteering, to providing health benefits.

Staffing of the Station

At times it is noted that the departments provide an on duty staff to respond in the event of the emergency. The departments have taken the step to address the shortfall of having the fire stations staffed and participate in the Engine 91 program which can benefit each department when called upon. This program should not be considered as a permanent fix or solution for the town's leaders to not face the reality that the current volunteer service is struggling.

Another positive tool is a bunk in program where living quarters are provided to college students during the school year who in return provide a service to the department responding to alarms. Once again this program should not be viewed as a permanent solution.

Review of Fire Contracts

The review of the current fire contracts should be revisited to discuss changing the terminology to reflect plain language. Many of the contracts current reflect boundary lines that reference undeveloped farm land dating back to the 1940's. With the growth of the town over the years, these contracts should be re-written to reference street names to better define and clarify the boundaries between departments. This task can be completed fairly easy, however the town supervisor and board must be willing to commit the time and effort to work with the fire chiefs. It should be noted a review of contractual boundaries may need to be mediated.

Training

Some departments currently utilize an outside contractor with certified instructors to provide and conduct firefighter training, while some departments conduct the training with in-house personnel who are designated as trainers. It is recommended the departments review their current programs and to consider joint training sessions as a group to take advantage of the training that is provided by the certified instructors.

Currently the Brewerton, Cicero and Clay fire departments conduct joint mutual training which is open to any town of Cicero or neighboring department to attend. This program can be expanded upon to offer the same training in the planning stages to further the program and offer it during the evening hours.

Water Supply

A review of those areas which lack fire hydrants shall be reviewed by the town with the immediate areas of concern of Sneller Road (Cicero Fire District) and Island Road (North Syracuse Fire District and South Bay Fire District). Any further planning to place hydrants in these areas should be facilitated by the town.

SUMMARY

The goal of this committee was to evaluate the current fire and medical service being delivered to the community and outline those priority concerns providing insight to the town board. The driving force behind this committee and all future actions from the town board should address the primary question “What is in the public’s best interest”.

It is important for these recommendations to be viewed by the town board to start strategic planning for the future. The town board should take these recommendations and break them down into short and long term goals to work towards achieving them.

Chris Bitner stated that it took a long time to prepare and go through the report and that there were many different personalities involved and the people who work with emergency services tend to be intense and are very detail oriented and analyze everything until they get the best result. Most of the people that served on the committee are involved with the fire service and the report is a consensus of everybody. Every line of the report was gone over until we were comfortable as a group. The report was done a year ago. We felt that this was a very important mission to do and to bring it back to the town, in order to give the town an appreciation for what the fire service really does. The presentation consisted of 149 slides and it will be posted on the town’s website.

Ms. Boyke thanked Chris for his time and the presentation and also congratulated him on his new endeavor. She explained that Chris resigned as NAVAC Coordinator and is moving on after 16 years of service to work at a hospital. Ms. Boyke again thanked him for all his work with NAVAC and as a fire fighter and wished him well.

PUBLIC INPUT

Don Snyder stated that Mr. Conway has been very involved with drainage for a long time and is concerned as to why he voted no on two drainage issues and didn’t express why.

Mr. Conway – I do not feel I should bring them up here.

Don Snyder felt that he should share with the town board so that they can have some expertise relative to the contracts. Last year he was a member of the Drainage Committee and agreed we should be bidding the labor and equipment contract as we did last year but include in that contract the unit prices for the majority or normal items that would be in that same contract, so that when the engineer and the committee have to deal with costs, they would only have to worry about incidental costs that are particular to only that particular contract. Maintenance ought to be a separate contract and should be bid separately and should not be mixed with the same contractor. There are a lot of little contractors in the town that could handle a lot of our maintenance issues, but, could not handle some of the project work. I felt that we were remiss in getting the Town Board to approve the spending of those dollars last year. Since Chris has to get approval for \$1,000.00 the committee should also be asking this board for approval. That will help you and also allow you to give some direction to that committee as to what your constituents are telling you as far as the projects go. Lastly, I’ve had the privilege of being on the ZBA and was given a number of books to read to be prepared for our first meeting and came across one about signs. I am concerned about all of the signs throughout the town regarding being in favor of the Cicero Police. 30 days after the event, the signs are supposed to be taken down and we need to have them taken down. I don’t want to be serving on the ZBA and have someone tell me you can do thus and so with a sign and yet these signs are still up all over the town after they have been told verbally and in writing, by the Codes Department, to take them down.

Resident stated that she had a suggestion. A couple of weeks ago she FOILED a document and was told that the way it was sent into the town was not feasible to copy, so I could come up and view it. I have yet to review it. However last week, I was reading over a request for proposal that Onondaga County had sent out, to a different group and in their proposal, they asked for four paper copies of the proposals and one electronic copy. My suggestion is whenever the town gets any piece of paper, whether it’s in response to a request for qualifications, or quotations, whether its an invoice, or a letter, that not only do they ask for a paper copy, but, they ask for an electronic copy. If they have these reports that are all tabbed for presentation, that’s great, and it would be easy to send these copies to those who request seeing them or to board members. The cost to copy and the paper is expensive and would be a way to save the town a little money in paper and in time.

Engineer Comments – None

Attorney Comments – None

Board Comments

Mr. Corl stated that the signs for support of the Police were put up relative to the public hearing and felt it was good for them to see the support given after what they have gone through over the past year. He also understood Don's concern and asked Brenda to look at the code and if the board wants to make an exception for these signs, for them to consider that. I would also like to thank everyone for their work on the report. They did a very thorough job and brought many issues to light. I feel the report was generated ahead of it's time and so now the County is looking at doing these types of reports. They've held off, because they want to see what this kind of report generates and if it is something to use it as a model throughout the entire county for fire service. From my understanding and review of it, we must do everything we can to preserve the volunteer system that we have in place, as it is the most cost effective and provides the best response times for residents. I appreciate that and all of the volunteer services.

Ms. Zambrano stated she just wanted to acknowledge and thank emergency services and fire fighters for all their dedication for all they do. She also thanked Chris Bitner for the excellent comprehensive report.

Ms. Boyke explained that a year ago she met with Chris Bitner and all of the Fire Chiefs to be introduced to this committee. Due to its intensity, it has taken awhile to produce it and it certainly couldn't have been done without the cooperation of all the other fire departments and citizens as well. Volunteer Services are made up of dedicated people and many people don't realize that. I come from a family of volunteers who were involved with the Brewerton Fire Department who understood what it takes to get up at 4:00 a.m. and respond to a horrific situation. I wish to thank you all.

If anyone is interested in participating feel free to contact me as we would be glad to entertain your participation in the town board activities. I would also ask Vern as the Liaison for the Fire Departments and the Planning Board, who are involved in the building and construction in this town to get together with the fire departments to and coordinate with them, to see what we can do as well.

Ms. Boyke read the following statement inserted as follows and asked that it go on record:

"Mr. Corl, your criticism of the assessors department, and the drainage committee, leads the public and myself to believe that you HAVE the necessary knowledge and experience in handling these situations. To be given the opportunity to participate and rectify these situations is something "I" and others believed to be "In the best interest of serving the people of Cicero." However, if because you may feel" you were a part of the administration responsible for the very problems you now see today, and are reticent to continue your involvement, especially due to your assertion that the drainage situation is under investigation, and if that is INDEED TRUE, YOU, might be a part of that investigation, I have no alternative but to relieve you of any and all other liaison positions as they have already been filled. Mr. Corl, this administration works together on the same team, it is imperative that we all understand every aspect of the delivering services to the people. By choosing not to participate, the only people you owe an explanation to are the very people who elected you to serve and represent them I am disappointed in your lack of willingness to assist me and this board in its chartered responsibilities"

Mr. Corl responded by saying he was surprised that Ms. Boyke brought that up in such a fashion, which is okay. Just so that everybody knows, last year I served as the Liaison to the Police Study Commission and attended all of their meeting per your request. I communicated regarding their report and also served as Liaison to Sharon Edick's Office. In regards to the appointments at the Organizational Meeting, my town assignments were for the Assessor's Office and the Drainage Committee. Relative to the Assessor's Office, I did not vote for the budget or the tax increase. I voted against the budget because you are not funding for a necessary person in that office, which was a full time Assessment Clerk, which was eliminated from the Assessor's Office. This coming year it is going to be a very busy office and they aren't going to have sufficient personnel to be able to handle the work load. I was against the abolishment of that position and I can not adequately serve as their Liaison when they aren't supplied the necessary tools to do their jobs. On that particular night, when there was an abolishment of that position, we had State Representatives here that were basically saying, for every 2,500 parcels, there should be one employee. We have 13,000 parcels and we have three employees and one of them was cut. So, we are significantly understaffed and significantly over extended. So, if they don't have the necessary tools to do what they need to, I can not adequately serve as the Liaison to this board. I believe I was given that role and that responsibility for that very purpose, to reflect poorly on me, I don't know. That is why I rejected that. As for the Drainage Committee, we had some

discussion earlier about contracts. Last year the contract called for a flat amount of \$150,000.00 that had to be paid to Fisher per the contract. There is no approval of expenditures for the payments that were made. There was \$30,000.00 of overruns that this board approved, that I voted against. The structure of the way, things were set up were not proper at all. Since there is going to be a restructuring of the Drainage Committee, a restructuring of the billing practices, restructuring of the contracts, I'll be more than happy to serve on that particular committee and work with them to come up with a solution to the problems that the Comptroller has had issues with such as billing practices and things of that nature. I would be more than happy to do that.

Ms. Boyke – Unfortunately, It's been a month and you didn't come forward, so we have obviously gone forward with the committees and I appreciate your input, but, as far as a Liaison goes, just because a department or a committee has a problem, I don't believe it has anything to do with the Liaison. As a matter of fact, because of your interest, in all of those, you certainly would have been very helpful. Also the fact that you make reference to the committee and the staffing of the department, but, you failed to bring up each time, that they also recommended a full time Assessor. With that, the Liaison positions have been filled, but, I did want to bring it to the attention that you should not come forward in the last month and speak to me about it. Therefore I have made other plans, thank you.

Motion was made by Ms. Boyke, seconded by Mr. Jennings, to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was approved as follows:

Mr. Conway:	Yes
Mr. Corl:	Yes
Mr. Jennings:	Yes
Ms. Zambrano:	Yes
Ms. Boyke:	Yes

There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Tracy M. Cosilmon
Town Clerk

