

Resolution Establishing the Temporary Fire/EMS Study Committee

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Temporary Fire/EMS Study Committee (hereinafter referred to as Study Committee) is to study the current and future staffing, operational and administrative needs of the Canton Fire/EMS Department and make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen for changes in staffing, organizational structure and operations of the Fire/EMS Department.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

That the Board of Selectmen shall appoint a nine (9) member Temporary Fire/EMS Study Committee pursuant to Town Charter, Section 6.05 for the purpose of studying and making recommendations for changes in staffing, organizational structure and operations of the Fire/EMS Department. The primary focus of the Committee will be to recommend solutions to the following or similar concerns:

- Retention / Recruitment;
- Responsibilities of a modern Fire/EMS Chief;
- Ability to meet the regulatory and administrative requirements of the Department with mostly volunteer staff;
- Regionalization of services (automatic mutual aid);
- Day time fire responses;
- Incentives for volunteers;
- Cohesiveness of a partially paid fire department; and
- Concerns with the unequitable distribution of the workload and responsibilities;

The Committee shall include a minimum of five members from the Fire/EMS Department.

The Committee will serve for a term of two years, unless dissolved by a vote of the Board of Selectmen at an earlier date. The two year term shall begin upon the initial meeting of the Committee. The Committee will be responsible for giving a preliminary report to the Board of Selectmen no later than October 1, 2018. The Committee shall make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen if professional services are required. The preliminary report, at a minimum, must make a recommendation as to whether a paid Chief should be hired or a volunteer Chief should be appointed by the Board of Selectmen.