

Kevin Lyden <kevin.lyden@salemct.gov>
To: maryelizabethlang@yahoo.com
Cc: jbsavalle@sbcglobal.net
Nov 5 at 2:59 PM

Good Afternoon Ms Lang,

Thank you for reaching out to Chief Savalle with your Public Safety questions. Chief Savalle and his Department are well respected and we are very fortunate to have him and his qualified staff in Salem. I have met several volunteers from surrounding Towns including Bozrah and I feel we are so very fortunate for each and everyone of them.

As the First Selectman of the Town I have a fiduciary responsibility to my fellow Townspeople. I must craft a fair budget each year. One of the highest priorities in a municipal budget is public safety.

The days of a fully volunteer Fire/ Ambulance are gone, residents rightfully expect more. As Chief Savalle has answered, we have had 2 full time paid staff members since 1983. We also have made enhancements with additional pay and incentives to our On Call Program. Simply said, when people call for Emergency Services-they want them to show up.

While we still very much rely on volunteers and offer them an annual incentive, the Paid Staff and On Call System is well funded in Salem. The system works well for our Town and our residents.

We do provide mutual aid to the Town of Bozrah. In the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2018 my records show that we were called to Bozrah 47 times. The same Fiscal Year we received mutual aid from Bozrah 5 times. I bring these numbers up to show you the disparity. I respect the mutual aid agreements that are in place, however we have to look further. Does Bozrah provide an adequate incentive program to have their Ambulance/Fire respond to their townspeople? Is it time for Bozrah to hire a FF/EMT if they have not already done so?

Feel free to contact me for additional information you may need. Again, I appreciate you reaching out to us on this important matter,

Respectfully,

Kevin Lyden
First Selectman
Salem, Connecticut

Mary E Lang <maryelizabethlang@yahoo.com>
To: Kevin Lyden
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Nov 7 at 6:53 AM