

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK
SPECIAL/WORKSHOP MEETING
MARCH 26, 2025, 6:30 P.M.
18 KEYES LANE**

Board Members Present: Supervisor Herrington, Councilman Sullivan, Councilman Balistreri and Councilman Cipperly, and Councilman Christian.

Also Present: Town Attorney, Dave Gruenberg and Town Clerk, Rebecca Del Gaizo.

Supervisor Herrington called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The purpose of the Special/Workshop Meeting was to discuss issues related to the provisions of ambulance services within the Town of Brunswick. The Town Board heard from Terrance Hannigan, an attorney with expertise in emergency services and municipal law.

Mr. Hannigan provided an overview of the process for municipalities to provide ambulance services and the options available. One option allows a municipality to enter the ambulance business and operate the service under its own name. Another option allows a municipality to contract with an agency that holds a Certificate of Need (CON) to provide ambulance services in the area.

Mr. Hannigan further explained that if a municipality wishes to operate its own ambulance service, it must apply for a CON from the state. A municipality could also contract with another agency that already has a CON. In this case, the town would be responsible for billing, which could be handled by the town or a third-party billing company. A municipality needs to first decide whether it wants to operate its own ambulance service or contract with an agency before filing for a CON. Once a CON is issued, the municipality must operate the service or use its certificate to contract with an agency. If a town contracts with an agency that already carries a CON, the town does not need to apply for its own CON. However, the town would still be responsible for billing. A third-party billing company could be contracted to handle the process. It was noted how complex billing can be.

If the town moves forward with providing ambulance services, it may need to establish an ambulance district. This would require a public hearing and approval from the residents through a referendum process. The ambulance district would allow the town to levy taxes specifically to fund the service.

Mr. Hannigan confirmed ambulance services are not subject to the usual procurement process. While not required, the town could certainly issue a request for proposals (RFP).

Mr. Hannigan also explained that while the service could increase the probability of quicker response times, it would not guarantee immediate availability.

Adjournment

Supervisor Herrington made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Sullivan. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Del Gaizo
Town Clerk