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Executive Director

Who we are



- RPS is a community based not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization
- RPS is the 911 Paramedic provider for the Town of Tuxedo as well as all of Rockland County
- RPS has provided uninterrupted paramedic service to the community for over 35 years
- Responds to 26,000 911 calls/year

RPS History in Tuxedo



- RPS has provided Paramedic Service to the Town since 1997
- (1) paramedic 24/7/365 based in the Tuxedo Volunteer Ambulance Corp. building
- Also provide (1) Emergency Medical Technician to staff TVAC ambulance (12 hours/day. M-F)

EMT vs. Paramedic



Emergency Medical Technician

- The first level of prehospital care in NYS
- EMT provides basic non-invasive interventions
- Approximately 180-200 hours of training
- Administers oxygen, glucose for diabetics, removes patients, prepares for transport to hospital

Paramedic

- The most skilled emergency responders
- Highest level of prehospital care in NYS
- 1800-2000 hours of training
- Administers dozens of medications, starts and maintains IV lines, advanced airway techniques, cardiac monitors, manual defibrillation, 12 lead EKGs and more

RPS in Tuxedo



- Only experienced paramedics are assigned to Tuxedo
 - minimum of three years experience
 - Current average of Medic 31 assigned paramedics is over 20 years
 - Each potential candidate is carefully screened

How does it work?



- Orange County 911 receives call
- OC 911 dispatches via radio and pager the necessary resources
 - Tuxedo Police Department
 - RPS Medic 31
 - Tuxedo Volunteer Ambulance
 - Tuxedo Volunteer Fire Department
- All emergency services units maintain communication with OC 911 via radio

How does it work?



- The paramedic assesses the patient and situation
- If the patient requires paramedic level of care he accompanies the Basic Life Support crew to the hospital
- If not, the paramedic returns “in service” and remains available for another emergency call
- The Tuxedo Volunteer Ambulance then transports the patient to the hospital

Challenges in EMS



- Recruitment and Retention
 - Staffing was a difficult challenge prior to the pandemic
 - We lost several paramedics during the pandemic to retirement, other industries
 - There are about 70,000 certified EMTs and paramedics in NYS
 - Only about 35,000 are practicing currently
 - Overtime dramatically increased
 - Rate increases in 2021 to improve R&R
 - January, then again in June
 - Stabilized staffing, but at significant cost

Summary



- EMS Staffing is at a critical point, especially paramedics
- We need additional funding to stay competitive with salaries and benefits of surrounding EMS services
- We are requesting the additional funding to get us to a zero cost budget