POMFRET EMERGENCY SERVICES PLAN

General

During the past three years the Pomfret Emergency Services Commission (PESC) has been formulating ideas for developing a short range plan (0 to 15 years) and long range plan (15 to 30 years) to provide adequate emergency service needs for the community. Constant communication with volunteers at monthly and quarterly meetings regarding their opinions of needs has been a key factor in formulating these plans. This draft reflects the consensus of the majority of volunteers, selectmen and commissioners who attended the quarterly meetings were the above short range plan items were discussed. After implementation of all of these items, the Emergency Services will be at an adequate level, with buildings and major pieces of equipment, to serve the town for the foreseeable future. Within the next five to ten years the above items are intended to be accomplished in the same priority as listed. Additionally, communication with townspeople, both on one to one basis and at town meeting provides input to the commission. Evaluation of emergency services provided in other similar towns was also taken into account. During the past year (1999), the commission has been working on formulating these plans, so that they can be presented to the townspeople in the Town Report. This work is in accordance with Article 18 Town Meeting 1998, condition and guidelines that were set forth as the duties of the PESC. The items of both the short range and the long range plan are very simple and specific, so that a very clear understanding is developed with the townspeople.

SHORT RANGE PLAN (0 to 15 Years)

In order of priority:

1. Communications. Establish a separate channel, with base station at Woodstock Communications Center and tower in Pomfret, to insure adequate radio communications of all emergencies. Presently our radio signal travels from the Woodstock Communications Center to a tower in South woodstock (about 15 miles away) and is then relayed to radios of the emergency service volunteers in Pomfret. The new system will keep this channel, and add a separate channel for our own use, with a tower located in Pomfret, within three or four miles of all radios. This will allow our own personnel to communicate internally at emergency scenes. This is currently underway and is being accomplished with donation money. This should be complete within a six month period. Additionally we are purchasing new pagers and radios as requested to insure complete communications are provided to all emergency service members.

2. South Pomfret Fire Station. Plan, design and construct a new fire station

at South Pomfret. This has been in the works for several years. Currently land from Woodstock Resorts, immediately adjacent to the existing fire station has been deeded over to the Teago Fire Department for the new building. During 1999 plans and details were developed, including a topographical survey showing exact building locations, property boundaries, landscaping to shield from existing residences and public areas, architectural prints of the building showing not only dimensions but architectural appearance, lighting and all other details. Construction of the building will take place during the following years (anticipated 0 to 5 years). It is the intention of the volunteers to construct this building entirely with donations and self help.

3. North Pomfret Fire Station. Renovation and expansion of the North Pomfret Fire Station. Conceptual plans were developed during 1998, and evaluation of the permit was accomplished, to expand the North Pomfret Fire Station. The intention is to keep the building footprint the same, and provide two levels to the building. The first floor level would house a tanker/pumper, rescue vehicle, and tanker. The second floor level would be a meeting and storage room. Plans call for a 14-foot ceiling, two 12x12 overhead doors, and a gambrel roof. Detailed architectural plans will be developed in the future with construction taking place presumably within the next five years. It is the intention of the emergency service providers to perform this work entirely with donations and self help.

4. Purchase of Tanker/Pumper for South Pomfret. After the construction of the new station at South Pomfret, space will allow for a tanker/pumper, similar to the existing E-1 now housed at North Pomfret, to be purchased and housed in South Pomfret. It was the consensus of all of the volunteers at the August 26, 1999 meeting, that the Sinking Fund (town monies set aside for equipment) should go toward the purchase of a new tanker/ pumper to be housed at South Pomfret. We are moving towards an ample dry hydrant water supply source within the town, and the method of fighting a major fire would be one pumper at the source, feeding another pumper at a fire, through 4 inch hose. Should a used tanker/pumper be purchased, the pump would probably have to be rebuilt, whereas a new tanker/pumper should have a life expectancy of at least 20 years. The Sinking Fund will be used for the purchase of new tanker/pumper.

5. North Pomfret Tanker. Purchase a used tanker capacity 2,000 to 3,000 gallons, to be housed in the North Pomfret Station. This may include the purchase of a retired town truck chassis and installation of a tank on the same. The Sinking Fund is intended to be used for this purchase.

6. South Pomfret Tanker. Replace the South Pomfret Tanker with a new chassis and tank. This will be the purchase of a good used chassis and tank, an identical situation as with the North Pomfret tanker. A retiring town truck may be an alternative, and the assembly of a 2,000 to 3,000 gallon tank on the back. The Sinking Fund is intended to be used for the purchase of this vehicle.

Summary Short Range

Within the next 5 to 15 years the above items are intended to be accomplished, in the same priority as listed. Both North Pomfret and South Pomfret need renovation or new stations as first priority. The equipment specified, along with the existing equipment will bring the town to a major equipment level that is sufficient to handle our needs for the foreseeable future. Total pieces of equipment within the town will include the following: two tanker/pumpers, one rescue vehicle, one mini pumper, and two tank trucks. In addition to these capital improvements, other improvements include plans for a communication tower, new equipment (pagers, radios, defibrillator), and other necessities for adequate emergency services.

LONG RANGE PLAN (15 to 30 Years)

General

The long range plan is to continue to analyze the emergency service needs of the town of Pomfret, given its rate of growth and its existing emergency service capabilities. Long range planing includes setting monies aside for replacement of major pieces of equipment, with an estimated life expectancy of at least 20 years. The need for any future fire station and/or building structure will be continually analyzed as part of long range planning. However, at this time it is the consensus of the majority of those attending our quarterly meetings that the town can best be served with adequate response time, by continuing to operate major services equipment with two stations. Response time is a major factor in determining the need for both buildings and equipment and will continue to be a major factor when conducting long range planning.

The commission will continually inform the townspeople of any changes we feel are appropriate to this emergency services plan. We will continue to seek input from all volunteers, town officials and all townspeople, as we attempt to maintain a plan that is responsible and practical for all of Pomfret

Respectfully submitted,

Pomfret Emergency Services Commission