



TOWN OF CALAIS

3120 Pekin Brook Road
East Calais, Vermont 05650
802-456-8720

May 25, 2021

Seth Gardner, Chair
East Montpelier Selectboard
P.O. Box 157
East Montpelier, VT 05651

Toby Talbot, President
East Montpelier Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
P.O. Box 146
East Montpelier, VT 05651

**Re: Notice of Non-Renewal; Contract With Respect to Fire
Suppression, Ambulance, and Other Emergency Response
Services
Town of Calais, Town of East Montpelier, and East Montpelier
Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.**

Dear Seth and Toby:

The Calais Selectboard has performed its due diligence to our residents in reviewing the Contract.

In our March 30, 2021 letter, Calais gave notice of our intention to negotiate a new emergency service contract for our communities. We stated our concern at a meeting on Monday, December 7, 2020 and identified our issue with respect to item #6. Below is our proposed change to item #6.

(6) The manner of presentation of EMFD's operating budget or any capital request will be at the discretion of each individual Selectboard. The operating budget cost share allocation methodology between the towns is set out in a wholly separate agreement from the contract entitled "East Montpelier Fire Department Cost Allocation Agreement Between the Towns of Calais and East Montpelier."

We are taking this approach so that the voters have an opportunity to review, discuss, and approve the operating budget line items for emergency services provided by the East Montpelier and Calais Fire Department. We are taking this same approach with Woodbury Fire Department's budget and they do not have an issue with this methodology.

We also need to amend the automatic renewal process to be no more than three years. The date of renewal will be September 1 with a 60-day notice to reopen the Agreement for discussion.

Letter regarding non-renewal of contract
May 25, 2021
Page 2 of 2

Again, the Calais Selectboard sincerely appreciates the services that the East Montpelier and Calais Volunteer Fire Department has provided to Calais residents. We also appreciate the good working relationship we have shared with the East Montpelier Selectboard and the Department's leadership. We look forward to many more years of cooperation in service to our communities.

We look forward to meeting with you to discuss the terms of a new agreement. We will be reaching out to you shortly to develop a schedule of meetings for these discussions.

Sincerely,


Denise Wheeler, Chair
On behalf of the Calais Selectboard

<http://www.calaisvermont.gov/>