CERT Minutes 10/28/2026

The meeting began at 6:35 p.m.

Flag salute

Present: Peggy Askew, Tristan Askew, Barbara Kimmich, Roland Kimmich, Carol Kouba, Ken Lauffer, Doug McIntyre, Connie O'Grady, Vince Troiano, Lisa Chammings, Sue Dell, Suzanne Garrera, Neil Hubbard, John Tsadilas, Maureen Tsadilas.

Minutes: A motion was made by Connie and seconded by Suzanne to accept the September minutes. The minutes were approved.

Old Business:

There were 200 fire calls and 431EMS calls in the tripod area up to 10/20/26.

Stillwater CERT posted a disaster preparation series online each week in September.

14 members of our group attended the autism training in Hopatcong. Key takeaway: over 90% of people with autism who wander and are later found dead die from drowning because they are attracted to water.

Vince and Maureen met with Tammy, Stillwater CFO, to discuss donation letters. Vince will revise the 2025 letter. Peggy asked if we could put a QR code on the letters. Not this year, according to Tammy, but maybe in the future.

We earned $300 for participating in Stillwater Cleanup Day.

New Business

OEM:
Lisa reported that the state put trainings on hold due to the necessity to concentrate on the FIFA World Cup matches held at MetLife Stadium.

There are two new buildings under construction near the Homestead. One will house the Rapid Task Force, which will deal with active shooter situations.

In 2027 we are hoping for an ordinance making Stillwater CERT part of the town's emergency services structure. We now only exist by resolution. An ordinance would set the rules of operation and allow us to be covered by the town's insurance policy when we are called out.

Lisa distributed Ids to newer members. If you leave CERT, you must turn in your ID along with other

equipment.

Other New Business:

Carol read a letter from the Hardwick mayor and the Warren County Historical Society thanking CERT for its help in managing traffic at the Historical Society's recent Octoberfest.

Thanks to Peggy for help with raffle tickets.

We now have a new large go-bag for supplies.

Neil and Maureen attended the Psychological First Aid training on 10/21 offered through the Medical Reserve Corps.

There will be a K9 Tactical First Aid training on 11/14.

Vince made a motion and Peggy seconded to accept the supply list for 2027, total expenditure $514. The motion was approved.

We submitted two bids to the OEM office for portable power stations to cost either $500 or $570.

Maureen suggested that we increase next year's budget to $3600, up from $3000 this year. Barbara looked at the budget and suggested asking for $5000-$6000. Lisa came up with a list of budget items as follows:

Training	$2500
Gear	$1000
Supplies	$ 700
Miscelaneous	$1000
Total	$5200

She also said we should ask Tammy if we can include $300 for fuel reimbursement.

The budget was passed by the members.

Bills:

Long-sleeve shirts, vests	$ 90.50
Medium go-bag	$ 59.00
Wands and batteries (for traffic control)	$ 63.99
Background check	$ 45.00
Printer ink	$ 58.30
Total	$316.79

Barbara moved to pay the bills, Peggy seconded. Payment of bills was approved.

Maureen will do a presentation about CERT at the 11/10 Stillwater Township Committee meeting. Please try to attend. We will show a short video about what we do.

We discussed when and where to have a holiday party. It was decided to have it on Wednesday, 12/16

at the Community Center. The cost will be $10 per person. Barbara and Connie volunteered to organize it.

Our last meeting of the year will be on 11/18 at 6:30.

The meeting adjourned at 8:07.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Kouba