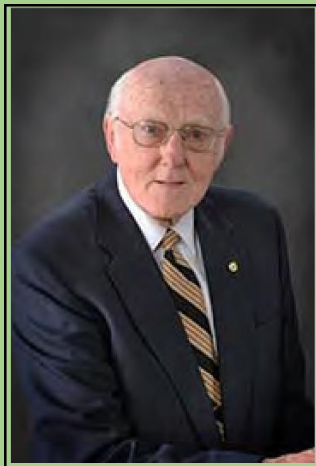


THE

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STRATFORD TIMES



Mayor's Message STRATFORD AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION



As you may recall from prior editions of the Stratford Times, the corporate structure of the Stratford Ambulance Association Inc, is a private, non-profit entity providing EMS services to Stratford since 1955. For over 20 years, **Stratford and Magnolia** enjoyed an EMS Alliance relationship, providing EMS services to all towns in the Sterling School District.

In January of 2023, the new agreement between the **Stratford Ambulance Association Inc. and the Magnolia Ambulance Association Inc.** took effect. In doing so, Stratford Ambulance consolidated some assets with Magnolia Ambulance and now Sterling towns have 24/7, 365 paid EMS coverage, as provided by Magnolia Ambulance Association. Under our model, the Stratford Ambulance Association Inc. **PRIVATELY FUNDS** the Stratford EMS portion of the shared service agreement. Stratford also makes our licensed and insured ambulance available to Magnolia on an as needed basis.

To dispel misleading information, the Stratford Ambulance Association Inc. remains a New Jersey State Licensed and insured Ambulance squad with an EMT Chief and a board of trustees, all of who volunteer their time to keep our EMS system functional.

Although our 911 response is contracted 24/7 to Magnolia Ambulance, our volunteers provide First Aid Services at local special events as necessary.

To offset the annual payment to Magnolia Ambulance, your Stratford Ambulance Association Inc. is continuing their annual fund drive which I am proudly supporting myself.

To recap, Stratford residents are protected 24/7, 365 by paid EMT professionals. The shared service contract is 100% funded by grant funds, donations, and subscription service payments made by State Licensed facilities in town.

Proudly, our EMS funding model is structured so that not one dollar of property taxes is raised to fund the shared services arrangement.

In closing, I would again be remiss if I did not personally extend a thank you to our Council Members who worked so hard, to devise this long-term EMS service solution for the folks of Stratford.

Wishing you all a happy and safe holiday season.



Warmest Regards,

Mayor Josh Keenan