



Topsham Fire & Rescue



100 Main Street
Topsham, Maine 04086

(Ph)207-725-7581
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topshamfirerescue.com



March 9th, 2026

To: Mark Waltz, Town Manager
From: Nicole St. Pierre, Interim Fire Chief
CC: Board of Selectmen
Date: March 9th, 2026
Re: Permission to increase the Capital and EMS ambulance Resupply Budget

Topsham Fire and Rescue Department respectfully request permission to increase the budget line for ambulance re-supply and add a capital purchase item for the upcoming budget year.

Justification

The Federal DEA is enacting the Protecting Patient Access to Emergency Medications Act (PPAEMA) with the initial deadline of March 9th to comply giving all Maine EMS services 30 days to comply. The DEA enacted a rule before pieces were put in place to allow Maine EMS agencies to apply for DEA licensing and to manage their own controlled substances. The regulation change has been placed on hold for now until Maine has updated their statutes and rules regarding EMS the licensing and updated use standards for possession and use of controlled substances. And until the DEA has actually updated their portal to allow EMS agencies from the state of Maine to apply for licensing.

Currently Topsham's narcotic medications are owned by MidCoast Hospital and TFR secures them in our own med vaults in the apparatus. MidCoast controls all purchasing and replacement of controlled drugs and their DEA required use logs.

While this has been placed on hold temporarily for now this is a procedure and storage system that will be required to be in place very shortly.

Nicole St. Pierre
Interim Fire Chief



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Request

1. Permission to add to the Capital Budget the purchase of a Knox Secure Station Vault so that we will have a secure space for controlled substance storage. This is the same system we use to hold the town's Knox box keys as well as the narcotics vault in the ambulances and they are secured using a pin pad that tracks individual access. This will allow Topsham to remain compliant with the DEA for storage. The cost of this vault is \$3,211.00, this will require an electrician to wire in the vault for an estimated cost of \$500.00. Total Capital request is \$3,711.00.



KNOX STATIONVAULT™
SECURE NARCOTICS STORAGE

The Knox StationVault offers secure narcotics storage designed for drug resupply applications in office or medical environments. The durable flexibility of the StationVault provides storage for up to 200 vials, with wall or counter mounting options. Networking options allow all access history to be automatically uploaded to KnoxConnect® Software Management System for review. With integrations available to send audit data to inventory systems, the StationVault can strengthen chain of custody tracking and reporting for controlled drugs.



StationVault
with Badge Reader



StationVault
with Standard Keypad



StationVault Interior

2. Increasing the Ambulance Resupply budget by \$1,100. I researched the last two years- controlled substance medication use as well as subsequent expiring med exchanges and took the average. Our hopes are that we will not have to purchase these medications retail with long lead times for delivery and purchase direct from MidCoast hospital for a bulk medication

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pricing, and lower inventory storage requirements, however it is not clear yet if MidCoast will be allowed to dispense as of yet.

Thank you for considering this request.

Deputy Fire Chief

Nicole St. Pierre
Interim Fire Chief