

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

April 10, 2023

MINUTES

Present: Brett Salafia, Phil Visintainer, Darin Hurne, and Eric Germain

Absent: Darius Ledas.

Others Present: Fire Chief Robert Rainville, Marty Swan, Fire Marshal Rich Klotzbier, Greg Voelker, Kenny Royce, and JJ Burke.

Call to Order: Chairman Salafia called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at Company #1 firehouse.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Approval of the Minutes

- a. **March 13, 2023:** *A motion was made by Mr. Visintainer, seconded by Mr. Salafia, to approve of the March 13, 2023 meeting minutes. Voted 2-2 with Mr. Hurne and Mr. Germain abstaining.*

Public Remarks: None

Approval of bills/budget report: The Fire Chief is looking to purchase some locks to keep the equipment secured. *A motion was made by Mr. Hurne, seconded by Mr. Germain, to approve of the purchase not to exceed \$1,835 out of account 23021. Voted 4-0 in favor.*

The annual appreciation dinner is coming up. The payment for the event location needs to be sent. *A motion was made by Mr. Hurne, seconded by Mr. Visintainer, to approve of the payment for the annual appreciation dinner in the amount of \$8,500 out of account 5633. Voted 4-0 in favor.*

Purchase new SCBA bottles not to exceed \$7,000. *A motion was made by Mr. Hurne, seconded by Mr. Visintainer, to approve of the purchase of new SCBA bottles not to exceed \$7,000 from account 2238. Voted 4-0 in favor.*

Fire Marshal Report: See attached.

Fire Chief Report: See attached.

Communications: The Finance Director inquired about the conversion from ACG to the new awards program. There's an RFP for tying the pieces of ACG being acquired by the new company. It was suggested to have the awards program be incorporated into the town's pension

plan and to have the town be the ‘custodian’ for the account. The commission members discussed checking into the new company that took over ACG. There was a suggestion to look into other similar companies to compare and see what other options are out there.

Unfinished Business:

- a. **Dry Hydrant Follow Up:** Mr. Swan called Comtech about finishing the tank. The Fire Chief will be approaching the homeowner of 51 Chestnut Hill Road about installing a pipe in the pond on the property. An easement would need to be drafted if the homeowner agrees to the pipe. The Fire Chief also has to meet with Matt Walsh of Public Works about the stream behind Center Package Store. The dam located on the 3 Walnut Ave property needs repairs to the retaining wall.
- b. **Awards Information/ 1099 Follow Up:** Only looking for the follow up for the 1099’s for the payouts of the awards program.
- c. **Fire Boat Update:** The boat will be delivered in another month. The pump is in and was installed on the boat.
- d. **Budget:** Everything in the budget proposal was approved and accepted. The proposal for the drone was the only item not approved. The town has a drone and agreed to let the Fire Department use it when needed.
- e. **Building Committee:** There is no update at this time.

New Business:

- a. **Stipend Increase:** The members discussed the stipend increase for the awards program. It was suggested to have the stipend increase start in the next budget/ fiscal year. The commission should submit the new stipend in July for the increase to show and have the leftover be applied to the line item for the following year’s awards program.
- b. **Safety Trailer:** The Fire Chief can’t find the VIN number for the safety trailer. The members can’t do anything with the insurance company without the VIN number. It was suggested to contact the manufacturer.
- c. **Chairman Position:** Mr. Salafia sent a letter to the Town Manager and the Town Council resigning as the Chairman of the commission. A copy of the letter was also sent to the Fire Chief as well. Mr. Salafia stated he has a family situation that needs his attention. The chairman also stated that he would be available by phone for a time if needed.

Adjournment: *A motion was made by Mr. Visintainer, seconded by Mr. Germain, to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 P.M. Voted 4-0 in favor.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Aligata

Recording Clerk