

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
May 8, 2017
“MINUTES”

Present: Brett Salafia, Eric Germain, Charles Gotta, Phil Visintainer

Absent: Darin Hurne

Others Present: Fire Chief Greg Voelker, Assistant Chief Martin Swan, Fire Marshal Rich Klotzbier, Fire Fighters Chris Lundquist and Charles Spakowski

Chairman Salafia called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at Company #1 on Barton Hill Road.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: *A motion to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2017 regular meeting was made by Mr. Gotta and seconded by Mr. Visintainer. Voted 3-0-1 with Mr. Germain abstaining.*

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2017 special meeting was made by Mr. Gotta and seconded by Mr. Visintainer. Voted 3-0-1 with Mr. Germain abstaining.

Public Remarks: None

Approval of Bills/Budget Report: None

Fire Marshal Report: Fire Marshal Klotzbier's report is attached to these minutes.

Fire Chief's Report: Fire Chief Voelker's report is attached to these minutes.

Communications: None

Unfinished Business:

- A) Follow Up on Trailer Purchase:** Chief Voelker spoke with Finance Director Jylkka about the particulars of the purchase, and if all goes well the trailer should be delivered by tomorrow. The trailer has been inspected to the satisfaction of Department members. It has a 5 year transferrable warranty according to the seller. This trailer will hold the UTV and brush firefighting equipment at Co#1.

A motion was made by Mr. Visintainer, seconded by Mr. Gotta, to transfer \$6,500.00 from account #5335 (fire equipment testing) to account #5742 (vehicles) for the purchase of the trailer. Voted 4-0 in favor.

- B) Dispatch:** Chief Voelker reported that items that were previously discussed have been handled and/or covered by his contacts in Glastonbury. The Chief noted that the frequency of mistakes seems to be going down and that some of the items he contacted them about recently were the result of incorrect information on the part of reporting parties. Glastonbury has told him there will be retraining of operators to handle any other issues. Discussion occurred on the frequency of the FD being called to MVAs, and whether they were being dispatched for accidents involving injuries and/or fluids down, as is protocol. Possible future discussion with the Town Manager.

New Business:

- A) Fiscal Year End Account Reconciliation:** *Mr. Gotta moved and Mr. Germain seconded to reallocate funds in the specific amounts and accounts listed below. Voted 4-0 in favor*

*\$144.40 from account 5590 to account 5330
\$6,566.60 from account 5590 to account 5438
\$3,787.71 from account 5590 to account 5430
\$3,500.00 from account 5620 to account 5430
\$3,500.00 from account 5621 to account 5430
\$858.91 from account 5743 to account 5430
\$794.94 from account 5743 to account 5655
\$2,000.00 from account 5659 to account 5658
\$1,000.00 from account 5657 to account 5658*

- B) Discussion of Possible Spending at Close of Fiscal Year:** Tabled until June 12 regular meeting

- C) Fire Marshal Hours Issue:** The Fire Marshal is pushing up against his budget in terms of hours available to him. The Town Manager has told him that unless there is an investigation of fire cause or origin he should ration his hours. Chairman Salafia will try to get this item on the agenda for a Town Council meeting as it needs to be stated on public record that problems could arise from failing to perform inspections. There have been recent cases brought to court regarding fire code issues. The townspeople and Council need to be aware of this, especially if they want to cut his budget because the Town is statutorily mandated on certain aspects of the Fire Marshal position such as inspections. Fire Marshal Klotzbier is looking to add 20 hours a week for himself and the Deputy Fire Marshal.

Chief Voelker stated that there are proposed bylaw changes. The bylaws will be distributed to the Commissioners to be discussed at the next meeting.

Adjournment: *A motion was made by Mr. Gotta and seconded by Mr. Visintainer to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 P.M. Voted 4-0 in favor.*

Respectfully submitted,

Eliza LoPresti
Recording Secretary