

Board of Fire Commissioners

Greenfield Fire District
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January 23, 2013 Commissioners Workshop

Workshop began at 7:00 pm.

Present were: Commissioners Atwell, Barss, Chandler, Spackmann, Waite; Secretary Petkus, D/P Chouinard, D/T Perkins. Please see sign in sheet for others in attendance.

1. Flag salute/moment of silence recognized for departed members/troops overseas.

2. **Approve Minutes:** None.

3. **Secretary Update – Joyce Petkus**

- Law and Management Conference in March: Justin Burwell and Stephanie Burwell have requested permission to attend. Permission granted to Justin and Stephanie to attend. Brief discussion, anyone interested in attending must submit paperwork no later than February 13th Commissioners meeting, Joyce to register as they are approved; added to March meeting agenda for resolution.

4. **Purchasing Update – Jill Chouinard**

- Chief asked her to look into a 5 gas, gas meter, has not heard back on what the 5th gas is that he would like in the meter, so does not yet have that quote ready.
- Worked on getting a better price for the Holmatro cutter with Garrison, including free shipping. Brief discussion, will order it tomorrow; money to come out of rescue account.
- Gear fitting scheduled for March 7th and March 28th, Co #1 5-9 PM. Sent out email for lists from each company of those who need gear, none received.
- Still waiting for Chris Courtois' pager from Co #4.
- Still no LDDS form received regarding the lost uniform coat.
- AFG: still have heard nothing. Brief discussion; fit test machine and thermal imaging cameras were requested.
- Recently applied for the Fire Prevention & Safety Grant.
- Dress uniform fitting scheduled for February 17th at Co #1 at 10 am. Received list from Co #3 only. Brief discussion; lists due no later than February 6th. D/C Davis noted that no one from Co #1 needs a uniform. Jill to ask Chief to send out over the pager tones, as well as another reminder email. Joyce noted they are really trying to put as much info on the Firetracker calendar as another tool to keep everyone informed of what is going on in the District.
- Still looking for a new seamstress. Brief discussion.
- Co #4 window has been installed; Bill Reid will be there sometime next week to finish up the project. President Deuel to be kept in the loop.

- If everyone is happy with the cell phone plan, will continue as is. Keep as is.
- Does the Board want her to look at evaluating waste services? Contract with Casella was up in December. Brief discussion; Jill to get several quotes and then Joyce to add to agenda.
- Ground ladder testing is schedule for January 26th for Co #1 and 2, and February 2nd for Co #4. Contact numbers have been given out as well.
- Some minor issues with recent fire extinguisher maintenance, Jill has spoken with the vendor. Brief discussion. Co #3 water cans to be returned either tomorrow or Friday.
- FASNYS's Recruit NY is scheduled for April 27th and 28th. Brief discussion on each company possibly doing open house for fire prevention/recruitment, more advertisement. Commissioners Barss noted he would really like to work on this, possibly make a big deal out of this.
- Placing order for cow tags; does anyone need any? No.
- Annual SCBA maintenance set for March 5th though the 8th. Jill will accompany Tyler Fire and inventory them at the same time.
- Pager was found last night at Co #2 OSHA class and no one has claimed it. Cannot read the serial number to figure it out. Brief discussion.

5. Treasurer Update – D/T Perkins:

- Nothing at this time.

6. Commissioner Updates:

- **Jack Atwell**
 - Co #1 has a new applicant, Tyler LaHart, that lives just outside the District. Brief discussion; Co #1 to move forward with application.
 - Physicals coming up/by law updates, let's get it all done before the deadlines!
 - OSHA training has started; great attendance, thanked everyone for the effort to get it out of the way early this year.
 - Jaws maintenance has not been done since 2011; he will work with Jill to get it done. Brief discussion.
 - Bill Goldfeder Conference: was approached by some firefighters if the Board was paying for them. Commissioner Spackmann noted his understanding is that GFD members get in free.
 - Questioned if contracts are needed for air compressor, SCBA maintenance. Jill noted in her discussions with the vendor, we do not.
 - MacBoston conference on February 16th at Rexford. Joyce noted it is on Firetracker under the training section and also sent an email out about it.
 - Saw the email regarding the ISO meeting; Brief discussion; Board accepted new ISO rating. Joyce to contact Mr. Geibel.
 - Saw email regarding Dorothy Nolan charity basketball game; Commissioner Spackmann noted that the Avenue is looking at putting a team together, everyone is invited.
 - Treasurer training coming up at Saratoga Hilton; Joyce noted Vanessa would like to take it. Board okayed, Joyce to register Vanessa.
 - Discussion regarding purchasing new fit test machine, grant request update. To wait until mid-February when money comes in.
 - Questioned if the by-law committee is working on the active member and voter eligibility, does not want it to get forgotten.

- Received a letter from a firefighter regarding an officer training program; thinks it is a good idea. Copies previously given to the rest of the Board and the Chief. Would like the officers to discuss.
- **Darren Barss**
 - Nothing at this time.
- **Mike Chandler**
 - Asked if anyone looked at the quote from Munter regarding the canopy extension at Co #2. Lengthy discussion followed. Tabled until at least Co #3 roof is settled.
 - Need some heat in the pole barn for the frozen water, fire police and Argo. Co #2 has a furnace, Toby Middlebrook willing to do the work if we buy the parts. More discussion continued, including cost of heating annually. Will need approx \$1500 to purchase copper line, power vent and thermostat, and then approx. \$1500.00 per year to heat.

RESOLUTION #37 APPROVING INSTALLING HEAT IN THE POLE BARN.

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Chandler

RESOLVED to approve installing heat in the pole barn.

VOTE: Atwell, no; Barss, yes; Chandler, yes; Spackmann, yes; Waite, yes.

Motion carried.

- Would like to start looking into a new Chief's vehicle to replace the pickup. Commissioner Atwell questioned if the plan is to trade the current vehicle in; Commissioner Chandler noted he is not sure. D/C Ellsworth suggested turning this over to the truck committee. Brief discussion continued.
- **Ken Waite**
 - Auxiliary would like permission to host a roast beef dinner on January 26th and fish fry dinner on February 23rd. Joyce noted that if a flyer or information is sent to either she or Jill, they could get it on the website and Facebook, etc, to help with getting things like this advertised.

RESOLUTION #38 GIVING CO #2 AUXILIARY PERMISSION TO HOST A ROAST BEEF DINNER ON JANUARY 26, 2013 AND A FISH FRY DINNER ON FEBRUARY 23, 2013.

MOTION: Waite

SECOND: Spackmann

RESOLVED to give Co #2 auxiliary permission to host a roast beef dinner on January 26, 2013 and a fish fry dinner on February 23, 2013.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

- Would like to go into the radio reserve and purchase 8 portable radios. It was noted there was \$29,900 in the reserve currently. The Chief requested 4, and he would like to get one for each fire police captain so when they get to the scene they can talk to fire control. Discussion continued including as to why the Chief would like the 4 radios and why fire police needs to use the

ground channel, the County does not want fire police on the radios, possible purchase of repeaters. Jill to contact the Chief as to why the Chief wants the 4 radios and get back to the Board, and D/C Ellsworth to contact Galway Chief regarding the success of the repeaters.

- **Richard Spackmann**
 - Nothing at this time.

7. Reports of the Chief/Chief Officers:

- **Chief Lant:**
 - Not present this evening.
- **D/C Davis:**
 - Attendance is up.
 - Lights falling off the side of the building. Brief discussion; Commissioner Spackmann to contact the electrician.
 - The MacBoston truck is going to stay here until the spring if it is alright with the Board; the company is okay with it as well.
- **D/C Middlebrook:**
 - Would like to order an electric positive pressure fan; the fan they have now is very old and not working very well. Brief discussion; a new fan costs about \$3800. A/C Petkus noted he and D/C Ellsworth are going to a fire show in February; they can look into some of the equipment the District is looking for.
 - Part delivered to the Town garage for the District's mechanic; given to D/P Chouinard for delivery to Dave Kenyon.
- **D/C Ellsworth:**
 - Last month the Board approved donating some of the 3" hose; he will be working on that.
 - Have 2 foam pros that don't really get used that much. Edinburg is in dire need of one, would like to loan one to them. Commissioner Spackmann and Joyce to work on loan form and email to D/C Ellsworth.
 - Asked if there is an update from Munter on the roof; Commissioner Chandler noted they are waiting for warmer weather. Brief discussion continued.
 - Heat in his office is working great; Toby has not completed the vents though. Commissioner Chandler to call Toby.
- **D/C King:**
 - Not present this evening; Lt. Chouinard noted nothing new to report.

D/P Chouinard noted the Board needs to let her know what to do about the Cat and the Rhino. Brief discussion continued. Minimum acceptable bid for the Cat is \$1500.00 and the Rhino is \$4500.00. To be advertised in the Gazette legals and classified, through the County, District website and Facebook. Sealed bids will be due to Jill by 3 PM on February 27th, with bid opening that evening at the February Workshop. Added to agenda.

8. District Guideline Review:

- **Officer Requirements Policy:** no changes made; Commissioner Spackmann believes the by-law committee is addressing it currently.
- **Training Approval Policy:** no changes made.
- **Uniform Policy:** the following changes made:
 - Tie to be navy

- Name tag to be placed on the right hand side of the uniform on outermost garment.

Joyce to make changes for formal approval by Board at the February meeting.

- Honorary Deputy Chief Policy: New policy. Joyce to send to officers for their comment as well as to the by-law committee. All comments due before the March meeting. Added to March agenda for approval by the Board.

9. District Projects:

- Current Projects:
 - District Office Building: Question from Mr. Leary regarding flooring in bathrooms and utility. Joyce noted her concern regarding VCT in bathroom and maintaining it versus installing tile. Discussion continued, including having regular maintenance done in the new building. Board agreed to VCT with regular maintenance.
- Future Projects:
 - None.

10. Special Topics of Discussion:

- Firefighter broke his ring and filed LDDS form. Brief discussion regarding District insurance coverage, personal effects of firefighters covered in line of duty. Joyce to contact insurance carrier and firefighter to file paperwork.
- D/C Ellsworth asked if they were going to talk about the reels on 281. Brief discussion; A/C Petkus was to form a committee and create a list of tools.
- George Habig, resident, asked to have a notation in tonight's meeting in regard to the 26th of December's where it was stated that he was against the sign it was not needed. What he was against was the electronic sign.

RESOLUTION #39 TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:45 PM IN REFERENCE TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF FIREFIGHTER STEVE HARDER.

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Barss

RESOLVED to go into executive session at 8:45 PM in reference to the employment of Firefighter Steve Harder.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #40 TO RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:01 PM.

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Waite

RESOLVED to reconvene from executive session at 9:01 PM.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Atwell with a second from Commissioner Barss to dispense with the reading of the minutes. All in favor.

Motion made by Commissioner Waite with a second from Commissioner Atwell to

adjourn the workshop at 9:02 PM. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce A. Petkus

Joyce A Petkus
District Secretary