

Board of Fire Commissioners

Greenfield Fire District
P.O. Box 103
Greenfield Center, NY 12833
(518) 893-0723

July 1, 2007 Workshop

Workshop began at 7:25 pm.

Present were: Commissioners Kugler, Spackmann, Waite and Secretary Petkus.

Commissioner Kugler: Gave an update regarding having the fire extinguishers inspected. Got quotes from NY Fire and Security and Fred Whipple Fire Extinguisher Sales & Service. Fred Whipple gave the best price. Noted that if the kitchen system is UL-300 compliant, he will be able to inspect it. Asked Commissioner Waite to find out about that. Gave quotes to Joyce to make copies for each Commissioner. Noted that Gary Bullard was supposed to get a quote from a guy they use at his company, but he never got back to him. He would like to have Fred Whipple inspect all the extinguishers, asked if anyone had a problem with going with Fred; no one had.

Discussed with Commissioner Waite the bill for \$1926 for the hose from Garrison. Invoice date is February 2nd. Hose was apparently delivered back in December to Porter's. Commissioner Waite noted the bill needs to be paid.

Commissioner Waite: Brought up the quotes Tom had gotten for the water softeners, which were a lot of money and he felt that no matter what you're still going to have problems. Commissioner Spackmann felt that we are committing the same mistake, that every time there is a problem or a hurdle, that we are going to have to accept that and with this there just may be a \$1200 bill a year for each station. Felt it was a vicious circle. It was decided to wait until Commissioner Robarge was here to discuss the matter further.

Also noted he was still waiting to hear about the size of the generator for Porter Corners. Commissioner Spackmann thought that maybe the generator should be installed at Middle Grove next instead of Porter Corners. Commissioner Waite said he had been fighting for it for 5 years now. Commissioner Spackmann explained that Porter's has gotten a lot; the new truck, pole barn and the floor replaced. Commissioner Waite explained that there is a problem with the floor already, they were told to use Mop and Glow and the glue is coming through the floor, the worst of it is in the hallway. Commissioner Waite said he also spoke to Mike Chandler about that crack in the back, and when he gets a chance he will look at it and see what they can do with it.

Going back to his original point, Commissioner Spackmann explained that Middle Grove hasn't gotten anything this year; Commissioner Waite said he was fine with that, although what they were figuring on is to get the concrete donated and pour the generator pad at the same time behind the pole barn. Something for the Commissioners to think about. It was suggested that they consult with Mike LaGalles. Commissioner Kugler said that it may be possible to both generators.

At 7:45 pm Chief Dennis McConkey, A/C Jay Ellsworth and Captain Ed Petkus joined the workshop.

Chief McConkey explained that he would like to make Alicia Tuller the Department photographer. Commissioner Waite had a problem with it because she does not have any schooling like Essentials, Scene Support or FF1. Discussion followed. Regarding gear, Chief McConkey noted that all the interior people at Porters are covered already. Alicia will take Scene Support, get an orange vest and a pager with all 4 tones in it. A/C Ellsworth also suggested that maybe she should get a light coat as well.

Regarding the new generator, he felt it should be lagged to the concrete. Commissioner Kugler said to speak to Commissioner Robarge, as that is his project. There was also some discussion on whether the generator is level or not.

Joyce had a few things to go over with the Commissioners:

- Can she ask Jill to get a lock box for the office keys? Commissioners okayed it.
- Handed out a letter from Andrea, who outlined which records we could destroy. Would like to the Commissioners to review and possibly approve at July's meeting, although no resolution is actually needed.
- Sheriff Kelly came in the other day and asked if we had a civil defense siren. She did not know the answer. Commissioner Spackmann said we do not have one. Chief McConkey to get in touch with him and let him know.
- Trying to get a meeting with Butler, Rowland and Mays regarding the outstanding bill. Leigh will call her hopefully tomorrow with an answer.
- A/C Lant called her the other day looking for the fax numbers for all four companies. Co #2 and #3 do NOT have dedicated fax lines for the Rip and Run program. The District office does not have a dedicated fax as well. It was suggested that Joyce call Vernon Brownell to get it taken care of and to make sure the faxes go in the radio rooms. Co #4 has a dedicated line, but it doesn't work any way as there are problems with the Verizon lines. Everyone in the area is having a problem, not just the fire house. Discussion followed. Commissioner Spackmann suggested that maybe Maple Avenue get Time Warner Cable All in One with a separate line through Verizon in case the power goes out. A/C Ellsworth said that at Co #3 there is already a line upstairs, so it should be fairly easy to do.

Commissioner Kugler said he had one thing before we get to the By-Laws. The Boy Scouts came to A/C Gibbins and asked if they could pour a pad out back, to park their trailer on it. Some discussion followed; it was suggested A/C Gibbins ask the Commissioners at the July meeting.

Commissioner Spackmann brought up to discussion where the next generator shall be installed. Several firefighters have suggested that it could be installed in Middle Grove instead of Porters. He is indifferent either way but wanted to discuss the next location. Commissioner Kugler noted it might be possible to do both Companies this year, need to look at the financial situation and do some research. He also felt that maybe Commissioner Robarge, Mike LaGalles and Harold Hall should look at the other 2 companies, as they did a good job with Co #1 generator.

Chief McConkey explained that he needs to address officer vacancies and what the procedure is. There is nothing in the By-Laws. Commissioner Waite said they have a vacancy now and we have to handle it. Commissioner Kugler suggested that at the next company meeting have a special election to replace that spot. Discussion followed, including the election process in general.

Chief McConkey also noted that he thinks A/C Murray is going to resign as Assistant Chief of Porter Corners. Discussion followed.

The Chief also noted that everyone did a great job at the trailer fire. They are going to take pictures for evidence and put them on a disc and Secretary Petkus is going to lock them up in the fire proof cabinet.

The Chief then asked the Commissioners what was going on with the ladder truck at Co #4. Secretary Petkus explained that she had dropped off 6 bids to Town Hall on Thursday morning, the ad broke Friday morning and by that same morning there were only 2 bids left, she would have to make more copies.

The Chief also decided to hold an Officer's meeting after the Commissioners meeting on July 11th. A/C Ellsworth asked if Secretary Petkus would email him all the scheduled workshops. She noted she would send them to all the officers she had email for. At 9:00 pm, Chief McConkey, A/C Ellsworth and Captain Petkus left the workshop.

Over the course of the next hour, Commissioners Kugler, Spackmann and Waite went through pages 13-21, with only minor changes, including Secretary Petkus asking A/C Gibbins about the weight requirement for EMT's: is it 50 or 125 pounds?(Page 14) and Article III: Membership, Section 8: Member moves out of District. There was some discussion about that particular section and the decision was made that they would leave that section for another meeting. Next meeting of the By-Laws will pick up at Article IV, Section 3.2: Assistant Chief and Second Assistant Chief. All modifications were made on the By-laws packet directly.

Commissioner Kugler ended the meeting, reminding everyone present the next workshop would be July 9th, 7:00 pm at Co #1, and that George Persons, the auditor, would be here to discuss his findings of the audit.

Workshop adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Respectfully,

Joyce A. Petkus
District Secretary