

Board of Fire Commissioners

Greenfield Fire District
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Greenfield Center, NY 12833
(518) 893-0723

June 20, 2007 Workshop

Workshop began at 7:30 pm.

Present were: Commissioners King, Kugler, Spackmann, Waite, Secretary Petkus and FF Mike Lagalles.

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

- Needed a signature for the LOSAP from Chairman Kugler, will take care of Dave Kenyon paperwork and have Karen Gibbins notarize it;
- Only 30 physicals have been completed so far; Commissioner Waite had just come from his physical and was very impressed;
- Forwarded the Code of Ethics to the Comptroller's office last week, but how does the Board want to proceed with the membership? After discussion, it was decided that a copy of the Code would go to the officers with a letter explaining that all the membership will sign off on it along with the By-Laws once those were completed. Commissioner Spackmann questioned if the code of ethics needs to be signed off on each year. Joyce to find out.
- Executive session: Joyce noted that if no decision is made, then minutes of executive session do not need to be kept, this was discussed at the Nevele as well as with Bill Young, who recommended that no minutes be taken. Joyce's concern was if the minutes get FOIL'd, then they do become public. Decision was made that no minutes would be taken if no decision was made in executive session. Commissioner Waite suggested that maybe a different tape be used to record it and erased if no decision is made.
- FYI – Association of Fire Districts teleconference on September 6th and the Nevele conference is November 1-4, should start thinking about who is going. Joyce noted that detailed information about the Nevele should be here by the end of the month.
- Website – asked Commissioner Spackmann if it would be okay to forward our new website information now to both the towns of Wilton and Greenfield; he said yes.
- New member applications – Joyce had revamped them about a month or so ago and she is running low on the current ones, so she asked if she could start with the new ones instead. Commissioner Spackmann noted that the whole application process needs to be revamped as well. Decision was made to go with the new ones.
- Update on Co #1 generator: Commissioner Robarge not present tonight, she will call and get the update so she can complete the grant, as well as complete the paperwork for the additional \$17,500.00 Commissioner Kugler got.
- Uniforms: Explained that she, Jill, the Chief and A/C Ellsworth sat down on Tuesday night to go over the uniform committee recommendations. Jill already did some research and the badges/hat straps would use up approximately half the budget. Joyce then explained the process by which she and Jill hoped to follow, but that it would take quite a while to update those who already have uniforms. They plan on a uniform inspection for each company after the inventory is ordered and comes in, and in the

future they plan to have a uniform exchange each year, probably in January or February. Also asked the Board to consider possibly increasing the uniform budget for next year. Commissioner King suggested that they could possibly use Natalie Older to do the alterations. Joyce took the information and noted when it came time for that she would check it out. Board advised her to go ahead with it. (Copy of email from Jill attached).

Commissioner Kugler: Noted that Co #1 had lost 2 lengths (100 ft) of 5" hose at a fire and needed to be replaced. He got prices of \$5.75 and \$5.89 per foot, but Curt Bullard was now working for Kocheck and could get Angus hose for \$5.10/foot. Commissioners agreed to let Curt Bullard get the hose. Can make jumpers out of the damaged hose. Commissioner Kugler called A/C Gibbins and confirmed that he had the hose and would be making jumpers out of them. Commissioner Spackmann noted it should come out of operations.

Also noted that there are problems over at Wild Fire, Travis has left and went to work for Crimson. Trying to get the fire extinguishers inspected, called Wild Fire back in May and right now they have no one to do it. John mentioned to him Fred Wipple, Don to call and check it out. He also called NY Fire and Signal and asked Joyce to keep an eye on the mail for a quote from them. Commissioner King noted that B-LAN does it for the city but Commissioner Kugler does not want B-LAN to do it. Gary Bullard also to get him the name of the company that does it where he works. They must be qualified for the Ansul system at Co #2.

Commissioner Spackmann: Asked Commissioner Waite about how he is making out with the emergency lights? Commissioner Waite noted that Porters is done and asked how they made out down there. Commissioner Kugler noted that he was supposed to do all the firehouses. Total Electric was down at the Avenue to do the outside parking lights only. Commissioner Waite said he hadn't talked to him because he was waiting to hear from the other companies what they needed. Discussion followed. Commissioner Waite to call Total Electric and have the other companies taken care of.

Had discussed in the past about the voting districts, if we plan to have elections/votes in 2 firehouses. Commissioner King felt that we need to vote in 2 places, in order to get adequate voting from here and for the Wilton people, need to have 2 voting places. Commissioner King also noted that we probably won't get the machines to vote, as they haven't been replaced yet with the new ones. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Kugler asked that the committee in charge of the 60th anniversary party make sure the Senator Farley and Bill Young get invites to the party. Joyce said she already told Karen but she will double check again with Karen. He also wanted to know who the MC was; Joyce said not to quote her but she thought she remembered something about Randy Davis. She will also check that out. Commissioner Spackmann suggested that maybe the Board should meet with the committee at some point. Regarding the awards, who will be handing out the awards? Felt it should be the Chief/Chairman of the Board/A/C of the company.

Commissioner King: Had a radio committee meeting today with the County and Paul Lent and they had lost their 800 frequencies, don't use them you lose them. Had to get a hold of the FCC and managed to get them back. Looking to have something on the air the last quarter of this year or the first quarter of next year. They need to show the FCC they are starting to use the system. They also have 16 700 frequencies. There are already towers in Providence and on Spruce Mtn, one thing he thinks will benefit the fire district are the towers to go on Skidmore and Mt. McGregor, as well as the tower at County dispatch. There will also be a tower out in Stillwater. More discussion continued, including the statewide wireless

issue. Felt it would take 2-3 years for completion, and they will phase it in, but they are not sure if it will be phased in geographically or function wise. Need to resolve some issues first. Cost of the portable radios will be about \$3600 each and \$3000-\$4500 for truck radios. Discussed the wide band, narrow band issue as well. Advised to stay away from repeaters because of the issue with a problem with a repeater that went bad in Glenville. He also talked about the reverse 911 and that each town will have someone trained in reverse 911. Fire control will handle it for the fire districts. Will need to register cell phones, but they guarantee by the end of the year they can go into cell phones and send them messages, for example in the event the Northway is shut down for a car accident.

Commissioner Spackmann said it was great that they are getting this going, but how are we supposed to plan budgetary wise for the new radios, when the budget for 2008 is due in October. Commissioner King said we would have plenty of notice and that we aren't going live for a while. He also noted that they want us to buy all the radios through the county, because when you go to get on the system, the radios are registered and if you didn't register the radio it will not recognize it, and it will send a message to kill the radio because it will think it is a pirated radio. Noted Paul Lent has been great at communicating about what is going on. Does not know what vender they are going to be using, possibly could be Motorola or GE. More discussion followed.

Commissioner Kugler asked Commissioner Waite to check with Albany Communications because he sent out his fire police radio 6 weeks ago to get the channels changed in it and has still not heard anything yet. Spoke with Jill about it as well.

Commissioner Waite: Jon had brought up the crack in the wall and he went around and looked at it and it's where the forms came up to the wall. He asked Mike Chandler to take a look at but he's been so busy. Commissioner King asked if he they tried the gray concrete caulk to seal it for moisture. Commissioner Waite also said he needs to speak to Steve Van Dyk about some stuff you can put in there to seal it, but he forgot the name of it. More discussion continued, including discussion about the black top around Co #2. The floor is also done and he got a hold of Jean to pay the bill.

Commissioner Kugler noted that if there was nothing else, he would like to get started on the By-Laws. Commissioner Waite explained that he had his physical tonight and was fasting and so he was going to go home to eat dinner and he was okay with any changes made to the By-Laws by the Board.

Commissioner King felt that we should also have a meeting with the By-Law committee after we make any changes. The officers made changes and gave them to the Board and now we are going to make changes and we don't want to talk them. Discussion followed. Commissioner Spackmann felt that if we are going to make minor changes there is no reason to have another meeting. How many meetings do we need to have before enough is enough? Commissioner King suggested one final meeting between the Board and the By-Laws committee. Commissioner Spackmann said he would be okay with that.

Over the course of the next two hours, Commissioners King, Kugler and Spackmann went through pages 1-13, with only minor changes, except for Article III: Membership, Section 1.1. Active Members. There was a lot of discussion about that particular section and the decision was made that they would leave that section for another meeting, to give the Commissioners time to think about how best to deal with that. Meeting was concluded after finishing up Article III, Section 1. Next meeting of the By-Laws will pick up at Article III, Section 2: Membership Classification. All modifications were made on the By-laws packet directly.

The following workshops were scheduled over the course of the next few weeks and included: July 1, 9, 18, 23, and August 1. All workshops will be held at Co #1 at 7 pm and will include continued discussion of the By-laws, the 2008 budget and any other business as shall come before the Board.

Workshop adjourned at 10:30 pm.

Respectfully,

Joyce A. Petkus
District Secretary