



HOPKINTON FIRE DISTRICT
2876 State Highway 11B
Hopkinton, New York 12965
(315) 328-4682

Commissioners Meeting – June 14, 2016

Present: Ronald Streeter, Carl Pitts, Earl McBride, Sue Wood, Steve Bory, Joachim VanElls

Guest: Will Votra, Ben Wood, Frank Barney, Dick Powers, Joe VanElls, Steve Parker, Ernie Wood, Justin Sweet, Rene Hotte

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairman Streeter, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Joachim VanElls (Carl Pitts) made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. All in favor; motion carried.

Ronald Streeter (Steve Bory) made a motion to accept the minutes from the May meeting as presented; all in favor; motion carried.

The following claims were presented for payment:

- National Grid \$149.04
- Nicholville Telephone \$66.72
- MX Fuels \$194.75
- Admiral Fire & Safety \$505.45
- Wilber’s Hardware \$3.23
- Lamphere’s General Repair \$715.41
- Environmental Health Screening \$900.00
- G&E Extinguishers \$49.00
- Ronald Streeter \$49.00

Carl Pitts (Joachim VanElls) made a motion to approve payment of the presented claims. All in favor; motion carried.

Earl McBride reported a starting balance of \$93,470.42. After payment of the above claims, the balance in the checking account will be \$90,837.82. Steve Bory (Carl Pitts) made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. All in favor; motion carried.

Privilege of Floor – none

Correspondence – NYS Fire District Affairs Newsletter

Chief's Report – There are no know building or mechanical issues to report. Truck inspections and inventory were completed with no known issues. SCBA inspections were completed. Members logged in 31.5 man hours responding to calls; 99 man hours of training; 149.5 man hours for general station work/work detail/fundraisers. Training was held in the following areas: Leadership Development, Firefighter I preparation, and truck and pump training. There are currently four (4) members in Firefighter 2. *Essentials of Fire Fighting, 6th Edition/Student Workbook/Exam Prep* and *Fire Officer: Principles and Practice/Student Workbook/Exam Prep* were received. There was a chicken barbeque on May 29 and the field day is scheduled for July 23. The fire pit construction is almost complete.

Calls for the month included:

- 5/16 – MA - Tri Town Rescue
- 5/22 – MA – Nicholville fire for grass fire with 13 members
- 5/23 – MA – Tri Town Rescue
- 5/24 – Fire Alarm Activation at Hopkinton Town Garage with 6 members
- 5/25 – MA – Tri Town Rescue

Joachim VanElls requested a copy of the member roster with training. Discussion was held as to why this was needed.

Joachim VanElls (Steve Bory) made a motion to accept the chief's report. All in favor; motion carried.

New Business: Rene Hotte, representative from USDA, spoke on direct loan applications for financial assistance in purchasing a new tanker. USDA would also need a copy of the last two (2) years of the annual report to go with the application. The interest rate is currently at 2.875% but could go as high as 4%. There are possible grant funding opportunities as well. The loan can go as high as 15 years once approved. Discussion was held on how involved the USDA needs to be in the specifications. They would require 2-3 quotes and recommends holding a public hearing. The grant funding for 2016 have been depleted. October starts the new cycle for December/January distribution. Chief Parker gave the grant application to the commissioners for preparing.

Dale Nicholson submitted his letter of resignation due to relocating to Indiana. Joachim VanElls (Steve Bory) made a motion to accept the resignation. All in favor; motion carried.

Three (3) letters of interest were received for the vacancy: Justin Sweet, Frank Barney and Dick Powers. The candidates were introduced and gave a brief introduction and why they were interested. Each candidate was thanked for their interest and asked to step out of the meeting for discussion. Discussion followed on the merits of each candidate. Steve Bory (Ronald Streeter) made a motion to appoint Dick Powers to full the term until the end of December 2016. The motion was carried with Joachim VanElls opposing.

Ronald Streeter gave a report on the Bob Freeman seminar, which was attended by three (3) of the commissioners. It was interesting and fact finding.

Joachim VanElls reported on his findings regarding stipends as allowed by law for volunteer firefighters. He would like to suggest offering \$500 for the completion of Fire Officer I training. It was noted that this was not in the budget. At the suggestion by Steve Bory this was tabled until the budget work sessions.

Discussion was held on scheduling a work session regarding changes to the department by-laws. Commissioners were reminded that the board is a financial advisory board. The department is responsible for the day-to-day operations. Ronald Streeter has checked with other districts (Colton, Madrid, West Stockholm) and these boards accept the department by-laws. Ernest Wood asked if there were problems with the current chiefs. Joachim VanElls (Steve Bory) made a motion to table this until a further date. All in favor; motion carried.

Old Business

The chiefs and Will Votra will be attending the NYS Fire Chiefs show. They will use this time to look at trucks and talk with air pack vendors. They will be working on a grant to purchase air packs.

Carl Pitts was placed on the truck committee to replace Dale Nicholson. The committee will get together after the fire show to start the process.

Joachim VanElls received an application for the State and Municipal Facilities Program for the purchase of a new tanker. The application will need a project description and estimate of money. Joachim and Sue will work on completing the application and submitting to Senator Little.

Joachim VanElls (Steve Bory) made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All in favor; motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 7:5 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Sue Wood, Secretary