



HOPKINTON FIRE DISTRICT

2876 State Highway 11B

Hopkinton, New York 12965

(315) 328-4682

Commissioners Meeting – August 9, 2016

Present: Ronald Streeter, Carl Pitts, Earl McBride, Sue Wood, Joachim VanElls, Dick Powers

Absent: Steve Bory

Guest: Jim Bogardus, VFIS; Steve Parker, Ernie Wood, Ben Wood

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

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

Carl Pitts (Joachim VanElls) made a motion to accept the minutes with a revision on the figures for the financial report (\$971.62 received for 2% insurance for a corrected balance of \$89,302.31). All in favor; motion carried.

The following claims were presented for payment:

- National Grid \$157.43
- Nicholville Telephone \$67.98
- All Hands Fire Equipment \$739.69
- Bicknell Corporation \$34.95
- NAPA Auto Parts \$4.29
- BLann Company \$698.55
- Environmental Health \$225.00

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

Treasurer McBride reported the beginning balance in the checking account was \$89,302.31. After payment of the presented claims, the balance will be \$87,374.42. Dick Powers (Ron Streeter) made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. All in favor; motion carried.

Privilege of Floor

Jim Bogardus, VFIS, attended the meeting to make sure the district was not experiencing any problems with the current insurance policy. Various questions were asked regarding specific coverage: if car wrecked on way to call, is this covered if firefighter does not have collision coverage (covered up to deductible or \$1000); drones are covered under the blanket policy; new on-line courses are being offered [if someone gets charged, please contact Jim, he can waive the charge]. The quote is the same as last year. He was asked to send the new quote for review at the budget workshop.

Chief Parker asked who was responsible for providing pads for a Hazmat spill. The current inventory was used at a recent spill. Mr. Bogardus suggested contacting the fuel company. Also, the estimate for Ron Streeter's glasses should be faxed to him as soon as possible so this can be processed.

Ernest Wood reported that the foam system is still not working. He asks that this be fixed as it was brought to the commissioners' attention quite a while ago. The last quote that was received for fixing this was \$6,000. He also questioned the purchase of a ground monitor which was discussed three (3) years ago. The price for this was \$1800. It was requested to bring a new quote to the budget meeting.

Correspondence: Letter received from Federal Licensing Incorporated. No action taken as our current license is good for 10 years.

Chief's Report: There are no known building or mechanical issues to report. Truck and inventory inspections were completed. E61 appears to have a small electrical issue that is killing the batteries. The department is looking into this. SCBA inspections were completed with no issues being present. St. Lawrence County Training Center donated six (6) gently used SBCA packs and eight (8) masks to the department. Members logged in 13.5 man hours responding to calls last month; 17 man hours of training and 479 man hours of general station work and/or work details. Patrick Lashomb was accepted as a member at the August department meeting pending a background check. Richard Moulton Jr. was accepted as a RAM member at the August meeting. Various truck and pump trainings were held, as well as some in-house training. Equipment needs include eight (8) SCBA mask bags at @ \$21 each; a blue safety vest with "RAM" lettering at @ \$33 and HAZMAT absorbent pads.

The first field day held in many years was a success. Plans for next year have begun. There will be a chicken barbeque in October.

It should be noted that water supply is at a critical low. A few members damned up the fill sites with sand bags but we are still in need of water.

Calls for the month included:

- 7/4 ATV accident – 99 Mud Pond Tote Road with 10 members
- 7/7 Tri-Town Rescue Assist – Corner of 458 and 11B with 7members

Chief Parker also reminded the commissioners of a pending payment to M. Sherman for the writing of the grant. An invoice will be submitted for payment in September. Joachim VanElls (Dick Powers) made a motion to accept the chief's report. All in favor; motion carried.

Carl Pitts (Dick Powers) made a motion to purchase the requested mask bags, safety vest and pads. All in favor; motion carried.

Dick Power (Joachim VanElls) made a motion to accept the memberships of Patrick Lashomb (pending the background check) and Richard Moulton as a RAM. Both reside outside the district but this does not put the department over the allotment. All in favor; motion carried.

New Business:

- Potsdam Volunteer Department has a 1996 engine for sale, 1500 gallons with a 1250 pump. This was on the auction side but they did not accept the final bid of \$10,700. After discussion between the departments, the department requests that the commissioners consider placing a bid of \$19,500. This truck could replace E96 and continue the work on a new truck. This would give the department 1500 gallons of water. Potsdam Fire Department did bring the truck to Hopkinton to see if it would fit in the station. Joachim VanElls (Carl Pitts) made a motion to approach Potsdam for a written price. All in favor; motion carried.
- Joachim VanElls brought forward a proposal to change the election process for commissioners. He proposes changing the "Letter of Intent" to the use of a petition requiring 25 qualified signatures as per Town Law § 176 (7). He felt that this would bring information regarding the district to the taxpayers. The commissioners felt that there was no advantage to this and would require extra work for a position that has no salary. No action was taken.
- Joachim VanElls brought forth the legal requirements for fundraising as per General Municipal Law § 204-a (8) a. Fundraising needs to be submitted in writing and the commissioners need to vote on this. Following a short discussion, Chief Parker will include all information on upcoming fundraisers on the Chief's report. Chief Parker did note that they are working on getting lawnmower pulls back in October during the chicken barbeque and that non-members will be working at this event.
- Parking Lot Repairs – Carl Pitts brought up the fact that the parking lot work needs to be completed where it was cut out for the wiring. This has been in disrepair for about two (2) years now. The stones need to be dug out and readied for final paving. Ron Streeter will check with the Highway Department for patching.

Old Business:

- SAM Application – submitted to Senator Little's office.

- Budget workshop – A budget workshop for fiscal year 2017 is scheduled for Tuesday, August 23 at 7:00 at the town office. Please review last year’s figures prior to the meeting.
- Truck Committee – Chief Parker will schedule a meeting.

Dick Powers (Joachim VanElls) made a motion to adjourn. All in favor; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Sue Wood, Secretary