



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

Commissioner Meeting – August 9, 2012

Members present: Frank Barney, Gerald Goldsworth, Jim Hollenbeck, Mike Opal, and Sue Wood
Absent: Dale Nicholson

Guests: Vickie French, Loren Hollenbeck, Ernie Wood, Steve Parker, Benjamin Wood, Greg Crump, Stewart McCollum

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chair Frank Barney, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Barney asked for any additions to the agenda. Correspondence from Jean Murray was added to the agenda. Mike Opal (Gerald Goldsworth) made a motion to accept the agenda as revised. All in favor; motion carried.

Chair Barney asked for approval of the minutes from the July meeting. Jim Hollenbeck (Mike Opal) made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. All in favor; motion carried.

The following bills were presented for payment:

- National Grid (pre-paid) \$118.20
- MX Fuels \$1,747.23
- NAPA Auto Parts \$21.49
- Tracey Road Equipment \$67.02
- G & E Extinguishers \$442.00
- Nicholville Telephone \$67.99
- Hopkinton-Ft. Jackson Fire \$500.00
- Town of Hopkinton \$123.63

Mike Opal (Jim Hollenbeck) made a motion to approve payment of the bills. All in favor; motion carried.

The financial report was presented. The beginning balance was \$56,646.93 Following payment of the August claims, there will be a balance of \$53,559.37. There was not a statement available for the reserve funds. Jim Hollenbeck (Gerald Goldsworth) made a motion to accept the financial report. All in favor; motion carried.

Privilege of Floor

Vickie French stated that she understood that the department has a truck out of commission and if there is a fire, what is going to be used to respond. Chairman Barney responded that we do have a brush truck and an engine and have a capacity of 750 gallons. Mutual aid will be used to assist. As a taxpayer, Vickie responded that she has a concern with this. She questioned whether we could get a truck from another department to keep in our station until the truck was fixed. Due to the size of our station, a truck would need to be left outside so this would not work. There are three (3) departments on automatic stand-by so they feel this is a viable option for now. She questioned what the plan was for getting the truck fixed. There is a truck committee and they will be looking into various options.

Vickie mentioned that she had checked the department website and noted that the minutes and agendas were not posted. There is a new regulation which states these must be posted. It was explained to her that the website belonged to the department, not the district.

Stewart McCollum of McCollum Financial introduced himself. His firm has been in business for 10 years and focuses on institutional type plans such as 401K. One of his clients is the Teamsters Union. A discussion was held on what he could do for the district investment wise. We will need to check with the attorney to see what can or cannot be done due to the use of public funds. The initial investment would not be protected.

Chief's Report

- Interior physical results have been returned. Jared McCargar has also been qualified for respirator usage. The following firefighters have been fit tested for all masks: Ernie Wood, Loren Hollenbeck, Jonathan Burnett, Steve Parker, Greg Crump and Ben Wood. The following firemen still need to be fit tested: Lance Lesperance, Jake Hollenbeck, Dale Nicholson, Jared McCargar, Phil Wagner and Colin Pearl.
- A dialog has been started with Lake Ozonia Association regarding options they could assist with to provide fire protection at the lake (i.e., dry hydrants, etc.)
- SCBA packs have been inspected for the year.
- Calls for the previous month included a brush fire on Sheldon Road on 7/12 with 7 members; boat fire at Lake Ozonia with 11 members; traffic control/storm standby on 7/17 with 11 members; EMS/MVA on State Route 11B on 7/29 with 9 members

Chief Parker asked what the expectation was for the truck being repaired. Chairman Barney replied they are just waiting for the parts. One of the issues is the carburetor but everything should be ready by next Friday. Jim Hollenbeck (Mike Opal) made a motion to accept the Chief's report. All in favor; motion carried.

New Business

- Jim stated that he had an opportunity to meet with Senator Griffo. Jim explained our situation to him and Senator Griffo is going to see if he can assist with funds for the purchase of a truck. He should know in a couple of weeks.
- Sue mentioned that she had spoken with the chief of Nicholville Fire Department. They are having their hydro testing done at Northern Fire for \$14/bottle. They will pick up and deliver. We are currently paying G & E more than double this amount.
- A chain of command has been established. If the department has issues, the members are to take it to the chief. The chief will then report issues to the chairman of the district to bring to the board. The chief has an emergency repair allowance of \$500.
- It is time to work on the 2013 budget. We will need to really look at the numbers this year.
- Sue Wood suggested that since it looks like it is going to be a tough budget with the truck repairs, a public hearing should be held to override the 2% tax cap. Jim Hollenbeck (Mike Opal) made a motion to schedule a public hearing regarding this. All in favor; motion carried. Jim Hollenbeck (Gerald Goldsworth) made a motion to hold the public hearing on Thursday, September 13 at 6:45 p.m. at the fire station, with the regular meeting to follow. All in favor; motion carried. A request was made for the chief to prepare his budget requests.
- Vehicle maintenance should be scheduled every 6 months. Ernest Wood stated that in the past he has taken the trucks to Lampheres with a list of issues to be looked at and Lamphere's informed him that they had been told by specific members not to make the repairs. As the district needs to know the cost of repairs before they can be fixed, the chain of command was established. Mike Opal (Jim Hollenbeck) made a motion that vehicle maintenance would be completed every 6 months at an establishment to be determined. All in favor; motion carried.
- Correspondence was received regarding posting the labor law and a fee for ordering this. This poster can be obtained through the Department of Labor free.
- A letter was received from Ken Blankenbush advising the district that there was no funding available for a truck.
- The insurance on ETA-44 should be cancelled.
- Garth Brooks from Emergency One has contacted the district and would like to meet regarding the purchase of a truck. He will be at the station on Wednesday, August 15 between 7:30 and 8:00 p.m. A notice will be publicized regarding a special meeting to discuss the purchase of a tanker/pumper.
- Jean Murray has requested the use of the fire station on August 25 to put on a dinner to assist the family who had a recent drowning. Jim Hollenbeck (Mike Opal) made a motion to allow the use of the fire station for this event. All in favor; motion carried. Jean will be notified that she will need to provide her own water.
- Steve Parker relayed a complaint he had received from Ron Streeter regarding the air bottles on the floor and hoses on the trailer in the bay. He felt this was unacceptable. The commissioners asked that it be relayed that this was the equipment that was taken off ETA44 and it needed to be in a safe and secure spot.

- A question was asked what the intention is to do with ETA44. We will salvage what we can and junk the rest. The district is looking to get something back in the station as soon as possible.

Gerald Goldsworth (Mike Opal) made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All in favor; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Sue Wood, Secretary