



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

Hopkinton Fire Commissioners – August 8 Meeting

Present: Frank Barney, Gerald Goldsworth, Jim Hollenbeck, D. Nicholson, S. Wood

Absent: Mike Opal

Guests: Steve Parker, Ernest Wood, Ben Wood

Public Meeting on Purchase of Truck

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Barney explained the purpose of the meeting was to discuss (a) the purchase of a used fire truck from the Dewittville Fire District and (b) overriding the 2% Property Tax Cap.

The fire district has located a 2001 KME International from Dewittville Fire District that that they would like to purchase at a cost not to exceed \$95,000. It will be necessary to obtain and issue bond anticipation note and/or serial bond or a statutory installment bond not to exceed the cost of \$95,000 for a period of five (5) years.

There being no public comments, the meeting moved to the second item on the agenda.

The Hopkinton Fire District introduced a resolution for the intent of overriding the 2% property tax cap currently in place. It was mentioned that it is not the intent of the district to exceed the 2% allowance but by passing a resolution this gives the authority to do so if necessary.

There being no public comments, Gerald Goldsworth (Jim Hollenbeck) made a motion to adjourn the special meeting. All in favor; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 6:40 p.m. An addition to the agenda included setting a date for the vote on the truck purchase and adopting the resolution to override the 2% Property Tax cap. Dale Nicholson (Jim Hollenbeck) made a motion to accept the agenda with the noted additions. All in favor; motion carried.

The minutes from the July 11 and special meeting on July 30 were presented. Dale Nicholson (Gerald Goldsworth) made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Jim Hollenbeck abstained as he was not present for the July 30 meeting. Motion carried.

The following claims were presented for payment:

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| • Wilber's Hardware | \$38.18 |
| • National Grid | \$145.02 |
| • Environmental Health Screening | \$975.00 |
| • Champlain Communications | \$642.75 |
| • Nicholville Telephone Co. | \$67.66 |
| • Northern NY Newspapers | \$17.21 |

It was noted that there was an error in the July claims. The information received from Hopkinton-Ft. Jackson Fire Department included an invoice from Wilber's Hardware. The treasurer combined this invoice with other invoices for the fire department. It became apparent that the invoice from Wilber's Hardware was not paid by the department; therefore, the amount was adjusted to the fire department and a check was made to Wilbers Hardware. The overall amount did not change but two (2) checks were issued instead of one (1).

Dale Nicholson (Gerald Goldsworth) made a motion to approve payment of the presented claims. All in favor; motion carried.

The financial report was presented. The beginning balance for the month was \$53,548.19. A deposit of \$60 was made for a water haul. After payment of the August claims, the balance will be \$51,760.55. Jim Hollenbeck (Dale Nicholson) made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. All in favor; motion carried.

Privilege of Floor - none

Chief's Report – Chief Parker reported that are no building or mechanical equipment issues to report. ETA-49 has a fuel delivery issue, possibly a small air leak in the fill tube. It appears to run okay when the tank is full but stalls after the fuel level decreases. This will be monitored and adjusted until the new truck arrives (pending voter approval). All other trucks are in working order. A new RAM member, Garret Roberts, submitted an application and was approved through the membership pending an arson check. There were a total of 47.5 man hours responding to calls, 55.5 man hours of training and 289 man hours of general station work. Two members completed ICS300; other members logged in truck training hours. All approved equipment purchases have been ordered.

Calls for the month:

- 7/18 Mutual aid to Nicholville: 563 Water Street, CO alarm – 9 members

- 7/19 Mill Street: tree down on road, 8 members
- 7/19 Mutual Aid to Nicholville: Water Street, Traffic Control – 6 members
- 7/31 Mutual Aid to Lawrenceville: 11200 St. Route 11, structure fire –14 members

Jim Hollenbeck (Jerry Goldsworth) made a motion to accept the Chief's report. All in favor; motion carried.

New Business

Frank Barney reported that he had received a complaint regarding sirens being used in the middle of the night. It was requested that a resolution be passed against the use. The complainant was informed that a resolution could not be passed as it was a law for the use of these. He asked everyone to be considerate in the middle of the night when responding to a call.

The fire boat (Marine 17) is almost ready to be placed in service. The Fire Department is interested in transferring ownership to the District. It has been said that some commissioners are not in favor of receiving this donation due to the funds to insure and maintain. The insurance company was contacted regarding costs. Since the boat is less than 31 feet, it would be considered as portable equipment and there would be no additional cost for insurance. The trailer would have to be added to the policy at a minimal cost of \$100/year. The department has established a boat fund and has been increasing from fundraisers and various donations. The Boat Committee is willing to use these funds to cover the additional insurance cost (trailer) for the first three (3) years of service, as well as any repairs. This would allow the district plenty of time to build funds into the budget. When the fund is depleted and the district can no longer afford it, it could be pulled from service. Discussion was held on this request. A question was asked if the boat is NFPA compliant? This will need to be checked on before pursuing. Jim Hollenbeck (Jerry Goldsworth) made a motion to table until the September meeting. All in favor; motion carried.

It was brought up at the department meeting regarding the allowance of non-members riding in the emergency vehicles during non-emergency times. A discussion was held on changing the by-laws to approve this but the insurance company and the district needed to be contacted. The insurance company says that non-members are covered under the current policy as long as seat belts are used at all times, no riding outside the vehicle and that vehicles are called out of service and not able to respond to emergency calls. A discussion was held on this. Dale Nicholson (Jim Hollenbeck) made a motion to table this until the department can come up with a policy. All in favor; motion carried.

The public vote for the purchase of the truck will be held on Tuesday, September 17 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the fire station. Dale Nicholson (Jim Hollenbeck) introduced the following resolution:

RESOLUTION APPOINTING BOARD OF ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, Section 175 of the Town Law provides for a Special Election of Fire Districts; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners is authorized to appoint election inspectors and ballot clerks at such elections;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following resident electors of the Hopkinton Fire District are hereby appointed to constitute the Board of Elections for the Hopkinton Fire District in a Fire District Special Election to be held on September 17, 2013:

Susan Lyon, Chairperson
Sue Converse, Ballot Clerk
Janice Barney, Ballot Clerk

AND IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairman and Ballot clerks be compensated in the amount of \$35 for their services in preparing the registration records and attendance at the annual election.

RESOLVED, August 8, 2013

Dale Nicholson (Jim Hollenbeck) made a motion to withdraw \$20,000 from the Equipment Reserve and use towards the purchase of the truck in addition to the \$75,000 being borrowed from Community Bank. All in favor; motion carried.

Old Business

Frank Barney will contact Northern Fire for a date for ladder and pump testing. The shelf brackets have been made but not modified yet. These will need to be welded together before installation.

The 2014 budget needs to be adopted before September 24.

Mary Jane Toomey has declined the position of Treasurer. Bonnie or Paula Helftner will be contacted to see if they have an interest.

Budget figures for 2014 were discussed and reviewed (see attached tentative figures). A budget workshop will be scheduled for August 20 at 7:00 p.m. at the fire station.

Jerry Goldsworth (Dale Nicholson) made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All in favor; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Sue Wood