

D R A F T

**MINUTES OF OFFICERS MEETING
OF THE
MISQUAMICUT FIRE DISTRICT**

June 12, 2014

The Officers' Meeting of the Misquamicut Fire District was called to order by the Moderator, Michelle Vacca, at 7:00 p.m. on June 12, 2014.

Members present were: Marilyn Bellesheim, Leone D'Onofrio, Mary Delisio, Shannon Earle, Russell Ryan, William Sisco, John Toscano, Michelle Vacca. Dianne Vumback arrived at 7:10 p.m.

A motion was made by William Sisco and seconded by Marilyn Bellesheim to accept the Meeting Minutes of May 21, 2014 with corrections.

VOTED: That the Board accepts the Meeting Minutes of May 21, 2014 with corrections. (Bellesheim, D'Onofrio, Delisio, Ryan, Sisco, Vacca, – Yes)

A motion was made by William Sisco and seconded by Marilyn Bellesheim to accept the Meeting Minutes of May 30, 2014 with

corrections.

VOTED: That the Board accepts the Meeting Minutes of May 30, 2014 with corrections. (Bellesheim, Delisio, Ryan, Sisco, Vacca, – Yes; D’Onofrio abstained)

Moderator’s Report

- **Moderator received complaints from residents that the draft of the 2013 Annual Minutes were not on the website.**
- **Several calls from residents complaining that there was no visibility to the proposed budget.**
- **There may be a resident interested in running for Moderator.**
- **Fire Department over spent budget by approximately \$3,500. Treasurer has refused to pay bills until monies are moved to cover the over expenditures or another method for payment is determined. One significant factor is cost of new pagers.**
- **Fire Department bills come to the MFD PO box**
- **Members of the fire department reported to the board that they were told that the “fire department budget had plenty of money”.**
- **Fire Chief Earle clarified the fuel expense and that it is billed in arrears.**
- **Solicitor Toscano suggests that the Fire Chief sort the bills out and determine which department will do the payout.**
- **Treasurer Sisco asked fire department members how much money does the fire department have, to which it was reported close to**

\$14,000 from the boot drive and slush fund.

- **Discussion over the National Grid energy savings plan for the fire station.**

A motion was made by Russ Ryan and seconded by Leone D'Onofrio that the National Grid proposal will be tabled until July and brought up under Old Business.

VOTED: That the Board table the National Grid proposal until July and bring it up under Old Business. (Bellesheim, D'Onofrio, Delisio, Earle, Ryan, Sisco, Vacca, Vumback – Yes)

A motion is made by Russ Ryan that all of the over-expenditures of the Fire Department budget be returned to our new Chief to determine payment and to classify and verify all payments.

Discussion:

- **What is the status of Ginger?**
- **Will they continue to give us fuel as we sort this out?**
- **Doug Turnberg mentions that the Chief will have to give these bills to the fire department for approval, and he states that he doesn't think they will approve them.**
- **Discussion over returning some of the recently purchased items.**
- **In reviewing the bills, determination was trying to be made if former Chief Misto ordered items after his resignation.**

- **Treasurer, Bill Sisco sent an email to the board warning that they will be shy \$33,000 by September. If MFD pays the Fire Department's bills, this projection will go up.**
- **Additionally, Bill mentioned MFD owes Blackledge \$107,000.**

William Sisco seconds the motion.

VOTED: That the board return to our new Chief all of the over-expenditures of the Fire Department budget to determine payment and to classify and verify all payments. (Bellesheim, Delisio, Ryan, Sisco, Vacca, Vumback – Yes; D'Onofrio – No; Earle - abstains)

MOTION CARRIES

Treasurer William Sisco states we must limit spending and there should be no non-essential expenditures. Sisco also discusses his disagreement over the extra payment to the Architect, stating that he isn't going to get paid because MFD is experiencing a shortfall. He will not be paid until there is enough money. If there is an emergency situation, however, the MFD can use their CD money to pay an urgent issue. The key is to get the property values out soon enough.

The Moderator asked John Toscano, Solicitor his opinion regarding her authority to issue raises, as Bill Sisco had a problem with it. Mr. Toscano states that she has authority to spend up to \$5,000, and he believes she has the authority to give a raise, however, he believes it

makes sense that the Moderator gets board approval before issuing raises.

Leone recommends that we form a salary committee that would establish pay for different positions on the beach, which would include an escalation process.

The Solicitor states that in his opinion, other than if there is an establishment of a rate for employees or scale, you have the authority to give a raise subject to board approval.

A motion was made by William Sisco that any raises to be given must come before the board for approval with a written list with a reason why that raise is going to be given to a particular individual.

There is no second – Motion dies

The Moderator states that she does not plan on giving any more money in raises. She also mentions that Benson Beach is done! The bath house passed all inspections and the lift should arrive Monday, June 16, 2014. She will also tell Hal Panciera to take down signs when he is done.

Bill Sisco asked the new Fire Chief a few questions regarding his salary and his responsibility to serve our district while working in Providence. Additionally, parameters were set as to when a first

arrival fire fighter has control of a fire scene and that it must be turned over to a deputy chief in the absence of the fire chief.

A motion was made by Leone D'Onofrio and seconded by Russ Ryan that we accept the proposed budget of \$570,390 for the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

VOTED: That the Board accept the proposed budget of \$570,390 for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. (Bellesheim, D'Onofrio, Delisio, Earle, Ryan, Sisco, Vacca, Vumback – Yes).

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m. all were in favor. The next scheduled board meeting is set for June 14, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. (Annual Meeting).

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Vumback

Clerk