

North Cumberland Fire District

Meeting Minutes

August 16, 2006

Opening:

The regular meeting of the North Cumberland Fire District (NCFD) was called to order at

7:04 p.m. on Wednesday, August 16, 2006, by Chairman Edward LeBlanc.

Present: Absent:

Edward LeBlanc, Chairman Robert Audette

John Aharonian Joseph Baglini

Robert Audette

Brian Campbell

Paul Lindquist

Matthew Gannon

Joseph Baglini

Robert J. Murray

Others Present:

Rene Gendreau, Chief

Fay Dakake, Clerk

Daniel Hamel, Treasurer

Martin Klara, Tax Collector

A. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Gannon, seconded by Mr. Murray, to accept the Clerk's Report of July 19, 2006. All in favor. So voted.

B. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report dated August 16, 2006, included the following:

- o Financial Summary, July, 2006**
- o Tax Collections, June 30, 2007**
- o Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison as of July 31, 2006**
- o Profit and Loss Statement, July, 2006**

The Treasurer may have misclassified a deposit. His tax collection number does not agreed with the Tax Collector's Report, which he received last night. Treasurer Hamel lists tax collections year to date at 14,792.00. Tax Collector Klara lists \$3,250.80. Unless told otherwise, the Treasurer lists all deposits as tax collections. The Treasurer will verify the deposit classifications with the Chief.

Two additions on the Profit and Loss Statement

Expense

fæ Payroll Services (6560) \$363.92

Income

fæ Interest Income-Freedom Bank (4030) \$176.94

Total net effect \$186.98

Increasing net income to \$207,043.00

A motion was made by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Murray, to continue consideration of the Treasurer's Report dated August 16, 2006 until September. All in favor. So voted.

C. Tax Collector's Report

The Tax Collector's Report dated August, 2006, was reviewed. Tax Collector Klara stated tax bills will be going out next week. Document Technologies was utilized, processing bills and meter mailing, saving .10 per mailing. The net result was a \$100.00 savings. Although a "delinquent taxes" note can be made on the bill, an exact amount cannot be printed. The tax assessor must be called for the exact amount. Tax Collector Klara will be working to find a way for the delinquent amount to be included on the bill without utilizing Opal (at a much higher rate) to accomplish this. For this current billing, all large delinquent accounts were pulled and were hand stamped that they would be going to tax sale.

A copy of a DISCHARGE OF DEBTOR AFTER COMPLETION OF CHAPTER 13 PLAN regarding James and Patricia Russell of 92 Sun Valley Drive, Cumberland, RI, 02864 was distributed along with a copy of their current fire tax bill. Their account is delinquent \$883.72 with current taxes due of \$355.92. This account had not been

through the process of tax sale. This matter will be forwarded to attorney Al West.

Tax Collector Klara noted an attorney's letter was left by the previous tax collector stating a property was being foreclosed. Maybe that is why she didn't put it up for tax sale. It is several years delinquent. The owners are still on the Cumberland tax role. It will go to tax sale now.

A corrected Tax Collector's Report for July 2006 was distributed. \$125.51 was added twice clearing the confusion on the last statement.

A motion was made by Mr. Lindquist, seconded by Mr. Gannon, to accept the August, 2006, Tax Collector's Report. All in favor. So voted.

D. Chief's Report and Monthly Expenditures

Chief Gendreau submitted a Monthly Report for July, 2006, and an Expenditures Report dated August 16, 2006.

Chief Gendreau highlighted:

æ Bob Shields from Cumberland rescue completed the Swift Water Rescue course for the Department.

æ Most personnel are certified in the Incident Command System (ICS) in 100, 200 and 700

fæ He and the Deputy attended the state program of ICS 300 and will be going for 400 next month. Unless the entire department is certified by October 1, 2006 they will not be eligible for any federal funding.

fæ Truck 5 was sent to Greenwood for repair, it was returned without a diagnosis. It was then sent to Minuteman Ford and the problem was traced back to the computer in the truck. It was replaced at \$3,500.00 and is operational. A \$900.00 bill was contested to Greenwood and was deleted.

The expenditures report outlined expenses for July, 2006 at \$14,683.08.62. Three additional bills were added (attached) noting total bills at \$26,954.00

1. Blue Cross/Blue Shield

2. Uniforms

3. American Fire Equipment (for functional flow tests on all air packs) those that didn't pass were repaired.

A motion was made by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Murray, to accept the Chief's Report dated July, 2006. All in favor. So voted.

E. Committee Reports

Finalized committee assignments were distributed by Chairman LeBlanc. Based on the volume of work required by the Consolidation Committee, Mr. Lindquist may need to be temporary relieved of his duties on the Negotiations Committee. Currently, he was left in place.

Insurance

Chief Gendreau stated, all set until February.

Financial Management, Budget, Taxes

No comment.

Personnel

To be covered in Executive Session.

Labor Relations

No comment.

Nominations

None at this time.

Buildings, Grounds, Apparatus, Computer

The Tablet PC on order. A \$2,500.00 grant was received from FM Global. An article was in the Valley Breeze. The Deputy and Chairman were present for the check presentation.

Public Relations

No comment.

Labor Management Committee

The next meeting of the Labor Management Committee is set for

September 15, 2006.

F. Old Business

Fire Department Consolidation

Mr. Lindquist reported the next meeting of the Fire Department Consolidation Committee is set for Wednesday, August 30, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. The Coventry Central Fire District Chief is to be in attendance. Chief Gendreau was asked to notify the Chiefs in town and for them to notify their board members. An open invitation to attend and be part of the Committee was sent to the Chairman of the Board of Cumberland Hill and a copy to Chief Susi. No response has been received.

Voting members are needed for the Committee. Funding will be needed for legal counsel. Discussion ensued on what type of issues would be voted on and what type of legal questions would need to be answered. Legal advice is needed to describe the challenges we may face and give us a sense if we can overcome them at a reasonable cost. It was suggested that voting authorization and funding be discussed in detail on the 30th at the Consolidation meeting.

G. New Business

Business Objectives, FY 2006/2007 were distributed by Chairman LeBlanc.

Tax Collector Klara received an invitation from Opal to attend a training session October 5, 2006 at the cost of \$95.00

A motion was made by Mr. Gannon, seconded by Mr. Lindquist, that if the Tax Collector can make the October 5th training, we allocate \$95.00 for tuition payment. All in favor. So voted.

H. Public Comment

Lt. Emerson inquired about billing for car accidents. Mr. Lindquist stated he did look into it but would get more information from Chief Walsh. The Chief stated he and Chief Walsh have already talked about it.

The Chairman suggested that the soda machine be removed in exchange that cold refreshments be provided for the fire fighters. Lt. Emerson will talk to the Union about it and it will be discussed at next month's meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Lindquist, and unanimously carried to enter into Executive Session in accordance with RIGL 42-46-5 (2). Union Grievance 0601 at 7:45 p.m.

Return to Public Meeting

Chairman LeBlanc announced that the Board has decided to enter into negotiations with the Union regarding the position of Fire

Marshal. He will be in touch with Mr. Baglini, who is the chairman of the Negotiation Committee for this year. He will be asked to contact Lt. Emerson to begin the process. Chairman LeBlanc asked that the grievance be put in abeyance. All Lt. Emerson's contact information will be given to Mr. Baglini.

I. Adjournment

Motion is made by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Lindquist, to adjourn the meeting of the North Cumberland Fire District at 9:24 p.m. All in favor. So voted.

Minutes submitted by: Fay Dakake, Clerk _____

**Approved by: Edward LeBlanc _____
Chairman**