

North Cumberland Fire District

Meeting Minutes

August 20, 2008

Present: Absent:

Edward LeBlanc, Chairman

John Aharonian Robert J. Murray

Brian Campbell

Matthew Gannon

Paul Lindquist

Robert Audette

Others Present:

Rene Gendreau, Chief Fay Dakake, Clerk

Martin Klara, Tax Collector

Daniel Hamel, Treasurer

Opening

The regular meeting of the North Cumberland Fire District (NCFD) was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 20, 2008, by Chairman Edward LeBlanc.

A. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the regular Board meeting held on July 16, 2008 were reviewed and unanimously approved by the Board.

B. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report for dated 20 Aug 08 was reviewed and included

- Financial Summary July 2008**
- Tax Collections July 31, 2008**
- Cash Flow Forecast, Fiscal Year 2008-2009**
- Profit & Loss July 2008**
- Profit & Loss Budget Overview July 2008**
- Balance Sheet Previous Year Comparison, July 2007 through July 2008**

During the discussion of the Treasurer's Report it was noted that the command vehicle (the Expedition) needs to be added to the asset list (and presumably the lease added to the liabilities list). It was also noted that some of the \$500 provided to the Consolidation Committee (which has completed its work) will be returned to the District's general fund as not all the funds were used by the Consolidation Committee. Mr. Lindquist (Chairman of the Consolidation Committee) said the final calculations were being determined, and that some money is expected to be returned to each District that originally contributed funds.

The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved by the Board.

C. Tax Collector's Report

The Tax Collector's Report dated August 2008 was submitted and reviewed.

The tax collector noted that 15 or 16 properties located within the District and owned by the town of Cumberland have been listed on the Tax Assessors roll as "exempt" and no assessed value for the property is listed, so we cannot issue a bill for fire taxes.

The Tax Collector's Report was unanimously approved by the Board.

D. Chief's Report/Monthly Expenditures

Chief Gendreau submitted his report entitled Monthly Report for July 2008 and Bills – August 20, 2008. He highlighted the following:

- 120 calls for July, an increase of 17.5% from July 2007 attributed to an increase in motor vehicle accidents and mutual aid calls.**
- Pvt. O'Neill injured shoulder while assisting in placing EMS patient on stretcher for transportation to hospital. Was examined at Cumberland Urgent Care for muscle strain, and returned to duty the following morning.**
- Department provided community service hours for District resident.**
- Pvt. Garon completed certification training for fire alarms with the State Fire Marshal's office.**

- **Department personnel participated in town-wide swift-water training session.**
- **Firefighter safety training being reviewed by Department personnel.**

The Chief also noted that the initial 2008 bill for fire hydrant fees was 16% higher than the 2007 bill. When the Chief approached the Chiefs of the other Cumberland fire districts to coordinate a response to town hall, he found that a member of the Valley Fall Board of Trustees has already discussed the issue with town hall and reminded them that Town Council approval of any increase in water rates was required. Subsequently, the fire hydrant bills were re-issued at the same rate as 2007, so there is no increase in hydrant fees this year.

The Chief's Report, with Bills, was unanimously approved by the Board.

E. Committee Reports

Financial Management, Budget, Taxes

Mr. Murray was absent from the meeting. Mr. LeBlanc said he would touch base with Mr. Murray the following week to get a status report on financing/leasing arrangement for a new fire truck.

Apparatus/Buildings/Grounds

It was noted that the issue with Mr. Johnson (regarding the new septic system and claims by Mr. Johnson of damage to his property) has been completely resolve in accordance with the agreement

reached at last month's meeting. The District's lawyer had drafted a release of liability form which was signed by Mr. Johnson and the District, and a check for \$1,900 was issued to Mr. Johnson

Personnel/Labor Relations

To be discussed in Executive Session.

Negotiations

Nothing significant to report.

Labor Management

Mr. Gannon reported that a meeting of the Labor/Management committee is scheduled for September 15..

F. Old Business

It was noted that a new labor contract with Chief Gendreau effective through January 3, 2009, was signed by the Chief and the District on July 15, 2008.

It was noted that a new labor contract with Union Local 2722 effective through June 30, 2011, was signed by the Union and District on August 12, 2008. Mr. LeBlanc expressed his gratitude to both the District and Union negotiating committees for their hard, long, and reasonable negotiating efforts.

G. New Business

It was noted that one individual, Mr. Michael Spaziani, had submitted a letter seeking appointment to the vacant position on the Board of Trustees. Mr. Spaziani is a volunteer on the call force of the North Cumberland Fire District, and agreed to resign from the call force to avoid any conflict of interest issues.

In trying to ensure a choice of more than one candidate for the vacant trustee position, Mr. LeBlanc asked the Board to continue to seek interested individuals willing to serve on the Board, and said a vote would be taken at the September meeting.

H. Public Comment

No public comment.

I. Executive Session per RIGL 42-45-5(1), 42-46-5(2)

Motion was made at 7:50 p.m. and unanimously approved to enter into Executive Session.

Return to Public Meeting

Adjournment

Motion was made and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:57.

Minutes submitted by: Edward LeBlanc, Acting Clerk

Approved by: Edward LeBlanc,
Chairman _____