

North Cumberland Fire District

Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2008

Present:

Edward LeBlanc, Chairman

Robert Audette

Brian Campbell 7:06 p.m.

Matthew Gannon

John Patrick McCoy

Robert J. Murray 7:26 p.m.

Paul Lindquist

Absent:

John Aharonian

Absent:

Dan Hamel, Treasurer

Others Present:

Rene Gendreau, Chief

Fay Dakake, Clerk

Martin Klara, Tax Collector

Opening:

The regular meeting of the North Cumberland Fire District (NCFD) was called to order at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, November 19, 2008 by Chairman Edward LeBlanc.

A. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Gannon, seconded by Mr. Audette, to accept the minutes of the October 15, 2008 meeting as written. All in favor. So voted.

B. Treasurer's Report

Although Treasurer Hamel was not in attendance, he previously submitted his report dated November 19, 2008 which included:

- Financial Summary October 2008**

- **Tax Collections October 31, 2008**
- **Profit & Loss October 2008**
- **Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison July through October 2008**
- **Profit & Loss Budget Overview July through October 2008**
- **Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison as of October 31, 2008**

Chairman LeBlanc suggested review of the treasurer's report be postponed until next month when the treasurer is in attendance.

C. Tax Collector's Report

Tax Collector Klara submitted his report dated November 2008. He noted an extremely busy month collecting \$717,000. An additional \$200,000 has been collected so far this month. An increase in the collection of past due 2007 taxes is attributed to the pending tax sale.

Mr. Klara thanked the Department and the Board for the purchase of a scanner (\$250.) for the computer system, making his job much more efficient.

Roland's TV was hired to remove the virus protection from the tax collector's computer to restore it to its original processing speed. Although the work was done, they far exceeded the time standard that they initially agreed to. Chairman LeBlanc asked to review the invoice from Roland's TV prior to it being paid.

Narragansett Electric sent a notice stating they contacted the Town of Cumberland to verify which fire district a certain piece of land was in. The town replied that the parcel of land is in Cumberland Hill's district not NCFD. Narragansett Electric has been paying taxes to NCFD since at least 2004. There is uncertainty how the town got involved or made the jurisdiction. The boundaries are outlined in the charter.

Motion was made by Mr. Lindquist, seconded by Mr. McCoy, to accept the Tax Collector's Report dated November 2008. All in favor. So voted.

D. Chief's Report/Monthly Expenditures

Chief Gendreau submitted his monthly report for October 2008 including expenses dated November 19, 2008 and additional expenses. He highlighted the following:

- 114 calls, a decrease of 7½ % from the previous October attributed to a decrease in fire alarms. EMS calls continue to skyrocket.**
- Department personnel conducted fire prevention in the schools, day care and fire safety at Emerald Bay Manor.**
- Station tours were conducted for the Cumberland Mom's club, Tiger Clubs and Community School.**
- Detail provided to Haunted Hill at Diamond Hill State Park and a circus performed at St. John Vianney Church. Payments have been**

received.

- **Pvt. Garon attended classroom session in fire alarm systems. He will be attending classes on the state rehabilitation program.**
- **Lt. Mitchell and Pvt. Grenier are enrolled in the 1031 certification program**
- **NFPA 1001 Level 2 firefighting certification program completed for this and other fire departments. All NCFD permanent except for two and the majority of the call force is level 1 and 2 certified.**

In reviewing the Chief's expenses, Chairman LeBlanc asked for the location of the \$225,000. truck down payment. Chief Gendreau stated the bill did not come through him. Chairman LeBlanc will refer his question to the treasurer.

A correction was made to Total Receipts on the second page of the Chief's Bills/Receipts report. The corrected figure should be \$28,296.76.

Pvt. O'Neill is currently out of work with a recent appendicitis.

Motion was made by Mr. Audette, seconded by Mr. Campbell, to accept the Chief's Report for October 2008 including expenses November 2008. All in favor. So voted.

E. Committee Reports:

Financial Management, Budget, Taxes

Mr. Murray had nothing to report.

Apparatus/Buildings/Grounds

Mr. Aharonian was not in attendance. Chairman LeBlanc reported the truck has been purchased.

Chief Brian Jackvony of the Valley Falls Fire District has shown interest in purchasing engine 54.

Concern was voiced by Mr. Gannon suggesting that any proposed changes to the new truck uncovered during routine production visits would require 3 out of the 4 persons in attendance to agree on any such changes. Any proposed changes would have to be brought back to the board for consideration.

Personnel/Labor Management

To be discussed in Executive Session.

Mr. Lindquist announced that the personnel committee received two grievances. He would like the personnel committee to meet tonight after the meeting to set up a time to meet with the parties involved. Copies of the grievances were available to personnel committee members.

Negotiations

No comment.

Labor Management

The next labor management meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2009.

F. Old Business

Firefighter Hiring Eligibility List

Jason Lee was offered and declined a position with NCFD as he had already made a commitment to the Valley Falls Fire District. Kevin Dube accepted a fire fighter position with NCFD and started last Wednesday.

Fire Chief Applications

To be discussed in Executive Session.

G. New Business

The Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony has been scheduled for December 14, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. Chief Gendreau contacted Rhode Island Novelty and picked up gifts for the event.

Mr. Lindquist announced on Monday, December 1 at 7:00 p.m. the Mayor is holding a meeting on Consolidation of Fire Services at the

Town Hall. He invited the board to attend.

H. Public Comment

No comment.

Mr. Murray arrived 7:26 p.m.

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

Fire fighter Kevin Clarke asked that the Executive Session remain closed but include himself and Union President, Lt. Emerson. Chairman LeBlanc agreed.

Motion was made by Mr. Lindquist, seconded by Mr. Campbell and unanimously carried to enter into Executive Session in accordance with RIGL 42-46-5 (1) and 42-46-5 (2) at 7:27 p.m.

Return to Public Meeting

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mr. Lindquist, seconded by Mr. Campbell and unanimously carried to adjourn the public meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Fay Dakake, Clerk

Approved by: Edward LeBlanc, Chairman
