

North Cumberland Fire District

Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2009

Present:

Edward LeBlanc, Chairman

John Aharonian

Robert Audette

Brian Campbell

Matthew Gannon

Paul Lindquist

John Patrick McCoy

Michael Spaziani

Absent:

David DeVecchio, Chief

Others Present:

Fred Mitchell, Deputy Chief

Fay Dakake, Clerk

Martin Klara, Tax Collector

Robert J. Murray, Treasurer

Opening:

The regular meeting of the North Cumberland Fire District (NCFD) was called to order at 7:00p.m. on Wednesday, October 21, 2009, by Chairman LeBlanc.

A. Approval of the Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Lindquist seconded by Mr. Spaziani, to accept the clerk's report dated September 16, 2009. All in favor. So voted.

B. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Murray submitted his report which included:

• September Stand Alone Income Statement

 Revenue \$406,000., less \$131,000. in expenses, next income for the month \$275,000.

 \$4,000 ahead of budget at this time.

- **September Year to Date Income Statement**

Compares the actual results through September to the 2009-2010 annual budget and calculates the “remaining spend” as a percentage of the total budget

 Revenue for the year \$470,000.

 Expenses for the year \$440,000.

 YTD ahead \$29,000.

Given the current economic climate, Treasurer Murray worries that NCFD will not reach the 1.7 million in anticipated tax collections this year. For that reason, he asks that expenses in comparison to the budget be watched closely as we move forward throughout the year.

- **Balance Sheet 9/30/09**

Compares the end of the fiscal year (6/30/09), to the prior month (August to September).

 The Citizens Money Market Account is beginning to grow as taxes are collected

 In early September both Dexter Credit Union CD’s were terminated early to cover cash concerns, resulting in \$180.00 loss of interest

 Taxes received, \$1,482,402., is taken from the Tax Collector’s Report and reconciled each month

Payable Contingency Fund

Treasurer Murray will research past treasurers' records to find out why/how the contingency fund was added to the balance sheet. Accounting concept corrections need to be made to the balance sheet to reflect a true dollar amount. He will report back to the board next month.

Deputy Chief Mitchell was asked to verify the authorized dollar amount of an expenditure not requiring board approval.

Motion was made by Mr. Mc Coy, seconded by Mr. Audette, to accept the Treasurer's Report for September, 2009. All in favor. So voted.

C. Tax Collector's Report

Motion was made by Mr. Lindquist, seconded by Mr. Spaziani, to accept the Tax Collector's Report dated October, 2009. All in favor. So voted

D. Chief's Report/Monthly Expenditures

In Chief DeVecchio's absence, Deputy Chief Mitchell distributed copies of the September 2009 Inspection List.

Motion was made by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Aharonian, to accept the Chief's monthly report with expenses for September 2009. All in favor. So voted.

E. Committee Reports:

Financial Management, Budget, Taxes

Rhode Island Novelty – The Town of Cumberland made an agreement with Rhode Island Novelty that the company would be assessed at half its value over a ten year period. NCFD was not aware and did not sign such an agreement. Unknowingly, last year, NCFD taxed Rhode Island Novelty according to the town's reduced tax assessment. A supplemental tax bill for what the full assessed value should have been may be sent. Al West, Esq. has been contacted. Rhode Island Novelty was taxed and paid on the full value this year.

Deutsche Nicke America – Deutsche Nicke America was taxed on the full value of their inventory, which was given to NCFD by Deutsche Nicke America and the Town of Cumberland. Deutsche Nicke America submitted to the tax collector a copy of a law stating it is should be a decreasing inventory tax. Tax Collector Klara asked that a lawyer review the law submitted.

Apparatus/Buildings/Grounds

Meeting to be rescheduled.

Personnel/Labor Management

The grievances regarding Fire Fighter Kevin Clarke have been

settled. Memorandums of agreements have been signed.

Negotiations

To be discussed in Executive Session.

Labor Management

No comment.

F. Old Business

Service Fee Billing

Draft Ver.1.1 2009, a resolution establishing and implementing a program to charge user fees for the deployment of public safety services rendered by the North Cumberland Fire District and a service agreement with Fire Recovery USA,LLC to collect such fees was presented to the board for their review and approval. Al West, Esq. has reviewed the contract.

Motion was made by Mr. McCoy, seconded by Mr. Audette, to accept the resolution as provided to us by Chief DeVecchio, a resolution establishing and implementing a program to charge user fees for the deployment of public safety services rendered by the North Cumberland Fire District. All in favor. So voted.

G. New Business

New Printer

NCFD entered into a lease/purchase agreement for a

printer/scanner/fax located in the Chief's office.

DEM Grant

A grant written by Deputy Chief Mitchell was awarded to NCFD by DEM. The grant provides reimbursement for half the cost (\$1,000.) of fire fighting equipment for brush fires. Foam nozzles and Y's will be ordered.

VFIS Policy Change

Rescheduled for discussion next month.

Letter from Mr. Johnson regarding fence

Chairman LeBlanc read aloud a letter from Mr. Johnson updating NCFD on the progress or lack thereof on the fence project along the boundary of the property. Mr. Johnson asked the board for their patience as he has full intention to complete the project as soon as capable.

H. Public Comment

Fire Fighter Paquin stated that in regards to the sinking fund, at one time there was an actual separate account, which Mr. Alger disagreed with.

Executive Session per R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (1), 42-46-5 (2)

Motion was made by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Gannon and

unanimously carried to enter into Executive Session in accordance with R.I.G.L.42-46-5 (1) and 42-46-5 (2) at 7:45 p.m.

Return to Public Meeting

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mr. Gannon, seconded by Mr. Spaziani and unanimously carried to adjourn the public meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Fay Dakake, Clerk

Approved by: Edward LeBlanc, Chairman
