

**North Cumberland Fire District**

**Meeting Minutes**

**December 16, 2009**

**Present:**

**Edward LeBlanc, Chairman**

**John Aharonian**

**Brian Campbell**

**Matthew Gannon**

**Paul Lindquist**

**John Patrick McCoy**

**Michael Spaziani**

**Absent:**

**Robert Audette**

**Others Present:**

**David DeVecchio, 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 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 by Chairman LeBlanc.**

**Prior to entering into the agenda, Chairman LeBlanc acknowledged members of the board who attended funeral services for former Deputy Chief Steve Garon. His appreciation was expressed to Chief DeVecchio and to the firefighters for their support of Kyle Garon. A moment of silence was observed in honor of former Deputy Chief Steve Garon and the Garon family.**

**A. Approval of the Minutes**

**Motion was made by Mr. Lindquist, seconded by Mr. Campbell, to accept the minutes for both the November 18 regular meeting and December 10 special meeting. All in favor. So voted.**

**B. Treasurer's Report**

**Treasurer Murray submitted his report which included:**

- **Profit & Loss November 2009**
- **November Year to Date**
- **Balance Sheet**

**Mr. Murray reviewed each report with the board. His comments included:**

**Profit & Loss November 2009**

**Revenue side:**

**Collected: \$320,000., including \$297,000. taxes collected; \$27,000. rebate of the RI Excise Tax**

**Monthly Budget: \$328,000., \$8,000. below budget. Some fees were reclassified per last month's board meeting. Based on the budget, 86% of collections have been received.**

**Expense side:**

**Expenses are in line with the budget. Notes on the right side regarding timing of repairs, rebate on copier and sound systems were reviewed.**

**Total income for the month was \$194,688., compared to a budget of \$200,685., slightly under budget overall.**

## **November Year to Date**

**Treasurer Murray noted the yellow cautionary numbers where the District may be spending slightly faster than what the budget would anticipate. Account 6450, Office Supplies and Expense, is approximately \$600.00 over budget for the year at this time, noting that the budget had been cut on this item by 10 -15%. Otherwise, he sees nothing of concern.**

## **Balance Sheet**

**Cash balance \$1,104,000. , \$200,000. higher than last month, due to collections. At the board's suggestion the pumper truck was taken off as an asset, and subsequently reflected as a reserve for the pumper truck coming out of equity.**

**"Normalized level of accruals" was explained as items that have been expensed but have not been paid out.**

**PAYCHECKS, the payroll provider, miscalculated the October pension. Reconciliation for the year is being done. Payment to the state pension fund for October will be made upon reconciliation.**

**Motion was made by Mr. McCoy, seconded by Mr. Spaziani, to accept the treasurer's report for November, 2009. All in favor. So voted.**

### **C. Tax Collector's Report**

**Tax Collector Klara submitted his report dated December, 2009. Mr. Klara reported collection of \$296,697.17. Thirty-eight pieces of returned mail were received, twelve of which were vacant houses. A second mailing was sent.**

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

### **D. Chief's Report/Monthly Expenditures**

**Chief DelVecchio commended the members of the Department, especially Brian Bernardo who played a dual role for the funeral home as well as a department, other departments in town, the police department, including rescue, and the Bellingham Department for their involvement in the funeral services of former Deputy Chief Steve Garon. He received a letter from Chief Ranieri thanking the members of the department for their help in coordinating the services for Steve and his family. Letters have been sent to other departments in town as well as Chief Ranieri in Bellingham.**

**Chief DelVecchio presented his Monthly Report for November 2009.**

**He highlighted the following:**

- The reduction of incidents for the month is attributed to a substantial decrease in fire alarm responses. With a change to the**

**settings for the trouble alarms, dispatch no longer receives them, reducing the number of false alarms being transmitted.**

- Life flight from Barry Field to RI Hospital.**
- Personnel field-tested Nebulous Ice Water Rescue Device.**

**Discussion of the following transpired:**

- Line item 6000, Citizen's Debit/Credit (Fuel for Car 5 [Chief] and 55 [Deputy Chief]): \$475.96**
- Line item 6010, Tap Auto (Car 5 battery): \$190.53**
- Line item 6060 Moore Medical (to replenish supplies that are used on rescue calls): \$233.84**
- Line item 6130, Harbor Freight Tools (bench vise): \$63.65**

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

**E. Committee Reports:**

**Financial Management, Budget, Taxes**

**No comment**

**Apparatus/Buildings/Grounds**

**To be discussed under "Old Business"**

**Personnel/Labor Management/ Negotiations**

## **Negotiations to be discussed in Executive Session**

### **Labor Management**

**No comment**

### **F. Old Business**

#### **VFIS**

**After discussing insurance coverage issues with VFIS representative Judy Palmer, Chief DelVecchio recommends the District's umbrella insurance limit remain at \$1.4-million.**

**Chief DelVecchio will verify coverage of department personnel while driving the Town's rescue to the hospital.**

**Clarification was made by Treasurer Murray as to the insured replacement value of the equipment. He believes insuring the replacement value is the prudent approach.**

#### **Fire Station Site**

**Chief DelVecchio met with the sister of the deceased property owner and her daughter, in regard to a possible donation of or some part of the property, in lieu of tax benefits to the estate. Although interested in some type donation to memorialize her sister, who was killed in the fire, she did not foresee them being able to donate the whole property. She will seek legal counsel. In the interim, her concern was**

neighborhood opposition. Chief DelVecchio plans to speak to Mr. Jolly, who lives in the front of that property, and members of the neighborhood behind the property.

Chief DelVecchio has begun looking at financing options. He is hopeful that the grant for station construction that was in place last year will be in place again this coming year. A key caveat of the grant is that there is a piece of property to build the station, reminding the board that the current location would off-set any cost incurred for the new station.

## **G. New Business**

### **Surplus Equipment**

Fire fighter Christopher Smith submitted a document listing surplus inventory for resale. He also included a proposal on how the items would be sold, with a recommendation that the items be sold via Craigslist with a chance to view the items at the station during normal business hours. The document was reviewed by the board. Chief DelVecchio agreed to provide an update each month on which items were sold and their selling price. Chief DelVecchio will recommend to the board next month where he feels the money generated from the sale should go.

### **New Recruit Hiring**

Chief DelVecchio announced the hiring of new recruit David Ferreira. He will be filling firefighter Clarke's position until the bid date.

## **Chief's Contract**

**To be discussed in Executive Session.**

## **H. Public Comment**

**No comment.**

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

**Motion was made 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 7:49 p.m.**

**Chairman LeBlanc reported discussions on various personnel issues took place during Executive Session.**

## **Adjournment**

**Motion was made by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Lindquist and unanimously carried to adjourn the public meeting at 9:10 p.m.**

**Minutes submitted by: Fay Dakake, Clerk**

**Approved                      by: Edward                      LeBlanc,                      Chairman**

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