

North Cumberland Fire District

Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2010

Present:

Edward LeBlanc, Chairman

John Aharonian

Robert Audette

Brian Campbell

Matthew Gannon

John Patrick McCoy

Michael Spaziani

Absent:

Paul Lindquist

Others Present:

David DelVecchio, 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, May 19, 2010 by Chairman LeBlanc.

A. Approval of the Minutes

For clarification, Charmin LeBlanc asked that that the top of page 2 be reworded to read:

Revenue of \$38,000., Expenses totaling \$129,000. Resulting in a monthly deficit of \$91,000. vs. a budget deficit of \$97,000. Therefore \$6000. ahead of budget for the month of March.

With this change,

Motion was made by Mr. Audette, seconded by Mr. Spaziani, to accept the Clerk's Report for April 14, 2010. All in favor. So voted.

B. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Murray submitted his report and highlighted the following:

- **Month of April P & L**

Revenue Side

- o **Revenue of \$23,000. for the Month of April vs. a budget of \$21,000.**

Expense Side

- o **Expenses for the month \$175,000. vs. a budget of \$170,000.**

\$5,000. more than budget, primarily driven by payroll and professional fees.

- o **Gas, Diesel, and Oil continues to run significantly above budget**

- o **Repairs and Purchasing of New Equipment ran high due to recent flooding, some reimbursement expected**

- o **Five payroll period month (\$90,000.) Social Security and Medicare (\$7000.)**

- o **Insurance \$30,000.**

- o **Overall for the month, deficit of \$152,000. vs. a budgeted deficit of \$150,000.**

- **April Year to Date**

Compares the April actuals to the overall budget. Items marked in red if over budget, yellow if cautionary.

16.7% represents, on average, the amount of expenditures remaining in the last two months of the fiscal year.

Revenue Side

o Assuming 100% tax collection in the budget for this current fiscal year, 98% has been collected.

Expense Side

o With a few fluctuations, especially in professional fees, on an overall basis, expenses are tolerable.

• Balance Sheet

o Cash is down, due to the deficit for the month of April.

Motion was made by Mr. McCoy seconded by Mr. Campbell, to accept the Treasurer's Report for April, 2010. All in favor. So voted.

C. Tax Collector's Report

Tax Collector Klara submitted his report dated May, 2010. The new tax base has been recently entered into the computer system. Tax Collector Klara will tweak the tangible property that is listed among all four districts. He will then be able to submit, to the treasurer, a fairly good estimate of revenue to aid in the formulation of the budget.

Motion was made by Mr. Spaziani, seconded by Mr. Campbell, to accept the Tax Collector's Report dated May, 2010. All in favor. So voted.

D. Chief's Report/Monthly Expenditures

The Board was presented with Chief DeVecchio's monthly report and expenses for April, 2010 this evening. Equipment and apparatus recuperation, attributable to recent flooding, along with 128 runs for the month were reported.

Motion was made by Mr. Gannon, seconded by Mr. Aharonian, to accept the Chief's report with expenses for April, 2010. All in favor. So voted.

E. Committee Reports:

Financial Management, Budget, Taxes

John McCoy reported that a meeting was held, and included himself, Treasurer Murray, and Chief DeVecchio, to draft a budget for next year. Copies of a draft budget were distributed to aid in the discussion of a future dollar per thousand assessment. The current assessment of \$1.33 per thousand generates 1,729,000. in revenue. Last year the District sustained a 5.3% increase.

Macro factors to Consider per the Union Contract:

- 4% pay increase – Payroll is 70% of the budget
- Healthcare benefits – 8% increase for Blue Cross/Blue Shield, 6% Delta Dental

- **Professional fees will be much larger than the current year.**

Other Factors to Consider:

- **\$12,000. revenue figure is at risk (Excise Tax)**
- **Shrinking tax on tangible items/inventory tax**
- **FEMA Reimbursement – additional revenue**
- **Service Fee – additional revenue**
- **Lower Interest rates**
- **Chief DeVecchio contemplating some capital expenditures, which will have an impact on the cash flow if we decide to lease vs. buy**
- **Continuing to pay for the new fire truck (\$75,000. per year)**

Treasurer Murray's sense would be another 5-6% increase depending on capital expenditures. To cover the current budget shortfall of estimated \$38,000., a 2.9% increase would be required to fund the current year, in order to not utilize funds from prior years. The Finance Committee will meet. A special meeting to specifically discuss the budget will be held.

Apparatus/Buildings/Grounds

No comment

Personnel Committee

Michael Spaziani informed the Board that the Personnel Committee met to discuss Grievances 10-03 and 10-04

10-04 – Reimbursement for prescription co-pay to Kevin Clarke.

The Personnel Committee's recommendation is to grant the \$80.00 per month as requested. Copies of the grievance will be distributed to the Board members for their review and consideration at the June meeting.

10-03 – Requesting an occupational disability pension be granted to Kevin Clarke. With many moving pieces, the Committee requested more information before making a recommendation. Once passed by the Chief for accuracy, Chairman LeBlanc will submit a timeline to the Committee

Labor Management/ Negotiations

No comment

F. Old Business

Storm Response

Chief DeVecchio reported paperwork in the amount of \$20,000. has been filed with FEMA for reimbursement.

Chief DelVecchio has been served a subpoena requesting records in regard to the Cook criminal case where a hose was cut.

Mr. Cook has also filed a civil suit against the Department alleging a berm was destroyed.

Positive feedback was received from a resident on Hannah Drive in the Department's response to the recent flooding.

Chris Smith Seminar

Representatives from 4 states and 10 departments totaling 52, attended a training seminar held by Chris Smith, Friday, May 14, 2010 at the Public Safety Union Hall.

Firefighter Appreciation Dinner

Last month, a successful firefighter appreciation dinner was held at the Public Safety Union Hall. All were pleased with the location and catering .

G. New Business

Budget

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

Insurance

Chief DelVecchio was given authorization to sign a broker agreement with Norman St. Laurent. With no legal obligation, this agreement will

allow Mr. St. Laurent to run a loss history, look at NCFD's current health insurance plan and equate that into the Risk Management & Insurance Consulting Group (RIMIC) plan. NCFD's entrance into the RIMIC group may be obtained as a sub-unit of the Town of Cumberland allowing access to lower rates.

Grievance 10-05

The Board was made aware of grievance 10-05 relating to the severance pay and the calculation of the accrued vacation leave Kevin Clarke received when he left the District. The Union and the Chief will meet Tuesday afternoon.

Upcoming Expired Terms

Brian Campbell and Michael Spaziani were notified if they were interested in serving another term, letters of intent need to be submitted.

H. Public Comment

Union President Brian Bernardo asked the Board to hear Grievance 10-03. A special meeting was targeted for the 14th of June to discuss Grievances 10-03 and 10-04. Joseph Andriole, who was also in attendance, agreed to the meeting date and will discuss arbitration with the Union.

Executive Session per R.I.G.L. 42-46-4 and 42-46-5

Executive session was not held.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mr. Spaziani, seconded by Mr. Audette and unanimously carried to adjourn the public meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Fay Dakake, Clerk

Approved by: Edward LeBlanc, Chairman
