

**North Cumberland Fire District**

**Meeting Minutes**

**July 21, 2010**

**Present:**

**Edward LeBlanc, Chairman**

**John Aharonian**

**Robert Audette**

**Brian Campbell arrived 7:30 p.m.**

**Matthew Gannon**

**Paul Lindquist**

**John Patrick McCoy**

**Michael Spaziani**

**Absent:**

**David DeVecchio, Chief**

**Others Present:**

**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, July 21, 2010 by Chairman LeBlanc.**

**As posted on the Secretary of State's web-site tonight's first order of business was to elect a Chairman for the next year.**

**Motion was made by Mr. Gannon, seconded by Mr. Aharonian, to nominate Ed LeBlanc as Chairman for next year. All in favor. So voted.**

**Motion was made by Mr. Lindquist, seconded by Mr. Gannon, that the nominations be closed. All in favor. So voted.**

**With one nomination for Chairman, Mr. LeBlanc was elected. All in favor. So voted.**

## **A. Approval of the Minutes**

**Draft minutes of the June 16, 2010 Annual Meeting, to be reviewed at the 2011 Annual Meeting, were distributed to all committee members.**

**Brian Campbell arrived (7:03p.m.)**

**Minutes of the special meeting held June 14, 2010 were reviewed. Corrections made were to note Mr. Aharonian as absent and Mr. McCoy as present.**

**Motion was made by Mr. Lindquist, seconded by Mr. Audette, to accept the Clerk's Report for June 14, 2010 special meeting with corrections. All in favor. So voted.**

## **B. Treasurer's Report**

**Treasurer Murray submitted his report and highlighted the following:**

- Month of June P & L**

- Revenue Side**

- o Revenue of \$41,105. for the Month of June**

- o Taxes collected \$11,313., slightly over the budget of \$10,000.**

- o For the year, 99% of budget was collected including previous years owed and the tax sale. 90% of FY 2009/2010 that was billed and assessed was collected. Currently \$180,000. behind.**

- o Overall \$215,000 is still owed in totality for all the years.
- o Received \$27,823. in excise tax from the state .
- o For the month we are approximately \$1,500. over budget
- o Various fees from service fees collected, \$1,900.

#### **Expense Side**

- o Total expenses were \$176,064. \$170,064. vs. a budget of \$150,953. Over budget \$19,000. primarily caused by professional fees (\$10,330.) and payroll (\$81,632.) due to overtime paid during the June pay period. Expended \$42,000. in overtime for the period April, May and June for the second quarter.
- o Upgrading and purchasing of new equipment. \$4634. paid to Northeast Rescue for 3 sets of turnout gear.
- o Expenses exceed revenue by \$120,959. \$128,959. The budget was for expenses to exceed revenue for \$111,403. For the month, negative to the budget by \$17,556.

#### **• June Year to Date**

##### **Revenue Side**

- o Taxes Collected \$1,700,000. for the year, approximately \$12,000. less than budget

##### **Expense Side**

- o Total expenses of \$1,899,000. vs. a budget of \$1,858,000. for the year, slightly over budget
- o Account 6030 Upgrading of purchasing of equipment was up \$5,000. for the turnout gear as approved

- o Account 6250 Blue Cross was in excess of budget by \$13,000. due to a higher than anticipated increase.
- o Account 6480 Professional fees, over by \$30,000. due to the hiring of St. Peter and Kastle

On an aggregated basis, for the year, revenue was \$1,852,000. vs. expenses of \$1,899,000. resulting in a deficit of \$47,000., made up mostly of professional fees.

- Balance Sheet

- o Cash is down due to the shortfalls during the months of May and June
- o Taxes Receivable \$215,000.
- o Accrued Expenses \$22,775.
- o Overall basis net income -\$47,061. for the year
- o Total assets of \$1,900,000. slightly below the same time last year due in part to cash going down \$140,000.

Discussion ensued as to the comparison between the Treasurer's Report and the Chief's Report. Treasurer Murray offered to prepare reconciliation between the two documents. Treasurer Murray noted his books are the official books of the Department.

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

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

**Tax Collector Klara submitted his report dated July, 2010. Mr. Klara reported Fire Marshall Grenier has refused to inspect property owned by a developer until back taxes of approximately \$11,500. of back taxes are paid. Mr. Klara requested that Fire Marshall Grenier be compensated for notarizing documents for the Department.**

**Motion was made by Mr. Gannon, seconded by Mr. Audette, to accept the Tax Collector's Report dated July, 2010. All in favor. So voted.**

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

**Lt. Emerson briefed the Board on the incident where Engine 5 was struck by a passing vehicle while at an accident scene sustaining minor damage. Fire Marshall Grenier shared his recent experience in attending an AFG grant peer review evaluation session in Baltimore, MD.**

**Motion was made by Mr. Campbell seconded by Mr. Audette, to accept the Chief's Report for June, 2010. All in favor. So voted.**

### **E. Committee Reports:**

#### **Financial Management, Budget, Taxes**

**John McCoy commented that to avoid confusion with the Board, Treasurer Murray's report, as the official record of the Department,**

**should be the only report presented to the Board each month and the Chief's be kept for his own personal use.**

**Apparatus/Buildings/Grounds**

**No comment**

**Personnel Committee**

**Mr. Lindquist requested that Grievance 10-05 be discussed in Executive Session. Union President Brian Bernardo agreed.**

**Labor Management/ Negotiations**

**No comment**

**Committee Assignments**

**Chairman LeBlanc will be drafting committee assignments for FY 10/11. He asked that any requests to remain or be moved be submitted to him. He will propose new committee assignments next month.**

**F. Old Business**

**Grievance 10-05**

**To be discussed in Executive Session.**

**G. New Business**

**Mr. Paul Vandal**

**Mr. Vandal was in attendance and presented documentation to the Board pertaining to the Total Disability Tax Program. Noting that the state has these provisions in place and the town is currently providing them, he asked NCFD to adopt them as well.**

**Chairman LeBlanc explained that such requests have been made in the past and have not been granted. He offered to study the issue along with the Financial Management Committee and to make a recommendation to the Board. Mr. Vandal was invited to attend the monthly meetings to follow progress on the issue. Mr. Vandal asked to be updated by mail.**

#### **H. Public Comment**

**Resident, Mr. Arthur Lambi, addressed the Board with several comments and questions which included:**

- o Business side to firefighting and medical services**
- o Contingency fund**
- o Down payment of \$225,000.**
- o Negotiation of New Contract**
- o Request for itemization of the Payroll line item.**
- o Chairman LeBlanc and Treasurer Murray agreed to the request.**
- o Grant writing**
- o Recommendation that the Board consider implementing a capitol expenditure budget**
- o Process to collect uncollected taxes.**

## **Executive Session per R.I.G.L. 42-46-4 and 42-46-5 (a)(2)(9)**

**Motion was made by Mr. Lindquist, seconded by Mr. Audette and unanimously carried to enter into Executive Session in accordance with R.I.G.L.42-46-4 and 42-46-5 (a)(2)(9) at 7:52 p.m.**

## **Return to Public Meeting**

**The Board was unable to make an informed decision on Grievance 10-05 due to a lack of information.**

**Motion was made by Mr. McCoy, seconded by Mr. Spaziani to table Grievance 10-05 and take no further on it until an itemized list is received from Firefighter Clarke as to what it is exactly he is claiming he is owed for vacation and other hours. All in favor. So moved.**

**Union President Brian Bernardo agreed to have the information available next month.**

## **Adjournment**

**Motion was made by Mr. Spaziani, seconded by Mr. Lindquist and unanimously carried to adjourn the public meeting at 8:04 p.m.**

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

**Approved by: Edward LeBlanc, Chairman**

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