

**North Cumberland Fire District
Board of Trustees
Minutes of July 20, 2011 Meeting**

**Present: Paul Lindquist Others: Ghislaine Therien, Clerk
Matthew Gannon Robert Murray, Treasurer
John Patrick McCoy Martin Klara, Tax Collector
Arthur Lambi Chief Brian Jackvony
Brian Campbell
Michael Spaziani Absent:
Phillip Koutsogiane
Harry MacDonald**

OPENING

Mr. Lindquist called to order the regular meeting of the North Cumberland Fire District (NCFD) at 7:00 p.m.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Floor opened to nominations for the vacant Chairman position for the 2011-2012 budget year. Motion made by Mr. Spaziani and seconded by Mr. McCoy to nominate Phillip Koutsogiane as Chairman. Mr. Koutsogiane addressed the Board stating because he recently acquired a Board seat he declined the nomination and would be willing to serve as Temporary Chairman but would consider appointment to the position in the future.

Motion made by Mr. Lambi and seconded by Mr. McCoy to nominate Mr. Spaziani as Chairman. Mr. Spaziani declined stating his travel schedule could be a problem with attendance.

Mr. Koutsogiane stated if appointed Chairman he would be willing to do so with help and support from the Board members as he is not familiar with the requirements of the position. Motion carried by all present to nominate Mr. Koutsogiane as Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

CLERK'S REPORT- June 14, 2011 Meeting

Mr. Lambi stated there was a typographical error on the first page of the June 14, 2011 Minutes. Motion made by Mr. Gannon and seconded by Mr. Lindquist to accept the Minutes with proposed correction. Motion carried by all present.

TREASURER'S REPORT June 2011

Mr. Murray submitted his report and highlighted the following:

• NCFD Payroll and Overtime

• Through June of FY 2010/2011, overtime was \$177,962.46 compared to \$213,587.66 last fiscal year. Overtime for the month of June 2011 was \$18,823.00 versus \$19,453.49 last year.

• Percent of total expenses: 9.28%

• Month of June 2011 P/L

Income/Revenue:

„X \$1,953K YTD collected in 2011 vs. \$1,701K in 2010

„X Received \$9,000 in grant monies for upgrading and purchase of new equipment

„X Collected 99.9% of budgeted amount vs. 99.3% in 2010

„X Interest earned on average balance 1.25% through June 2011 (\$680.57 Navigant Credit Union)

Expenses:

„X Payroll was \$102,851.95 (5 pay periods in month, \$18K in OT)

„X BC/BS \$16,172.86

„X Trustees Fees \$10,170.00 vs. \$12,802.50 budgeted. (Reduction due to certain Trustees forfeiting portion of their fees)

„X Total expenses \$173,856.52 vs. \$196,702.50 budgeted

„X Expenses in excess of revenue \$147,680.86 vs. \$174,064.50 budgeted

Mr. Lambi asked who the District purchases their gas/diesel fuel from and how many gas cards are used. Chief replied the District has 2 gas cards ;V Deputy Chief and Fire Marshall. Engines use Malloyi's for their fuel and are billed by invoice.

June 2011 YTD Profit and Loss

„X Total Liabilities/Equity/Assets \$2,215,496.83

„X Net cash flow \$92,659 saved LY budget

„X Navigant Credit Union holds bulk of cash - \$500,000.00 transferred from Citizens to Navigant Credit Union in February

„X \$155,000.00 excess from proceeds of Engine 5 refinance

„X \$263,029 Taxes Receivable

„X Lease obligation \$335,896

„X \$140,356 Net Income

Resident Donald Nasif interrupted the meeting questioning the amount of interest generated; what do we do with the extra funds; why not deposit the funds into Treasury Bonds; and, what is percentage of interest funds are earning. Mr. Murray responded stating the funds are deposited in Navigant Credit Union because we are mandated to do so and earn 1.25%. Mr. Lambi also responded by stating that three month Treasury Bonds do not generate more than 1.25%.

Mr. Koutsogiane informed Mr. Nasif that the discussion would be tabled until the public comment section of the meeting.

Motion made by Mr. McCoy and seconded by Mr. Spaziani to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried by all present.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

„X Mr. Klara submitted his report for June 2011. Taxes collected in June totaled \$24,626.14.

„X Moving forward with tax sale & title searches being conducted and will be advertised in The Valley Breeze. Tax sale will be held 30 days after posting in late August & 100+ properties

„X Agreements have been set in place for 35+ accounts. Last year tax sale was for 15 properties.

„X New tax bills will be mailed late August.

„X Total taxes collected to date \$1,955,294.80

„X Total taxes past due \$169,219.27

Mr. Lambi asked if we could hold back permits for contractors who owe back taxes. Chief replied we could withhold inspections. Matter discussed further among Board members regarding withholding permits and inspections. Mr. Koutsogiane stated would table the discussion and place on next month's agenda.

Motion made by Mr. McCoy and seconded by Mr. Lindquist to accept the Tax Collector's report as presented. Motion carried by all present.

CHIEF'S REPORT/MONTHLY EXPENDITURES

Chief Jackvony submitted his monthly report for June 2011 and highlighted the following:

Emergency Calls:

„X The North Cumberland Fire Department responded to 120

incidents in the month of June. This represents 6 (5%) more than the same month in 2010.

„X 20 hours of mutual aid to Woonsocket.

Personnel/Equipment:

„X IMC training completed and going live in September.

„X Assisted schools with final evacuation drills for the school year.

„X Personnel participated in flammable liquids drill in Smithfield on 6/11.

Buildings/Grounds:

„X RFP for replacement of boiler advertised 7/14.

„X CDBG monies \$12,000.

„X Three quotes received for roof replacement. Will email bids to members for their review.

„X Malloy replaced capacitor for A/C unit - \$141.17.

Equipment:

„X Alternator rebuilt on Truck 5 by Ralco Equipment iV cost \$985.42.

Negotiated price reduction of \$250.00.

„X Continuing with replacement of turnout gear. 3 sets ordered from Northeast Rescue iV cost \$6,207.00.

Motion made by Mr. Lindquist and seconded by Mr. McCoy to accept the Chief's report as presented. Motion carried by all present.

Miscellaneous:

Chief addressed the Board regarding agreement with this Board when he took the position that his cell phone bill would be shared by both districts at a cost of \$50/mo. Discussion among members that this was fair.

Motion made by Mr. Spaziani and seconded by Mr. McCoy to reimburse the Chief for five (5) months at \$50/mo and for the entire budget year ending June 2012. Motion carried by all present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Financial Management, Budget, Taxes:

„X 2011-2012 budget adopted at the June 15, 2011 annual meeting.

Apparatus/Buildings/Grounds

„X Discussed in Chief's report.

Personnel/Labor Relations

„X Mr. Lindquist informed the Board that the Clark grievance was closed as of 7/11/11.

Negotiations

„X Nothing to report.

Labor Management

„X Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

„X Roof replacement covered under Chief’s report.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of Sub-Committees

„X Mr. Lindquist suggested setting up a committee regarding upcoming possible pension issues.

„X Mr. Koutsogiane asked if someone could provide him with a list of existing committees and member names.

„X Update and replace members who have left

„X Mr. Lambi stated Dwayne Girard has offered to place information on the NCFD’s website.

„X Merge the Personnel Committee and the Labor Relations Committee

„X Mr. Koutsogiane asked that this be tabled to the August agenda to afford him time to review all committees.

Personnel Policy Regarding Firefighter Actions

Mr. Lambi read an email from Firefighter Union President to the past Chair regarding firefighter’s non-participation in the field day event held at a local school. He felt this could viewed as insubordination and perhaps the Board should consider adopting a policy regarding same. The Chief replied there is a chain of command regarding same

and the Board is not on said list and could not enforce any incidents that may rise. Mr. Lindquist stated he saw the email and felt former Chairman settled the matter and this Board should put the incident behind them and move on. Mr. Lambi explained to Mr. Koutsogiane what the school field day consisted of.

PUBLIC COMMENT

„X Donald Nasif stated when he was a Board member back in the 70s the pension was funded by the Board. The Board had turned over the pension funds to the State who said they had an unfunded liability. Did not understand why the District owed anything. Perhaps the District should sue the State ;V felt we are not liable. A contract was signed with the State back in the 70s when the pension was set up with them. Somewhere there exists a copy of the signed contract and someone should try to locate it. Mr. Koutsogiane informed Mr. Nasif that the Board would look into the matter when a pension committee is established.

Mr. Nasif also inquired about past due taxes and that when he was on the Board they did not have tax sales ;V suit was brought in Superior Court. Mr. Kougsogiane informed him it was not cost effective to bring suit for past due taxes.

„X Brian Bernardo, Firefighter's Union President asked if firefighters could sit in on the pension meeting. He further commented on the field day event held at a local school. He also replied to the comment

made by Mr. Lambi regarding the contents of an email that stated the firefighters are obliged to attend. The firefighters have always participated in this event on a voluntary basis. They are not required by contract to attend this event. They give of their free time.

„X Mr. Lambi inquired about sharing the Deputy Chief position and possibly eliminating the Fire Marshall position. He also stated at the June 15, 2011 annual meeting there was discussion about drafting a resolution regarding the tax cap issue. Mr. Koutsogiane asked these two items be tabled and listed on the August agenda.

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

„X None

Adjournment

Motion made by Mr. McCoy and seconded by Mr. Spaziani to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by all present. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ghislaine D. Therien

Clerk