

North Cumberland Fire District Board of Trustees

Minutes of June 10, 2013 Meeting

**Present: Phillip Koutsogiane, Chairman Others: Robert Murray,
Treasurer**

Michael Spaziani, Vice Chair Chief Brian Jackvony

John Patrick McCoy Ghislaine Therien, Clerk

Matthew Gannon Paul Lindquist

Brian Campbell Excused: Martin Klara, Tax Collector

Harry MacDonald

OPENING

Chairman called to order the regular meeting of the North Cumberland Fire District (NCFD) at 7:01pm.

CLERK'S REPORT

Motion made by Mr. Gannon and seconded by Mr. Lindquist to accept the May 2013 Minutes as presented. Motion carried by all present.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT – May 2013

- 2012-2013 Taxes collected in May \$11,803.49/YTD 2013 \$1,718,107.70**
- 2012-2011 Taxes Due \$77,007.31**
- Prior years taxes due \$29,717.12**
- Fees paid from tax sale\$5.55**

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

TREASURER'S REPORT - May 2013

Mr. Murray submitted his report and highlighted the following:

NCFD Payroll and Overtime

- **May standard payroll was \$70,000.20; Overtime was \$14,052.99. YTD payroll is \$848,404.91. Standard payroll includes Deputy Chief salary.**
- **Total expenses through May \$1,528,917.85**
- **Percentage of total expenses 11.56%**

Month of May 2013 P/L

Income/Revenue:

- **\$24,136.68 collected in May 2013**
- **Interest income \$781.00 May 2013**
- **Various Fees \$945.95 May 2013**
- **Collected 104% of current year budget**

May 2013 Expenses:

- **Total expenses for month \$103,194.23**
- **BC/BS \$14,500.54/Pension \$7,240.90**
- **Revenue in excess of expenses (\$77,330.60)**

May 2013 Certain Account Balances

- **Total Savings/Cash \$953,044.67**
- **Total Other Current Assets \$304,104.75**

- **RI State Pension \$5,600.01**
- **Lease Obligation \$250,369.97 (reduction due to principal payments)**
- **Total Current Liabilities \$51,068.93**
- **Total Equity \$2,059,738.68**
- **Total Liabilities & Equity \$2,672,862.42**
- **Hydrant fee has been paid.**

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

CHIEF'S REPORT/MONTHLY EXPENDITURES-MAY 2013

Chief presented his monthly report for May 2013 and highlighted the following:

Emergency Calls:

- **The North Cumberland Fire Department responded to 104 incidents in the month of May.**
- **Personnel responded to one structure fire/four motor vehicle accidents/two electrical fires and one odor of natural gas.**

Personnel/Equipment:

- **Lt. Emerson trained on new EMS reporting system/install radio chargers in C-1 and C-5, replaced damaged side rail on Engine 5, replaced hinge on Engine 5 and Deputy and Chief attended drill in Pawtucket as evaluators for Pawtucket EMA.**

Buildings/Grounds:

 Repairs made to flag pole/lawn tractor sent for repairs.

Equipment:

 Truck 5 to C&S for body work – VFIS covering repair.

 Brush 51 pump out for repair – gasket leaking on motor.

 Fire extinguishers returned after annual testing

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Financial Management, Budget, Taxes:

- Discuss under Old Business**

Apparatus/Buildings/Grounds

- Nothing to report.**

Personnel/Labor Relations

- Nothing to report.**

Negotiations

- Nothing to report.**

Consolidation

- Discussion under New Business**

OLD BUSINESS

Update of Sharing of Services with Valley Falls Fire Department

- .Consolidation committee moving forward.**

Update for Annual Meeting

- Agenda to be posted on website**

- **Discuss budget and set tax rate**
- **Election of Trustee vacancies**
- **Meeting to start at 7:00 pm**
- **Need quorum of 50 registered voters**

Consolidation Update

- **Senator Ryan Pearson and Representative Jim McLaughlin have each presented bills to the General Assembly**
- **Chairman Koutsogiane has reworked the wording in several areas of the Bill and will email reworded Resolution to Rep. McLaughlin and Senator Pearson.**
- **Bill will not take effect until the general election in November 2014. In the interim, districts will continue to operate independently.**
- **Budget for consolidated districts will be due first Monday in June. North Cumberland finalizes their budget mid June.**
- **Once consolidated, there will be one unified fire tax.**
- **Chairman read into the record proposed Resolution.**

Motion made by Mr. MacDonald to add wording to Resolution: “as outlined in 2013-14-6194 with clarification and modification as set forth in the attached Bill.” Motion seconded by Mr. Lindquist. Motion carried with Mr. Gannon voting nay.

2013-2014 Budget

- **Mr. McCoy stated line items hold expenses same as 2012-2013 FY**

- **#6200 Payroll \$780,000 (up \$5,000 from LY \$775,000)**
- **#6204 Overtime \$215,000 (down from LY \$240,000)**
- **#6250 Blue Cross \$224,000 (up from LY \$203,000)**
- **#6480 Professional Fees \$10,000 (down from LY \$13,000)**
- **#6550 Hydrant Fees same as LY \$85,000**
- **Surplus up \$200,000 from LY**
- **Should Board give excess back to residents and drop the tax rate to \$1.57**
- **Pension rate going up next year approximately 5.4%**
- **Chairman would like to see giving back to taxpayers.**
- **Ladder truck 20 years old and may need to be replaced in four years.**
- **Mr. Lindquist would like to use the surplus to pay down the truck.**
- **District has only had one tax increase in six years.**
- **Need quorum of 50 registered voters to hold meeting**
- **Move portion of surplus to capital reserve and pay \$4,000 toward truck principal**

Motion made by Mr. Spaziani and seconded by Mr. MacDonald to approve 2013-2014 budget in the amount of \$1,795,075 before capital reserve and truck lease principal payment and set tax rate at \$1.57 per \$1,000.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brian Kelly, 8 Hayfield Lane, Cumberland, RI

Mr. Kelly wanted the Board to make a Motion and reconsider they

vote regarding the Resolution stating the members did not see any specific language of changes made by the Chairman and his intent of sending the revised Resolution to the Senate. He has spoken with Rep. McLaughlin and Senator Pearson and feels it is a bad Bill and suggested the Bills be withdrawn. Feels it is in the Town's best interest to meet and discuss drafting a Bill and still get it passed and moved to the Governor's office for signature. Agrees about segregating collected funds and possible tiered tax rate. Not sure putting a tax increase on businesses is correct – need to draw businesses into Town not scare them away.

Chairman read into the record his revised language in the Resolution – language needs to be clarified.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- None**

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mr. Gannon and seconded by Mr. Spaziani to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by all present. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ghislaine D. Therien

Ghislaine D. Therien, Clerk