

## **North Cumberland Fire District Board of Trustees**

### **Minutes of Annual Meeting - June 16, 2014**

**Present: Philip Koutsogiane, Chair Others: Ghislaine Therien, Clerk**

**Michael Spaziani, Vice Chair Chief Brian Jackvony**

**Harry Mac Donald Martin Klara, Tax Collector**

**Charles Wilk Robert Murray, Treasurer**

**Paul Lindquist Brian Campbell**

**John McCoy**

### **Meeting Call to Order**

- **Chairman called to order the annual meeting of the North Cumberland Fire District (NCFD) at 7:06 p.m. A quorum is present.**

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

- **Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Phillip Koutsogiane.**

### **Proof of Notice of Annual Meeting**

- **Chairman Koutsogiane submitted into the record a notarized Affidavit of Compliance dated June 12, 2014 listing newspaper and dates in which the annual meeting was advertised.**

### **Roll Call**

- **Present: Chairman Philip Koutsogiane, Vice Chair Michael Spaziani, Paul Lindquist, Brian Campbell, Charles Wilk, Harry MacDonald, John McCoy, Chief Brian Jackvony, Tax Collector Martin Klara, Treasurer**

**Robert Murray, and Clerk Ghislaine D. Therien.**

### **Election of Moderator**

**Motion made by Mr. Lindquist and seconded by Mr. Wilk to nominate Chairman Koutsogiane as Moderator for the Annual Meeting.**

### **Acceptance of Minutes of Annual Meeting held on June 19, 2013**

**Chairman stated Minutes were previously voted on and accepted.**

**Mr. Koutsogiane addressed the residents stating this would be the last annual meeting for the North Cumberland Fire District. At the November 2014 general election, seven people will be the new Trustees elected from the five Council Districts with two at large members which will form the new Fire Committee. He further introduced each support member of the current Board who has been working for the District: Chief Brian Jackvony, Tax Collector Martin Klara, Treasurer Robert Murray and Recording Clerk Ghislaine Therien and existing Board of Trustees Michael Spaziani, Harry MacDonald, Charles Wilk, Paul Lindquist Brian Campbell and John McCoy. Residents at the meeting acknowledged their service.**

**Summary of Activities of Fire District to include sharing of services with Valley Falls Fire District and consolidation activities for Town of Cumberland for previous fiscal year: Chairman, Treasurer and Fire Chief**

## **Chief Jackvony's Summary**

### **Responses**

- **For the fiscal year 2013/2014, for the months of June 2013 through May 2014, the North Cumberland Fire Department responded to a total of 1,346 calls. This number represents a 6.1% increase over last reporting period when we responded to 1,269 incidents.**

### **Fire Prevention**

- **The Department conducted 126 smoke detector/carbon monoxide detector re-sale inspections, performed 25 new construction, addition and remodeling building plan reviews, 38 construction inspections, 8 fire prevention demonstrations, 16 smoke detector placement inspections 9 special permit inspections, 18 fire and evacuation drills in schools and 80 Rhode Island State Fire Code inspections.**

### **Personnel**

- **Members of the Department continue to seek professional development programs to add skill sets to better serve the District residents. Training, buildings and grounds, emergency medical services apparatus maintenance and repairs, fire prevention and computer development are just a few of the areas where members assist with running the department. We currently have 10 call members that train weekly under the direction of Lt. Emerson.**

### **Financial**

- **Applied for surplus military equipment through Federal Government.**
- **DEM grant applied for miscellaneous brush fire equipment.**
- **Applied for SAFER grant for the recruitment and retention of call firefighters**
- **AFG grant applied for the replace fire hose.**

## **Equipment**

- **Most protective clothing has been replaced and we expect to purchase two new sets of protective clothing.**
- **Aerial and ground ladders are compliant.**
- **Pumps have been certified.**
- **Received a donation from the family of a former call firefighter that was used to buy new multi gas meters.**

## **Apparatus**

- **Engine 5 in excellent operating condition. Continue to seek repairs that are covered under warranty.**
- **Truck 5 in good condition. Significant repairs have recently been completed and we continue to make repairs and should be placed in reserve status with consolidation.**
- **Brush 51 showing its age. The pump has been repaired avoiding the cost of replacement.**
- **Car 5 in good operating condition. Significant body rot has been detected and we are in the process of getting quotes for repairs.**

## **Buildings and Grounds**

- **The building is in overall good condition. Recently replaced roof windows and boiler.**

### **Capital Improvements**

**Kitchen replacement in the works. Lt. Paquin is coordinator for this project.**

### **Treasurer Robert Murray's Summary**

**The district finished \$100,000 ahead of budget this year. Assessments r higher and so far we have collected 90% of this year's taxes. Budgeted \$12,000 for professional services but only spent \$3,000. Last year funds were set aside for the capital reserve fund. District is responsible for the \$154,000 debt and is responsible for paying it out. It will be passed onto the new Board on October 31st. Regarding the pension, we are paying what is mandated by the State. If passed, the budget is set for the next twelve months and the new Board will have to deal with it.**

### **John McCoy Budget Summary**

**The new Board will go into effect on November 1, 2014 and will have to run 4 budgets. Mr. McCoy did a line by line explanation of the proposed budget for the residents in attendance. The Board has 4 options to present to the residents for approval:**

**Option A Option B Option C Option D**

**\$1.64 per \$1,000 \$1.20 per \$1,000 \$1.28 per \$1,000 \$1.34 per \$1,000**

**Do nothing with surplus No cushions Excess cash**

**\$390,000 and no pay down on truck**

**\$440,000 excess cash**

**\$75,000 cushion Excess cash**

**\$290,.600 surplus**

**\$95,000 cushion and pay out on truck \$100,000**

**The Board discussed paying down the truck but the consensus was not to pay down. The truck is an asset and other districts will be bringing debt to the consolidation. The Board wants to give the surplus back to the residents.**

**Capital improvements are needed for station repairs with a cushion to take care of unforeseen expenses. The new Board will need funds to continue to pay expenses after November 1st. The Board is recommending a tax rate of \$1.28 per thousand.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Approval of Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Annual Budget with setting of Tax Rate**

**Mr. MacDonald made a motion to accept the 2014-2015 North Cumberland Fire District financial budget as presented in the amount of \$1,838,143.00 with an effective tax rate of \$1.28 per thousand dollars of base value. This would result in approximately \$365,000 being used to reduce this tax rate. Motion seconded by Resident Stanley Kaiser.**

**Vote taken: 45 residents voting in favor of the new budget and tax rate - 17 residents voted against. Motion carries.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Ghislaine D. Therien**

**Ghislaine D. Therien, Clerk**