

North Cumberland Fire District Board of Trustees

50 Arnold Mills Road Cumberland, RI

Minutes of September 17, 2014 Meeting

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

Michael Spaziani, Vice Chair

Martin Klara, Tax

Collector Harry MacDonald Ghislaine Therien, Clerk Charles Wilk

Paul Lindquist

John Mc Coy

Brian Campbell

Chief Brian Jackvony

OPENING

**Chairman called to order the regular meeting of the North
Cumberland Fire District (NCFD) at 7:00 pm.**

CLERK'S REPORT

**Motion made by Mr. Wilk and seconded by Mr. McCoy to accept the
August 2014 Minutes as presented. Motion carried by all present.**

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

TREASURER'S REPORT – August 2014

**Mr. Murray submitted his report which is repeated herein and
incorporated by reference.**

August 2014 Payroll and Overtime

 August standard payroll was \$73,571.71. Overtime was \$50,431.18

 Total payroll \$181,871.80 through August 2014

- Total Expenses \$1,382,475.07 through August 2014**
- Percentage of overtime to total expenses 13.69%**

August 2014 Expenses:

- Total expenses for month \$187,897.33**
- Expenses in excess of revenue (\$170,784.13)**
- Principal payments on PUC (\$4,111.33)**

August 2014 Certain Account Balances

- Total Savings/Cash \$502,858.86**
- Total Other Current Assets \$1,620,074.51**
- Fixed Assets \$1,415,713.00**
- Total Current Liabilities \$8,168.74**
- Total Liabilities \$1,860,448.89**
- Total Equity \$1,678,197.48**
- Total Liabilities & Equity \$3,538,646.37**

Motion made by Mr. Lindquist and seconded by Mr. Campbell to accept the Treasurer's August 2014 report as presented. Motion carried by all present.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT – August 2014

Mr. Klara submitted his report which is repeated herein and incorporated by reference.

- **\$20,781.25 taxes collected in August 2013-2014/YTD \$60,416.86**
- **Prior years taxes due \$74,967.68**
- **Fees paid \$202.25**
- **Returned checks \$50.00**
- **13/14 taxes carried forward to August report**
- **Getting calls daily regarding tax sale and current bills**

Motion made by Mr. Wilk and seconded by Mr. MacDonald to accept the Tax Collector's August 2014 report as presented. Motion carried by all present.

CHIEF'S REPORT/MONTHLY EXPENDITURES-August 2014

Chief Jackvony submitted his report which is repeated herein and incorporated by reference.

EMERGENCY CALLS

The North Cumberland Fire Department responded to 123 incidents in the month of

September 2014. This represents 33 more responses than the same period in 2013.

PERSONNEL RESPONDED TO:

- **9 mutual aid; 1 gasoline spill; 1 odor of gas; 2 motor vehicle**

accidents; 1 brush fire; 1 kitchen fire; 1 structure fire.

PERSONNEL:

- **Haunted Hill detail underway**
- **EMT refresher underway at Rescue headquarters**
- **CPR recertification completed**
- **Annual hose testing completed**
- **Driver operation class underway**
- **Engine 5 to RIFA on September 27**

BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

- **Kitchen design committee ready to present final options for approval**

EQUIPMENT / APPARATUS

- **Truck 5 – to Triton for fuel leak**
- **Engine 5 and Brush 51 annual inspections at Triton**
- **Engine 5 to Minuteman for paint work covered by warranty**
- **Car 5 – tires and inspection**
- **Doucette to install new radio in Truck 5 on October 16**

Motion made by Mr. Wilk and seconded by Mr. Spaziani to accept the Chief's September 2014 report as presented. Motion carried by all present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Financial Management, Budget, Taxes

State conducting an audit of the pension plan in October.

Apparatus/Buildings/Ground

Nothing to report

Personnel/Labor Relations

Nothing to report.

Negotiation

Nothing to report

Consolidation/Sharing of Services

Committee met on September 15 – By-Laws done and drafting the budget.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS

Pond Cleanup

Arnold Mills owns a portion of the pond. Station will do aeration for mosquito control and take care of the algae.

Kitchen Rehab

Three contractors have submitted quotes. J & A Appliance submitted a quote of \$12,600 which includes new appliances. Quote with installation of the appliances is \$1,500.00. Flooring also needs replacement. Will have a full quote including flooring at the next meeting.

Ford Expedition

Met with Imperial Auto. Looking at two different vehicles: \$35,000 for an Explorer and \$40,000 for a Tahoe. Will also look at smaller vehicles.

Proposed Name change for Firefighters Union

One submission was “Cumberland Firefighters 2722”. Each district contract remains in effect until June 2015. The Executive Board may be different. Chairman stated there is some language that needs to be cleared up.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lt. Brian Bernardo addressed the Board and informed them that a grievance had been filed regarding the letter Chairman sent pertaining to method of payment for the month of October. Firefighters were disappointed with the Board. The contract states every firefighter gets a payroll check and questioned what past practices had to do with contractual obligation.

Chair responded that once the consolidation takes place all districts need to be on the same payroll schedule.

Lt. Bernardo stated the new Board needs to inherit as few issues as

possible. The Firefighters cannot afford to give up a week's pay and this is not the right time or way to handle the situation. He also asked what was discussed in Executive session. Chairman replied Executive Session minutes are not available for review. Lt. Bernardo asked if it was legal to withhold payroll for one week. There are some firefighters that live week to week. Chairman stated CBA allows District to select the pay period.

Chief informed Lt. Bernardo that they had a discussion one year ago regarding this method of payment. Lt. Bernardo stated he had no recollection of that conversation.

Chairman also reminded Lt. Bernardo that he had also approached Lt. Bernardo some time ago to mutually work out a revised pay period, but Lt. Bernardo rejected the Chairman's proposals. Before the Chairman sent out the recent letter to the firefighters, he had met with Lt. Bernardo again to work out a revised pay period. That effort was also rejected by the Union.

Miscellaneous

Lt. Bernardo returned to the meeting and asked to address the Board.

He spoke with the firefighters and they agreed for him to return to Board with a proposal. If the Board were in agreement, the firefighters would accumulate all of their overtime to October 24th and issue a payroll check for the week of no payroll listed in the Chair's letter. They would also retract their grievance against the

Board.

Mr. McCoy made a Motion to accept the proposal made by Lt. Bernardo as Union President that all overtime accrued and unpaid by the firefighters will be deferred and paid to the extent necessary to be equal to that firefighter's standard pay and will be paid the week of October 17, 2014. The Union will also withdraw their grievance with prejudice. Motion seconded by Mr. Wilk. Motion carried by all present.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mr. Wilk and seconded by Mr. Spaziani to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by all present. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ghislaine D. Therien

Recording Clerk