

## **Chepachet Fire District**

### **Executive Committee – Monthly Meeting**

**September 18th, 2013**

**The Chepachet Fire District monthly meeting was held at the Chepachet Fire Station on Wednesday, September 18th, 2013. Vice Chairman Robert Lohr called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Members present were Lynda Martone and Eric Croft. Also present were Treasurer David Steere, District Clerk/Secretary Darlene Shields, Chief Robert Dauphinais and Deputy Chief Dennis Huestis and Tax Collector Patricia Svansson. Absent were George Leonhardt and Earl Newman**

#### **Secretary's Report:**

**All members have received copies of the minutes for August 21st, 2013 Monthly Board Meeting. Minutes were dated incorrectly to be changed to August 18th, 2013.**

**Motion made by Mrs. Martone to accept the minutes with the corrected date of August 18th, 2013 as presented, second by Mr. Croft and passed 3-0.**

**VOTER YES NO Abstaining**

**Earl K Newman, Chairman**

**Robert Lohr, Vice Chairman X**

**George Leonhardt**

**Lynda Martone X**

**Eric Croft X**

**Mr. Newman present at 6:32pm**

**Tax Collector's Report:**

**Mrs. Svansson provided update on the upcoming Tax Sale. As of today there are 31 remaining accounts that are on the Tax Sale List. Those names will appear in the upcoming Ad in the Providence Journal. There will also be 2 more short Ads to run the next 2 Fridays. Patty advised everyone that herself, Darlene and Jiggs have completed assessing the tax roll. Mrs. Svansson is looking to have the board set the Tax Rate at the next Monthly meeting in October.**

**Mrs. Svansson also resented the resolution from Attorney Robert Craven for the upcoming Tax Sale. The resolution was reviewed by all members presented and accepted.**

**Motion made by Mr. Lohr to accept the Tax Collector's Annual Report and the Tax Resolution, second by Mr. Croft and passed 4-0.**

**VOTER YES NO Abstaining**

**Earl K Newman, Chairman X**

**Robert Lohr, Vice Chairman X**

**George Leonhardt**

**Lynda Martone X**

**Eric Croft X**

**Treasurer Report:**

**Mr. Steere presented the Treasurer's Monthly Report for August 2013. We are only 10% through the year so much for expenses to date. Mr. Steere referred to the 3rd page of the Treasurer's Report which indicated that \$37,000 in 3rd party was collected over a 2 month time span. That works out to be almost \$15,000 per month. Total funds balance \$632,000 of which \$300,000 is dedicated funds.**

**Motion made by Mrs. Martone to accept the Treasurer's Annual Report as presented and to pay the monthly bills, second by Mr. Croft and Passed 4-0.**

**VOTER YES NO Abstaining**

**Earl K Newman, Chairman X**

**Robert Lohr, Vice Chairman X**

**George Leonhardt**

**Lynda Martone X**

**Eric Croft X**

## **Chief's Report:**

**Chief Dauphinais read and submitted the August 2013 Chief's Report to be placed on file.**

**Motion made by Mrs. Martone to accept the Chief's Monthly Report for August 2013, second by Mr. Croft and passed 4-0.**

**VOTER YES NO Abstaining**

**Earl K Newman, Chairman X**

**Robert Lohr, Vice Chairman X**

**George Leonhardt**

**Lynda Martone X**

**Eric Croft X**

**Committee: no committees at this time**

**Old Business:**

**1. Investing: Table until Next Month**

**Mr. Lohr stated that after last month's meeting with Mr. Craven that**

**the Charter should be changed prior to any investment decisions being made. Mr. Steere stated that the Town is very conservative and does not invest in anything that puts the tax payer's money as risk.**

**Mrs. Martone asked if we can add more money to the Navigant Money Market Account and increase the account to \$250,000.**

**Mr. Steere will be looking into Money Markets with other credit unions as to what promotions are out there currently.**

**Motion made by Mr. Lohr to table until next month and second by Mrs. Martone and passed 4-0.**

**VOTER YES NO Abstaining**

**Earl K Newman, Chairman X**

**Robert Lohr, Vice Chairman X**

**George Leonhardt**

**Lynda Martone X**

**Eric Croft X**

**New Business:**

**1. Septic System:**

**Chief Daupiniais stated that in the past few years the septic is failing has needed to be pumped 3 to 4 times per year and is need of repair.**

**Chief Dauphinais has contacted Susan Capasso to design the new septic system. Chief is looking to classify the project as a repair and not a new system. She works closely with the State and DEM and the system because of the river and pond behind the station. Her fee is \$2,600 to design a system for us to put the project out to bid. She is looking at an above ground septic system which will range from \$25,000 - \$40,000. She feels the system that is required will be on the same lines of a 4 bedroom house. Chief is will using \$2,600 from Capital Improvement to cover her fee to spec out the plans.**

**Mr. Steere stated the board will have to advertise a special meeting to approve of the above ground septic system. Chief stated at Susan will work with both the State and DEM to make sure system meets the State and DEM's requirements.**

## **2. 3rd Party Billing for Refusals:**

**Mrs. Shields and the Chief advised the board that when the new electronic Purvis system was implemented back in May that Dawson now received all copies of the reports both transported and refusal calls. It came to their attention last month that Dawson billed for some refusals which was unknown by both the Chief and Mrs. Shields. After talking with Kim Dawson the owner of The Dawson Group she did state that some departments do bill for some refusals based on certain requirements, mainly if any supplies were used even through the call at the end was a refusal. Mrs. Dawson stated that the**

charge was a fee of \$500, most of which end up be abated do to most insurance companies don't pay but she stated there are some insurance that may and do pay.

Mrs. Shields presented the guidelines to how Dawson determines if a refusal warrants to be billed.

Chief doesn't feel that the district should be charging for any refusals as we have never done so in the past.

Mr. Newman also feels that the district should not be charging for refusals.

Motion made by Mr. Newman to abate all refusals calls, second by Mr. Lohr and passes 4-0

VOTER YES NO Abstaining

Earl K Newman, Chairman X

Robert Lohr, Vice Chairman X

George Leonhardt

Lynda Martone X

Eric Croft X

### 3. Street Lights:

Mr. Steere made mention that both himself and Mr. Croft we are the

last Town Council Meeting and the Town Council was under the impression the Fire District would be picking up the cost for lighting the new walkway lights being put in on Main Street. Chief mentioned that there were 40 lights being installed and that the current street lights that the district pays for were maybe to be removed. The Chief has also heard that the town intends to have the news lights on a timer and to go out at midnight. Chief then said there would be no lighting after midnight and that was a huge safety concern to not have lighting on Main Street. Mr. Steere did hear that the Town Council wanted to have a meeting with the Board and wanted to board to have notice.

Chief feels that the District should not be responsible for any more lights. Mr. Newman has stated that no matter what the cost is the Board's position is that the District is not willing to take on any more lights period.

A letter was submitted to the Town of Gloucester last June stating that the Chepachet Fire District's Board had no interest in paying for the new lights planned for Main Street and to date no one from the Town or the Town Council has contacted anyone from the Board or the District Clerk regarding a discussion on the street lights nor has asked to be on the Agenda to discuss this issue.

#### **4. Charter Committee:**

**Chief Dauphinais, Lynda Martone and Mr. Croft will be on the Committee to review the Charter and make any recommended changes.**

**Motion made by Mr. Newman to appoint Chief Dauphinais, Lynda Martone and Eric Croft to review the Charter and come back to the board with their recommendations, second by Mr. Lohr and passed 4-0.**

**VOTER YES NO Abstaining**

**Earl K Newman, Chairman X**

**Robert Lohr, Vice Chairman X**

**George Leonhardt**

**Lynda Martone X**

**Eric Croft X**

## **5. Up Coming Events**

**Heritage Day this Sunday – Clam Cakes and Chowder 11am – 3pm**

**Steak Fry - September 28th 4pm – 8pm Camp Watmough's**

**Flu Clinic at the Station on Monday October 7th 630pm – 8pm**

**Jigg's 90th Birthday all invited at the Union Church Greenhalgh Hall  
2pm -4pm**

**Respectfully submitted, ~~~~~**

**Darlene L Shields**

**Darlene L. Shields**

**District Clerk / Chepachet Fire District**