

Bradford Fire District Annual Meeting
Bradford Fire House, 35 Main Street, Bradford, RI 02808
September 11, 2012

Meeting called to order by Moderator Jeff Killeen at 7:05 pm

Reading of the advertisement

No approval of minutes, no copy available

Al Clemence commented on the capacity of room and the presence of qualified electors

Solicitor replied that electors are either registered voters or property owners in the District, and that the fire chief will enforce room capacity regulations

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Treasurers Report submitted

Joyce Stanczyk commented that some income items attributable to the fire department are not on treasurers report

Motion to approve made by John Maxon
Second Frank Cornelius

Tax Collector's Report

Frank Algieri requested the present number of delinquent tax accounts

Tax Collector replied that \$20,000.00 in delinquent taxes are presently owed and that tax sales occur after an account is delinquent for two years

Joyce Stanczyk requested the interest rate on CD and asked why the amount is not applied to the paydown of debt

Tax Collector replied that the CD amount is earmarked for equipment maintenance

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Tax Assessors's report

Given by Elaine Harris for Dan King
Announced the grand list for district

Al Clemence questioned whether automobile values are included in the assessment?

Raymond Laspee stated that tax bills do not include car values

Brian O'Rourke questioned whether the former BDA plant is on the tax rolls.
Brian O'Rourke commented that the previous Assessor's report asserted that legislation was needed to add the plant to the tax rolls, and questioned whether such legislation was ever drafted.

Solicitor stated that there was no request for legislation from the Tax Assessor.

Brian O'Rourke commented that this is the second year this item has been requested and no action has been taken.

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Board of Engineers Report
Given by Fire Chief Sullivan

Oral reading of call history for the past year
Chief Sullivan read a letter from the Board of Engineers, now recommending a consolidation with Dunns Corners

Al Clemence requested the names of the members of the Board of Engineers and commended their decision on consolidation

Deputy Chiefs are Harold Ellis and William Briggs

Motion to accept Board of Engineers report
Moved - Frank Abbruzese
Second- Madeline Trombino

Approved on voice vote

Old Business
Moderator comments on needs assessment
Need outside organization
Bylaws are old and must be updated

Al Clemence
Questioned issues of cost and need for special meeting

Moderator stated that there is discretion to spend up to 10k

Al Clemence
Quoted letter from Chief Stanley regarding accomplishment of needs assessment and controlling cost of such an assessment

Moderator read Chief Stanley's letter.

Al Clemence

Needs assessment still needs to be done even considering the recommendation of the Board of Engineers

Old Business concluded

Approval of next year's budget
Highlights of changes Chief Sullivan

Doris Jacques WB Bradford Rd
Question on phone charges and electric bills – why the increases?

Responses by Chief Sullivan and Moderator Killeen

Al Clemence
Comments on need to have detail in the budget

Colloquy with people in the back on

Theresa Wright
Questions dispatch charges from Ambulance corps

Mr Chapman
Confirm budget for this year is less than last year?
But actual expenses from last year were more than this year

Chief responds that the heating budget line is the same as last year.

Mr Chapman
Why anticipate high expenses? Try to base budget items on actual costs.

Discussion on cutting out use of second building

Theresa Wright
Looking for actual costs against line items in budget?

Moderator Killeen suggested referral to Treasurer's report

Motion to reject budget by Frank Algieri
Second by Kevin Kern 172 Bradford Rd

Dave Marcotte
Comment on budget lines – amounts of differences

Elaine Harris
What happens if you don't budget enough?

Mr Chapman
Have there ever been overages in budget?

Mike Deniger
Comments on overages on budget

Bill Aiello
Request modification to motion to identify special

Nicollette Larose Wayland Street
Motion to NOT accept
QUESTION CALLED
Motion defeated

Motion to accept Doug Rathbun
Second Madeline Trombino

Budget adopted by show of hands

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ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Al Clemence made summary remarks from prepared statement –

Moderator Election
Joyce Stanczyk nominated Frank Manfredi
Mike Deniger nominate Bill Aiello

Paper ballot vote requested by more than five members

Solicitor suggested that the meeting could be recessed for the vote to ensure participation by registered voters, to be administered by the Board of Canvassers

John Maxon comments that if a recess is ordered, then the ballot should have all officers

Joanne Jones commented that the election is an agenda item

Query of candidates by various members of the meeting

Vinnie Valenti North Capalbo Drive called the question

[Electors gave names and addresses to meeting clerks, who verified names on registered voter list obtained from Westerly Board of Canvassers and property owner list obtained from the Westerly Tax Assessor's office.]

Moderator Election

Frank Manfredi elected on paper ballot vote

Mr Manfredi received the gavel from Mr Killeen
Mr. Killeen recognized for his service to the District

Clerk Election

No nominations were made for the position of clerk
Mr Toscano advised the Moderator that he could appoint someone to fill the position at a later date.

Tax Collector/Treasurer Election

Madeline Trombino nominates Virginia Abbruzese
Virginia Abbruzese elected by voice vote

Board of Engineers Election

Jay Sullivan nominates William Briggs, Jr. for Board of Engineers
William Briggs, Jr. elected by voice vote

Fire Chief Election

Madeline Trombino nominates Jay Sullivan
Jay Sullivan made a brief statement of qualifications
Jay Sullivan elected by voice vote

Tax Assessor Election

Jay Sullivan nominates Ralph Abbruzese
Ralph Abbruzese elected by voice vote

Auditor

Jay Sullivan nominates Joseph Serra
Christine O'Rourke nominates Joyce Stanczyk
Joseph Serra elected by show of hands

Committees

The moderator appointed a bylaws committee to make a review of the present bylaws and make a preliminary report by January 11, 2013

Members of the committee are:

Al Clemence, Mark Berardo, Elaine Harris, Brian O'Rourke and Kevin Kern

Needs assessment committee

Al Clemence objected to treatment of this as new business.

Mr Toscano advised the meeting that the District is in receipt of a Notice of Deficiencies regarding the condition of building from the USDA. These issues have existed since 2004 and if left unaddressed, could result in the closure of the building.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn,
Meeting was adjourned by voice vote at 9:25 p.m.