

Meeting of the Coventry Fire District, Anthony Fire Department Board of Directors

November 11, 2009 – Wednesday

Open meeting: 7:04 pm

Board Members in attendance: Gary Cote - Chairman, Shirley Matthews Co-Chairman, TJ Matola and Edward Webster

Chief – Paul Labbadia

Clerk – Robin Leroux

1. Board of Directors update and discussion:

Gary Cote read the report from the Tax Collector – collections to date are \$1,838,471.37 plus interest of \$62,133.82 for a total of \$1,900,605.19. This is just over 84% of budget. We have \$47,560.62 in Coventry Credit Union as of November 10, 2009. 123 Taxpayers were sent to attorney 11/9/2009 for collections of \$132,691.

Gary Cote informed all present that a loan in the amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 for 6 months was applied for at Centreville Saving Bank to make payroll and pay outstanding bills for the Coventry Fire district till the 4th quarter taxes are collected.

Gary Cote read grievances that were sent to his home.

1). Grievance 2009-09 regarding firefighter Richard Collins probation extension – Chief Labbadia did this at the request of multiple officers of the Coventry Fire District..

2) Grievance 2009-10 non firefighter duties – Chief does not feel his is doing or asking anything of the firefighters that is not covered under their collective bargaining agreement Article 7 Duties section 1.

3) Grievance 2009-11 emergency order #09-01 restricting overtime. The Chief did amend the overtime restriction to allow overtime if a vacation day was used on a previous shift but not a sick day.

On 10/16/09 these grievances were given to Chief Labbadia and he denied them all per his letter dated 10/19/2009.

Resolution was made by Ed Webster and seconded by Shirley Matthews to support Chief Labbadia on his decision towards these grievances. TJ Matola recused himself from this vote. All other members were in favor Gary Cote, Shirley Matthews, and Edward Webster. Gary Cote will notify the President of the union in writing within 7 days.

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Public Comment and Discussion:

It was asked how many trips a month the firefighters make. The Chief said we average 6 a day and 2500 a year. The Chief explained the automatic aid program we have with the other local fire departments

to share our equipment so no station is left under staffed. The closest apparatus is sent to the emergency sites regardless of what district the emergency falls in. About 72% of our calls are a rescue call. Dispatch for the town will determine which apparatus and stations will respond.

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Do we still flush the fire hydrants? Yes we test 2 times a year but Kent County Water is responsible for flow testing yearly. We pay to rent the hydrants from Kent County Water and we rent the street lights from National Grid. We are the Coventry Fire and Light district.**

Shirley Matola made a motion for adjournment and it was seconded by Ed Webster. All members were in favor. Gary Cote, Shirley Matthews, TJ Matola, Ed Webster. Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Robin Leroux

Clerk, Board of Directors AFD