

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

**June 7, 2010 – Monday**

**Open meeting: 7:09 pm**

**Board Members in attendance: Gary Cote - Chairman, Shirley Matthews, Jim Beckman, Peter Pankowicz and Edward Webster**

**Chief – Paul Labbadia**

**Deputy Chief - Robert Warren**

**Accountant – Tom LaColle**

**Clerk – Robin Leroux**

**1) Board Update and Discussion: Gary Cote read the tax collectors report. He commented that it seems like the number of tax sales seems to be rising and that is very unfortunate. Gary said we had a bid on the old ladder truck. The Chief has another proposal to present to the Board for the truck. The Chief did not receive any bids in the amount that he thought the ladder truck was worth. The highest was \$1,500 and scrap value would not be much more than that. He was approached by a local firefighter to consider donating the truck to the Pink Heels Organization. They promote breast cancer awareness. They take old fire trucks and paint them pink and drive them around the country for fundraising awareness programs. Ed Webster asked if we had any liability once we donated the truck. We do not. Jim Beckman asked the scrap value. Chief Labbadia estimates between**

**\$1,600 – 2,000. Shirley Matthews and Peter Pankowicz were ok with the idea. Public comment wondered if it would be best to sell the truck and donate some money to the cause instead. Ed Webster asked if it was tax deductible. We are tax exempt so we can not right it off as a tax deduction. Ed Webster made the motion for the resolution to donate the old ladder truck to the Pink Heels Organization and Peter Pankowicz seconded the motion. All members were in favor, Gary Cote, Shirley Matthews, Jim Beckman, Peter Pankowicz and Edward Webster. Public comment asked if there would be a fee to remove the ladder truck and Gary Cote said we would not consider donating the truck if we had to pay any money to have it removed. Shirley Matthews commented on the new window looking nice and where the money came from. Chief Labbadia said they received money from the insurance company from the storms. Ed Webster asked about the progress of replacing the bridge. DOT is in the process of demolishing the bridge as of now and still expects to have a new one in place before the end of the year. Gary Cote said they did look into putting in a temporary bridge but the area is not big enough to support a temporary bridge while they are trying to demolish and rebuild a permanent one.**

**2) Discussion of merger between Local 3240 and Local 3372 – Gary said the 2 unions are in discussion to merge. A vote was taken by our firefighter union in favor of the merge 11-1 and passed. The decision to merge should not have any affect on our Board. Shirley Matthews read the resolution for vote. Ed Webster seconded. Jim Beckman**

**asked which Local number they will be going under. They will be staying under their own Local number for 6 months then changing. MOA's will be needed to amend their current contract to reflect the name change. The 2 Unions will have common rules but will remain separate till their district contracts are up for negotiation. All members were in favor, Gary Cote, Shirley Matthews, Jim Beckman, Peter Pankowicz and Edward Webster.**

**3) Public comment – Wanted to know how Local firefighter merger affects our budget – none. Our board will still be the same and our firefighters will still be the same. When negotiation for our own 13/14 members of our department are up our Board will still just negotiate for them not all 50+ members of the merging firefighters. Just changing our Local firefighter's union number at this point. The Local will still have separate contracts till maybe a whole district merger happens in the future. Jim Beckman asked if the other Union could bid into our district - No. Detail work may be shared if needed but pay rates are comparable and our guys are asked first. Next meeting is in August.**

**Motion made by Shirley Matthews to adjourn. Peter Pankowicz seconded the motion. All were in**

**favor Gary Cote, Peter Pankowicz, Shirley Matthews, Jim Beckman and Edward Webster.**

**Meeting Adjourned 7:41 pm**

**Respectfully submitted**

**Robin Leroux**

**Clerk, Board of Directors AFD**