



**13 BEFORE:**

**14 GERARD BOUCHARD, MODERATOR**

**GARY COTE, CHAIRMAN**

**15 THOMAS LA COLLE, TREASURER**

**JOHN GOLUMB, CLERK**

**16 JAMES BECKMAN, BOARD MEMBER**

**EDWARD WEBSTER, BOARD MEMBER**

**17 PETER PANKOWICZ, BOARD MEMBER**

**18**

**19**

**PRESENT:**

**20**

**FOR THE BOARD . . . . . ARTHUR CAPALDI, ESQUIRE**

**21**

**22**

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**25**

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**2**

**1 (COMMENCED AT 7:03 P.M.)**

**2 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Good evening, ladies**

**3 and gentlemen. I'd like to call the meeting to**

**4 order. My name is Gerard Bouchard. I've been**

**5 appointed moderator for this year's annual meeting**

**6 of the Coventry Fire District. Clerk of the**

**7 board, we have a quorum?**

8                   **MR. GOLUMB: Yes, Mr. Moderator, we do**  
9                   **have.**

10                   **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: A quorum is**  
11                   **designated to be 32 registered voters -- taxpayers**  
12                   **of the district, and we do have a quorum. I**  
13                   **declare the meeting to be verified with the quorum**  
14                   **and we can conduct business of the meeting.**

15                   **At this time, I'd like to review the**  
16                   **emergency exit plans. We have one, two doors here**  
17                   **on the front of the building that you all entered.**  
18                   **Go right straight outside; and in the rear, your**  
19                   **left of the building, there's another door to go**  
20                   **outside. In case you can't get through them**

21 doors, there's another door at the very rear of  
22 the auditorium that leads downstairs and to the  
23 right to go outside.

24 At this time, I'd like to have everybody  
25 stand and follow me in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**3**

1 (PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE RECITED)

2 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: At this time, I'd

3 also like to ask all seated to silence your cell

4 phones, pagers, put them on vibrate; and if  
5 there's anybody with a two-way radio, please put  
6 the volume to a minimum.

7 I'll have to read through a few rules of  
8 the meeting, so please bear with me. Only  
9 registered voters and residents of the district  
10 are to be seated in the designated area designated  
11 by me, which should be to the side of the room.

12 Sir, are you a registered voter? Okay. That's  
13 where the non-participants shall be seated. Thank  
14 you. The meeting is open to the public, members  
15 of the press, and the media, but they cannot  
16 participate in any way and have to be seated in

17 the assigned area away from the voters. Under the  
18 state law, 45-3-18, I have the authority to  
19 establish the rules for orderly conduct of this  
20 meeting. It is my responsibility to manage it,  
21 regulate it for the business of the meeting to  
22 maintain good order.

23 Again, I'll state that only registered  
24 voters who are of the district, residents of the  
25 district, shall have the right to attend,

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1        participate, and vote on matters brought before  
2        the meeting. Anyone who's eligible -- who's not  
3        eligible to vote shall remain in the designated  
4        area for the non-voters, can observe, but they  
5        cannot participate in any manner, thus shall not  
6        shout, clap, cheer, or distract or intimidate  
7        anyone. No recording devices of any kind shall be  
8        allowed by anyone at the meeting, with the  
9        exception of the stenographer, including video  
10       camcorder, telephone, as they could intimidate  
11       some of the participants.

**12                    To be recognized and to be heard, an**  
**13                    eligible voter shall stand, wait to be recognized**  
**14                    by me, and after recognition, advance to the**  
**15                    microphone at the front of the room, give your**  
**16                    name and address and any time they come up**  
**17                    subsequent to that, I'll ask you to just state**  
**18                    your name once again unless I can remember who you**  
**19                    are and I call on you by name.**

**20                    An eligible voter shall speak only to the**  
**21                    issue before the body. Robert's Rules of Order**  
**22                    shall not apply to this meeting. There shall be**  
**23                    only one motion on the floor before the body at**  
**24                    any time, but there may be motions to amend that**

**25 motion. All motions shall be presented in**

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**5**

**1 writing. I shall make the final decision as to**  
**2 what is or is not out of order or as to the**  
**3 propriety of any motion. All those recognized to**  
**4 speak shall not speak longer than three minutes.**

**5 All those who want to be heard on a motion**  
**6 lawfully before the body shall be heard. A quorum**  
**7 for the meeting is 32 qualified electors, and we**

8           **have well over 32 here tonight. The clerk will**  
9           **read the warrant of the legal notice, but I can**  
10          **accept a motion to waive the reading of the**  
11          **warrant.**

12                   **AUDIENCE MEMBER: Motion to waive.**

13                   **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: You're out of order**  
14          **right at this point in time. Please let me finish**  
15          **the rules of the meeting. Prior to the minutes of**  
16          **last meeting to be read, a motion may be brought**  
17          **before the floor to waive the reading of the**  
18          **minutes. Report of the finance department will be**  
19          **read by Joanne Leroux --**

20                   **MR. GOLUMB: Jean Lukowicz.**

21                   **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Okay. It will be**  
22                   **read by Jean Lukowicz. Treasurer's report. The**  
23                   **treasurer's report will be read by Tom LaColle.**  
24                   **The report of the directors shall be read by Gary**  
25                   **Cote. Report by Chief Labbadia will be a**

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**6**

1                   **PowerPoint presentation. No questions from the**  
2                   **body until the presentation is completed.**

3                   **Down the line, I'll recognize the**  
4                   **chairman of the board, Mr. Cote, to introduce the**  
5                   **resolutions. They'll be read all at once, but the**  
6                   **body may move to consider each one separately.**  
7                   **Last year, they did not. All were accepted by one**  
8                   **motion. And then we'll move down to the bottom of**  
9                   **the agenda which will be for adjournment.**

10                   **At this point, I call for the call of the**  
11                   **warrant.**

12                   **AUDIENCE MEMBER: Motion to waive.**

13                   **MR. COTE: Second.**

14                   **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: The motion's been**  
15                   **made to waive the reading of the call of the**

16 warrant. Any question to the motion? Motion made  
17 and seconded.

18 (VOICE VOTE)

19 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Ayes have it. A  
20 call for the reading of the minutes of last year's  
21 annual meeting.

22 MR. COTE: Motion to waive.

23 MR. WEBSTER: Second.

24 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Motion made and  
25 seconded to waive the reading of last year's

1 minutes. Any question to the motion?

2 (VOICE VOTE)

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I have a question.

4 This is my first time I've been at one of these  
5 meetings. Is there somewhere I can get a copy of  
6 the minutes of the last meeting so I can go  
7 through them?

8 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: I'm sure there is.  
9 You can contact the district secretary for that.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

11 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: That's Miss Leroux.

12           **Motion before the floor. Any more questions?**

13                           **(VOICE VOTE)**

14                   **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Ayes have it.**

15           **Minute are waived. The board of director's**

16           **report. Mr. Cote.**

17                   **AUDIENCE MEMBER: Motion to waive --**

18                   **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Excuse me, sir?**

19                   **AUDIENCE MEMBER: Motion to waive those.**

20           **We all have them in there. Why waste our time --**

21                   **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: I believe that this**

22           **report is not included in the packet. Mr. Cote.**

23                   **MR. COTE: Thank you. Believe me, David,**

24           **if I thought about bringing it up and adding it to**

**25        the packet, I would have appreciated that motion.**

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**1        You'll have to excuse me as I have been very busy**

**2        with other matters. I didn't have a chance to**

**3        actually sit and write a report for you folks this**

**4        year, and I have to apologize for that.**

**5                I want you to know that we've had a very**

**6        successful year at the department. We purchased a**

7 new ladder truck that we absolutely had to have.

8 The one that we had prior to the new one was 30

9 years old and unserviceable. We couldn't get the

10 ladder certified to be used safely anymore. So,

11 what we did was instead of going and buying

12 brand-new at a cost of almost a million dollars,

13 we bought a factory demonstrator model that was

14 built for shows, and had been driven around the

15 country and shown to other departments to see they

16 were interested in purchasing one or having one

17 built. The price of the truck was approximately

18 \$900,000 unequipped. We bought it fully equipped

19 for just a click over 500,000. It had a few miles

20 on it, but the chief and all the guys seemed to be  
21 very happy with it.

22 The company that we brought it from,  
23 Sutphen, was out of Ohio. They sent a trainer  
24 here and was here for a week and trained all the  
25 guys on how to operate the equipment properly and

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1 safely, and the ladder has been in service for  
2 almost a year, and has been utilized greatly by

3 not only our district, but other districts when  
4 responding to automatic aid calls throughout the  
5 Town of Coventry.

6 We have completely remodeled the fire  
7 station. If anyone had even been in the station  
8 before for a meeting, the second floor of the  
9 station was just one big open room, a military  
10 style bunk room that the guys shared when they  
11 were on duty overnight. And we also used it as a  
12 meeting room because we had a big conference table  
13 in the middle of it. So, we were meeting in the  
14 guys' bunk room. When it rained, the water came  
15 in through the windows. The guys' beds were

16 getting soaking wet. They were having to sleep  
17 sitting up in reclining chairs when they were on  
18 an overnight shift because they couldn't sleep in  
19 their beds.

20 The station has been completely  
21 remodeled. We've done some things down there as  
22 cost-saving measures such as replacing the  
23 oil-fired furnace that I think came over on the  
24 Mayflower to a gas-fired furnace that is so much  
25 more efficient. The budget will reflect, when we

1 go over the budget, will reflect the savings in  
2 energy costs. The system, if it hasn't yet, will  
3 eventually pay for itself. National Grid worked  
4 very closely with us. The chief was very  
5 efficient in getting participation through  
6 National Grid to keep that project to a minimum  
7 cost.

8 We are currently in the process of making  
9 our final payment on a new rescue that was  
10 purchased five years ago. We stuck to that

11 payment schedule. Before the end of this month,  
12 that rescue will be paid in full.

13 I would like to commend the gentlemen  
14 that represents you at the Coventry Fire District  
15 Anthony Station. I think they had a phenomenal  
16 year down there. Morale has been really good.  
17 They've made some major decisions. If you haven't  
18 heard yet or don't know, the union at Coventry  
19 Fire District Anthony Station voted and chose to  
20 merge with the union from the Central Coventry  
21 Fire District, which is the first step into full  
22 merger for the two districts. At last year's  
23 meeting, anyone that was present, it was a

**24 resolution presented by the taxpayers in writing**

**25 that merger meetings take place between Coventry**

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**11**

**1 Fire District and one of the surrounding**

**2 districts. I want you to know that we met with**

**3 Central Coventry's board and discussed merger. We**

**4 met with Hopkins Hill Fire's board and discussed**

**5 merger. The unions from Central and Coventry**

**6 decided to merge together, which is the first step**

7 in merging the districts.

8 So, there will be no duplication of

9 services throughout town. This board fully

10 intends to comply with the taxpayers' requests,

11 and we will continue to pursue that merger. And I

12 would say probably at next year's meeting, we'll

13 be sitting here talking about something completely

14 different than what we're going to talk about

15 tonight. I think within a year's time, we'll be

16 able to get the groundwork laid for that; and I

17 anticipate that at next year's meeting, we'll be

18 here asking the taxpayers of the Coventry Fire

19 District Anthony Station to vote on a merger with

**20 the Central Coventry Fire District, and I believe**  
**21 that the Central Coventry Fire District Board of**  
**22 Directors will be meeting with their taxpayers and**  
**23 asking them to vote on the same thing because the**  
**24 decision is ultimately up to you folks.**

**25 I can tell you that in the beginning, I**

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**1 was totally against the merger, and I spoke out**

2       **against it. And over the last four years, I have**  
3       **learned enough about fire service and enough about**  
4       **the departments throughout this town to know that**  
5       **we suffer a severe duplication in services**  
6       **throughout this town, and I don't think there's**  
7       **any need for it, and I believe that a merger would**  
8       **be a cost-saving venture for both sides, for both**  
9       **districts. We'll continue to do the research on**  
10      **that; and when we have all the numbers and can**  
11      **present a legible case to you as far as what the**  
12      **savings would be to the taxpayers of this**  
13      **district, we will come back to you with that**  
14      **information, and we will ask you to make a**

15 decision. Only you can make that decision. All  
16 we can do is present the information to you and  
17 give you the opportunity to make an educated --  
18 cast an educated vote on the merger, and we will  
19 do that.

20 I have to tell you that a lot of the work  
21 that took place within the department was done  
22 in-house by the guys that work there. A lot of  
23 the radio work on the new truck and other new  
24 vehicles that were purchased, we purchased a used  
25 vehicle for the fire marshal to use. That -- all

1 the work on that vehicle was done in-house. We  
2 send very little out.

3 We've had some major repair costs this  
4 year. We've tried to go through the town of  
5 Coventry to purchase fuel for all of our  
6 equipment, and it was a cost saving. The problem  
7 is is that the tanks that the town of Coventry  
8 uses are contaminated, and we had two pieces of  
9 equipment that we had to replace the fuel tanks in  
10 and fuel systems in because the fuel that we were

11 getting from the town of Coventry contaminated the  
12 inside of the tanks and rotted them from the  
13 inside out. That was a major expense, and that  
14 will come up when you look at -- it will either be  
15 in the chief's report or you'll see it in last  
16 year's budget that you have been presented with to  
17 do a comparison to this year's budget.

18 I would like to thank everybody for  
19 coming and participating in this meeting. We're a  
20 five-member board that sits before you tonight,  
21 but we're not here to make all the decisions that  
22 affect the taxpayers in the Anthony Fire District.  
23 That's what we have these meetings for. I

**24 appreciate your participation, and thank you, and**

**25 I hope everybody has a really good holiday.**

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**14**

**1 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: You heard the report**

**2 from the board of directors, what the will of the**

**3 people is.**

**4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I make a motion that**

**5 the report from the board of directors be accepted**

6 as read.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.

8 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: We have a motion to

9 accept the report of the board of directors, and

10 seconded. Any questions to the motion? Seeing no

11 questions --

12 (VOICE VOTE)

13 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Ayes have it. The

14 Board of Directors' report accepted as read and

15 placed on file. Tax collector's report. Miss

16 Lukowicz.

17 MS. LUKOWICZ: Coventry Fire District

18 tax/finance division report as of November 30,

19        2010. 2010 taxes collected: \$1,607,437. Back  
20        taxed collected: \$317,456.91. Interest on back  
21        taxes: \$74,228.26. Total taxes and interest  
22        collected: \$1,999,123.10. Interest on invested  
23        taxes as of 11-30-2010: \$521.37. Balance on  
24        hand, 11-30-2009: \$26,134.27 cents. Total  
25        receipts and interest: \$2,025,778.74.

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**1        Transferred to treasurer: \$2,023,000. Balance on**

2 hand as of November 30, 2010: \$2,778.74. Report  
3 on back taxes: Uncollected taxes for 2010. The  
4 uncollected taxes for prior years was \$85,000, and  
5 the uncollected taxes for 2010 was \$305,000, I  
6 believe. It came to \$405,000 in back taxes.

7 Respectfully submitted, Jeanne Lukowicz, tax  
8 collector.

9 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: You've heard the  
10 report of the tax division.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Motion to accept.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.

13 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Motion has been  
made

14 and seconded to accept the tax collector's report,  
15 finance department. Any questions to the motion?  
16 Seeing none.

17 (VOICE VOTE)

18 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Ayes have it. Tax  
19 collector's report placed on file. Treasurer's  
20 report, Mr. LaColle.

21 MR. LA COLLE: The financial statements  
22 of the Coventry Fire District for the fiscal year  
23 ending November 30, 2010 were presented as you  
24 came in. Everybody should have a copy of that.  
25 You can follow along, if you wish.

**1            One the second page of the report shows**

**2            the balance sheet, the assets, as of November 30,**

**3            2010, cash in Centreville Checking: \$8,413. Cash**

**4            in the share account was \$6.50. Cash in the tax**

**5            collector's account was \$72,778.94. The fire**

**6            marshal's account was \$4,253.03. The Citizens**

**7            Rescue Revenue account was \$10,491.02. We have a**

**8            CD for the medical retirement fund belonging to**

**9            the firefighters \$32,153.40. And additional CD**

10 for \$26,075 for the same purpose. We had taxes  
11 receivable at the end of the year of \$405,516.95.

12 And we had depreciable equipment purchased during  
13 the year of \$537,192. Accumulated depreciation on  
14 that equipment is \$26,969. Total assets were  
15 \$1,069,911.48.

16 On the third page, the liabilities and  
17 equity of the district, we had accounts payable on  
18 November 30, 2010, of \$19,569.87. We had a line  
19 of credit payable to the Coventry Credit Union for  
20 \$35,000, and we had a lease payable to the Sutphen  
21 Corporation for the ladder truck totaling  
22 \$474,150. The remaining equity for the district

23 at the end of November 2010 is \$541,101.61. This  
24 is prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.  
25 The fourth page is the income statement, won't

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17

1 read each line because it's pretty lengthy unless  
2 you want me to. We have total revenue of  
3 \$2,665,070. We had total operating expenses of  
4 \$2,199,657, a net income of \$465,412. This is

5 reported on the accrual basis of accounting, which  
6 means it takes into account the accounts  
7 receivable at the end of the year.

8           **Going on to Page 6, management discussion**  
9 **and analysis of this year, highlights of it. The**  
10 **foregoing financial statements were prepared in**  
11 **accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards**  
12 **Board Statement No. 34, basic financial statements**  
13 **and management discussion and analysis for state**  
14 **and local governments. Assets acquired during the**  
15 **fiscal year ended November 30, 2010, have been**  
16 **capitalized and are being depreciated. Taxes**  
17 **receivable and accounts payable have been reported**

18 in accordance with the modified accrual basis of  
19 accounting.

20 The purchase of new equipment for the  
21 fiscal year ended November 30, 2010 included an  
22 aerial ladder truck, fire hose, and a Zodiac water  
23 rescue apparatus. The aerial ladder truck is  
24 being depreciated over a useful life of 20 years.  
25 The hose and water rescue apparatus are being

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1        **depreciated over ten years. All equipment is**  
2        **being depreciated using the Modified Accelerated**  
3        **Cost Recovery System.**

4                **The Coventry Fire district has a secured**  
5        **line of credit tax anticipation note from Coventry**  
6        **Credit Union in the amount of \$500,000. During**  
7        **fiscal year ending November 30, 2010, \$50,000 of**  
8        **this line of credit was used; \$15,000 was repaid,**  
9        **and \$35,000 remains outstanding payable to**  
10        **Coventry Credit Union as of November 30, 2010.**  
11        **There is \$465,000 available to borrow. Interest**  
12        **is payable quarterly on the outstanding balance at**  
13        **the rate of 5.35 percent.**

14                   **The Coventry Fire District entered into a**  
15                   **lease agreement with Sutphen Corporation for the**  
16                   **lease/purchase of an aerial ladder truck on**  
17                   **February 15, 2010 in the amount of \$535,000. A**  
18                   **down payment upon delivery was made in the amount**  
19                   **of \$60,850. The balance of the lease is payable**  
20                   **in annual installments of \$60,850 through February**  
21                   **15, 2021. The fire district will own the vehicle**  
22                   **at the end of the lease term.**

23                   **The budget versus actual results of**  
24                   **operations for the fiscal year ended November 30,**  
25                   **2010, appear herein as a schedule that includes**

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**1 three years of operating history. This schedule  
2 is prepared using the cash basis of accounting.**

**3 A capital improvement fund was  
4 established as part of the fire district budget  
5 two years ago. The remaining expenditures for  
6 that fund were made during this fiscal year ending  
7 November 30, 2010 for station improvements. The  
8 amount \$1,604 was not spent and will be accreted**

9 into the fiscal year ending November 30, 2011

10 budget.

11 A fire prevention fund exists by law

12 which provides that money collected from smoke

13 detector tests and building plan reviews are to be

14 used outside the budget for fire prevention

15 purposes. During fiscal year ended November 30,

16 2010, \$4,480 was collected and \$26,151 was spent.

17 The excess of expenditures over receipts will be

18 realized upon collection of a large outstanding

19 fee over the next fiscal year.

20 An insurance proceeds fund was

21 established for a thermal imaging camera that was

22 damaged. The insurance covered the damage and a  
23 new camera was purchased.

24 An insurance proceeds fund was  
25 established for direct and indirect flood-related

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20

1 damage. Insurance proceeds were received from our  
2 insurance company from State and Federal Emergency  
3 Management Agencies. All direct and indirect  
4 flood-related expenses were paid from these

5 proceeds.

6 The fire chief's annual report and the  
7 board chairman's annual report are incorporated  
8 herein by reference and are an integral part of  
9 management discussion and analysis.

10 On Page 8 is the cash basis report I  
11 mentioned. The first three columns are historical  
12 results of operation for fiscal year ended in '07,  
13 '08, and '09. The current year budget is in the  
14 fourth column or the prior year budget, and the  
15 actual results of operation are in the fifth  
16 column. And Page 9 is the assessor's statement of  
17 assessed valuations and tax levy, which will be

18 used as reference for when we get to that  
19 resolution to set the tax rate.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Motion to accept the  
21 treasurer's report.

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.

23 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: You've heard the  
24 treasurer's report. There's a motion and a second  
25 to accept and place it on file. Any questions to

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1 the motion?

2 (VOICE VOTE)

3 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Treasurer's report

4 accepted as read, placed on file. Chief's report.

5 Chief Labbadia.

6 CHIEF LABBADIA: Good evening, everybody.

7 It may sound a little redundant because I'm going

8 to go over some stuff that the board of directors

9 went over, but we'll start and we're going to go

10 through it until we get to the segment on the

11 budget and at that point we'll stop and go on

12 another time.

**13                    The mission statement for the Coventry**

**14                    Fire District is to protect and enhance the**

**15                    quality of life for the citizens of Coventry Fire**

**16                    District in preventing or minimizing the loss of**

**17                    life thought to be threatened by the hazards,**

**18                    fire, medical rescue emergencies, hazardous**

**19                    materials incidents and disaster situations**

**20                    therein. Along with myself, the Deputy Chief,**

**21                    company officers, and firefighters, a joint effort**

**22                    must be taken to instill the continuance of the**

**23                    appropriate programs, training needed to carry on**

**24                    the forward progress of the Coventry Fire District**

**25                    in an on-going effort to provide services needed**

**1 to protect the community.**

**2 Acquisitions in 2009 and 2010 approved by**

**3 the board of directors as the board chairman said**

**4 was a new ladder truck, two staff vehicles, one**

**5 for the fire marshal and one for myself. Some of**

**6 the goals for the past three years that we've**

**7 established in the district, we've upgraded the**

**8 electrical to a 200-amp service, a new generator**

9 to support the building. In the event the power  
10 goes out, the whole building is going to be  
11 supported so in the event we have to use it for  
12 the shelter, we have the ability to use it for the  
13 shelter. We remodeled the living quarters on the  
14 second floor with new heat and AC through natural  
15 gas instead of window units. We also installed a  
16 new fire alarm system that protects the entire  
17 building. As I said in the past, we are forcing  
18 people out there to put fire alarm systems in  
19 their buildings and we didn't even have one in the  
20 fire station. So, I don't think that was right.  
21 So, we need to do that; and by doing some of these

**22 things, we really decreased the amount we're**  
**23 paying for insurance overall. So, that's a yearly**  
**24 savings every year.**

**25 We installed a new natural gas boiler**

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**23**

**1 that heats the entire first floor. We also**  
**2 installed new hip roof on the main portion of the**  
**3 building. As you know, there was a penthouse up**

4       there. So what we did was to cut down on the  
5       cost, we actually used the penthouse to support  
6       the new roof structure. So, it really cut down  
7       the cost of putting a new roof on the building  
8       doing it that way. We replaced the windows on the  
9       second floor with energy efficient windows, and  
10      it's saving a lot in the long run for utility  
11      costs.

12               We also replaced the bay doors on the  
13      Washington Street side. We had non-insulated  
14      doors there. So, every time it was cold in there,  
15      that heat just kept pumping and pumping. You can  
16      go in there now. The heat isn't even on 55. It's

17 so warm in there it's doing what it's supposed to  
18 be doing. We did that this year.

19 Some future goals for 2010 and 2011,  
20 which they're going to do probably next week or  
21 the week after is replace the windows that are  
22 left on the first floor of the building with  
23 insulated windows also. They're single pane metal  
24 windows and there's a lot of heat loss in that  
25 building, but right now the building is up to par

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1     **like 110 percent with a few more additional**  
2     **things.**

3             **We need to install a vehicle exhaust**  
4     **system in the building. These trucks are starting**  
5     **up and going out the bay quite often. We average**  
6     **six runs a day in our district alone. That's not**  
7     **the whole town. So, these trucks are moving in**  
8     **our district and they're doing runs every day.**  
9     **These guys are working. So, the vehicle exhaust**  
10    **system will stop the emissions from the truck,**  
11    **which will make it a little more healthy for the**  
12    **guys that are working in there in the station so**

13 they don't have to breathe diesel exhaust every  
14 time they go in and out of the station. We  
15 replaced -- I'd also like to replace a portion of  
16 the Fairview side of the building roof. It's a  
17 flat roof, rubber roof. There's a couple of  
18 small -- you can't see them from the Fairview  
19 side, but there's a couple of small offices in the  
20 back of that Fairview side that have a rubber  
21 roof. I want to replace that rubber roof. That's  
22 our EMS room, and there's a lot of leaks in there  
23 and we patch and patch and patch it, but it's  
24 not -- to no avail. The water's still coming in.

25 So, them are some of the future goals

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**25**

**1 that we have. The fire marshal's office is**

**2 responsible to develop and implement training**

**3 programs for businesses, schools, complexes, homes**

**4 to establish a practice of emergency evacuation**

**5 procedures, inspection of code enforcement, fire**

**6 cause and determination. Year to date, the office**

**7 did 84 smoke inspections and 14 plan reviews**

**8        within the year so far.**

**9                The town of Coventry has a population of**

**10        34,940 and an area of square miles of 72.3. The**

**11        Coventry -- 62, excuse me. The Coventry Fire**

**12        District Anthony Village is the most densely**

**13        populated per capita of all the districts of**

**14        17,000 people in the service area of five and a**

**15        half square miles. The total run count for the**

**16        Town of Coventry year to date is 6,390 runs total.**

**17        That's all four fire districts. Out of those**

**18        runs, the total run count for the Coventry Fire**

**19        District year to date is 2,762 runs. It runs over**

**20        2,828 for the year ending. Out of those runs,**

21 rescue calls, there were 1,204 rescue calls in  
22 district. There were 264 rescue calls out of  
23 district. Fire calls were 426. It was 255 fire  
24 calls in district and 171 out of district. Carbon  
25 monoxide alarms, which happened a lot in this time

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1 of the year, we had 20 year to date. Car/house  
2 lockouts, we had 11. Water emergencies, non flood  
3 related, we had 56, and flood related we had 781

4 during that bad storm.

5 The guys did a phenomenal job. Anthony

6 Village took a pretty good hit with the loss of

7 the bridge on Laurel Avenue. And also a portion

8 of Concordia Manufacturing actually came down

9 also. We handled it well. We evacuated up to 170

10 people to play it safe in the event that the dam

11 did release. We would have had a pretty good

12 tidal wave going down Washington Street towards

13 Fairview. So, it wouldn't have been a pretty

14 thing. So instead of making it more of a mess, we

15 decided to evaluate prematurely so that we would

16 be safe in the event that the bridge did go, which

17 we were lucky it didn't go.

18 Right now it's drastically affecting our  
19 response time to the other side of Tiogue Avenue.

20 We have to go all the way to Sandy Bottom Road,  
21 but we have made arrangements with the other  
22 districts to send trucks also with our trucks so  
23 that the public is going to get the best service  
24 they can possibly get. Central Coventry has been  
25 backing us up from the Tiogue Station. In the

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1 event we need them in a hurry, they're there with  
2 us.

3 It's a lot of positive things going on.

4 We dramatically need to actually become one fire  
5 department. Operationally, it's very difficult to  
6 run under four separate fire departments. It  
7 would be more cohesive to have one fire  
8 department, operationally to run effectively and  
9 provide the proper services that we need to  
10 provide for the citizens of Coventry. So, we're  
11 taking giant steps forward, and we're hoping by

12 June of 2012, we can accomplish that. If  
13 everything works out the way we expect to work  
14 out, myself and Chief Seltzer have a lot of  
15 meetings to sit down in and hash out a lot of  
16 things and see what direction we're going to go in  
17 and we are working in the best interest of the  
18 people of Coventry in trying to make it work the  
19 best way we can.

20 At this time, I believe I'm going to stop  
21 because it's going into the budget. And I don't  
22 want to go into the budget because we have one  
23 thing before the budget, I believe. So, at this  
24 time, I'll stop. If there's any questions, I'd be

**25 more than happy to answer your questions.**

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**28**

**1 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Are there any**  
**2 questions for the chief?**

**3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Do we know when the**  
**4 bridge is going to be opened?**

**5 MR. COTE: Yeah.**

**6 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Not going to --**

**7 CHIEF LABBADIA: I actually just sent**

8 another letter to the Governor's office, also to a  
9 couple of the senators to kind of push it along  
10 because they're saying it may not be till the end  
11 of the summer next year, and that's not  
12 acceptable. It's definitely not acceptable for  
13 response reasons and safety to the citizens of our  
14 district. So, I think the more they get leaned  
15 on, the faster they're going to go. They have to  
16 go out and award it to bid and they have a bid  
17 process to go through; and at this point, it's  
18 more of an emergency than something that can take  
19 the normal precautions to go through the normal  
20 steps. We're beyond that right now. So, we're

21       **trying to get them to move a little faster, but I**  
22       **can't promise anything. You know how politics go.**

23               **MR. WEBSTER: That was fast track, right?**

24               **AUDIENCE MEMBER: Is there anything we**

25       **can do?**

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**29**

1               **CHIEF LABBADIA: You may actually -- yes.**

2       **Call and complain. That's what you can do. I**

3 would say call and complain.

4 MR. COTE: I made contact with General  
5 Bray, the head of the Army Air National Guard in  
6 the State of Rhode Island, when a temporary  
7 suspension bridge was located in Minnesota, and  
8 they were perfectly willing to ship that here and  
9 erect that here on our behalf. It would have  
10 carried a normal flow of traffic. It would not  
11 have carried a fire truck, but it would have  
12 supported the weight of our rescue, which would  
13 have made it much easier for me to sleep at night.

14 When the head of Rhode Island DOT was  
15 contacted, we were told that that is not an option

16 as the construction of the new bridge, the way the  
17 construction is going to take place where the road  
18 actually ends on each side of the river, they have  
19 to go back 20 feet into the road base, 20 feet  
20 closer to Pilgrim Avenue on the Laurel side and 20  
21 feet closer to 117 on the 117 side to dig down and  
22 pour the proper footing to support the new  
23 structure and the temporary suspension bridge  
24 would be right in the middle of their construction  
25 site. The property is not wide enough between the

1 two sets of waterfalls to be able to put two  
2 bridges there. So, the suspension bridge was  
3 ruled out.

4 I can tell you that the State of Rhode  
5 Island has been paid by the Federal Government to  
6 replace that bridge. The wire transfer has taken  
7 place, and the only information I can get out of  
8 the head of DOT is it's in planning. It's in  
9 planning. That is the only information that the  
10 town manager has been able to get out of them.  
11 That is the only information that most people who

12 call can get out of them is it's in the planning  
13 stage, and in my last meeting with the town  
14 manager, I was told that he was contacted by the  
15 head of DOT and they were looking at before the  
16 first of January 2012 is what they were shooting  
17 for. Yes, ma'am.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I was wondering, have  
19 you considered possibly looking into the option of  
20 using the bike path? Is it wide enough for the  
21 fire trucks because you can just go up and across.  
22 Would a trestle hold the fire truck, and you can  
23 put stop signs?

24 CHIEF LABBADIA: We can gain access to it

**25        and get there, but it's very difficult to get to**

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**1        the other sections because there's a wood line**

**2        there. So -- and also there is metal rods. So**

**3        we'd have to go every 20 feet, lock the barriers,**

**4        knock them down, go over them, and take even**

**5        longer. It's probably faster to just go around**

**6        with all the obstacles that we're going to**

7 encounter, unfortunately. But it would be a good  
8 idea. When we have brush fires in that area, we  
9 actually do take the trucks in there and get in  
10 there, but it's a very difficult process to do it  
11 because of the new safety barriers that they put  
12 in there. And that's why we have automatic aid  
13 with Central Coventry sending a truck, too, so  
14 we're getting as many people as we can as fast as  
15 we can.

16 MR. COTE: Under the automatic aid  
17 agreement, the closest piece of apparatus responds  
18 first. That doesn't mean that the guys from  
19 Anthony don't respond, but when it's a medical

20 emergency, the closest piece of equipment responds  
21 on a first-call basis, which means Central  
22 Coventry is dispatching a rescue out of the Tiogue  
23 Station, and we're coming in as their back-up.  
24 So, they're actually -- the response times are  
25 being affected, but not as greatly as they would

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**32**

1 be if our guys had to go all the way around for  
2 every call.

3                   **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Are there any other**  
4                   **questions to the chief's report?**

5                   **AUDIENCE MEMBER: Motion to accept.**

6                   **AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.**

7                   **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: The motion has been**  
8                   **made and seconded to accept the chief's report as**  
9                   **presented. Any questions to the motion?**

10                   **(VOICE VOTE)**

11                   **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Chief's report --**  
12                   **ayes have it. Chief's report accepted as read and**  
13                   **presented and placed on file. At this time, we're**  
14                   **going to have election to the board of directors.**  
15                   **Going to ask all you folks to come to the front**

16 here to receive a ballot. There are four names on  
17 the ballot. You can vote for one, two, or three  
18 of the four names. If any ballot has four votes  
19 cast to it, it will be discarded and not counted.  
20 Please come up, receive your ballot and then go  
21 back to your seat and cast your ballot. They will  
22 be collected. Miss Robin will collect the ballots  
23 from you in your seat. Thank you. Remember not  
24 to vote for more than three of the four  
25 candidates.

1           **AUDIENCE MEMBER:** Is there any chance  
2           that any of these people might speak to us so we  
3           can know who they are and what they do for a  
4           living?

5           **MODERATOR BOUCHARD:** Absolutely. We can  
6           do that. Mr. Beckman, would you like to come to  
7           the podium, please.

8           **MR. BECKMAN:** Hi. My name is James  
9           Beckman. I'm a 21-year resident of the town of  
10          Coventry. I'm a 27-year veteran of the Cranston

11 Fire Department, and I'm here to assist the public  
12 to understand what the fire department is and how  
13 it runs efficiently and make sure the firefighters  
14 have everything they need. That's about it. And  
15 I am currently a board member, and running for --  
16 well, actually, I'm a fill-in. Correct? That's  
17 more like it. I filled in for a guy that relieved  
18 himself of duty. I'm running for election on the  
19 board to continue for two years. Thank you.

20 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Mr. Louis Cote.

21 MR. LOUIS COTE: Hello. My name is Louis  
22 Cote, Jr. I've been involved in the fire  
23 department in the Anthony District for over 30

24 years, seven years as a volunteer, and 25 years as  
25 a paid man. I just recently retired last year,

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1 and one of my goals is what we were talking about  
2 is to start the merge of the district because I  
3 think it's a safety issue and I think the  
4 district, got other districts, could function a  
5 lot better and that's about it. That's my goal in  
6 the fire district. Thank you.

7                   **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Mr. Peter Pankowicz.**

8                   **MR. PANKOWICZ: My name is Peter**

9                   **Pankowicz. I've been a resident for 50 years in**

10                  **Coventry. I work at Kent County Memorial Hospital**

11                  **in EMS emergency room for the last 23 years. I've**

12                  **been a volunteer, one of the volunteers in Anthony**

13                  **for a good 15 plus years. I think my experience**

14                  **in emergency room and EMS helps the district, and**

15                  **I worked on the board for the past year as a**

16                  **fill-in for one of the guys that left. So, I**

17                  **think that and working with the board and the good**

18                  **of the district, whether we merge or whatever we**

19                  **do is just for the good of the district, I think I**

20 can help you. Thank you.

21 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Mr. Eddy Webster.

22 MR. WEBSTER: Good evening. I've been on

23 the board since it first started. We've made a

24 lot of progress. We've learned a lot. I

25 represent the senior citizens of our district, so

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1 they don't get overtaken, and it's up to you

2 people. I enjoyed my job. We've made a lot of  
3 progress, and that's it. Have a happy new year.

4 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Okay. You have  
5 heard the four candidates. Please get your  
6 ballots filled out. Miss Robin will pick them up  
7 from you. Is there anybody who hasn't turned one  
8 in yet? Okay. All ballots in? I declare the  
9 polls to be closed, and the chief and deputy chief  
10 will count the ballots. Please bear with us as we  
11 go through this process.

12 (PAUSE)

13 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Call the meeting  
14 back to order. Results of the election are:

15        **Louis Cote, 42 votes; Peter Pankowicz, 30 votes;**  
16        **James Beckman, 21 votes; Ed Webster, 18 votes. At**  
17        **this point, I'd like to ask Mr. Cote to come**  
18        **forward and join the board.**

19                **MR. GARY COTE: If I may.**

20                **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Congratulations, Mr.**  
21        **Cote, Mr. Louis Cote. Mr. Gary Cote would like to**  
22        **say a few words.**

23                **MR. GARY COTE: First of all, I'd like to**  
24        **congratulate Louie and welcome him to the board.**  
25        **I've known Louis forever, since at least junior**

1 high school or before. Same last name. No  
2 relation. So, I think we're going to work well  
3 together, but I would like to thank Mr. Webster  
4 for his six years of service to the board. Ed, it  
5 was a privilege. It wasn't always fun, but, you  
6 know, what you said, we got a lot accomplished,  
7 and I don't expect you to disappear. You know we  
8 have meetings every month. It's not like you've  
9 got anything else to do. You can still come and  
10 represent the senior citizens. So, thank you.

11           **MR. WEBSTER:** Thank you, and I will.

12           **MODERATOR BOUCHARD:** At this point in the  
13 meeting, we have the resolutions to be read by  
14 Mr. Gary Cote. He'll read all three resolutions,  
15 resolution to adopt the 2010/2011, resolution to  
16 set a tax rate, and resolution regarding tax  
17 anticipation notes. At the conclusion of his  
18 reading of those resolutions, we'll entertain a  
19 motion on them.

20           **AUDIENCE MEMBER:** Mr. Moderator, can we  
21 have them make a motion rather than read them --

22           **MODERATOR BOUCHARD:** Yes. There can be a  
23 motion brought to the floor to waive reading of

**24 the resolutions.**

**25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I make a motion that we**

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**1 waive the reading of the resolutions.**

**2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.**

**3 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Got a motion made to**

**4 dispense with the reading of the resolutions and**

**5 it's been seconded. Any question to the motion?**

6 Mr. Cotnoir.

7 MR. COTNOIR: Ernest Cotnoir, 8 Cindy

8 Lane. You've got to vote on the motion, you don't

9 even know what he's going to bring up. What's the

10 tax rate going to be, going up or down?

11 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: I believe,

12 Mr. Cotnoir, if you didn't receive a packet, they

13 are in the packet.

14 MR. COTNOIR: That doesn't tell me if the

15 rate changed or it was the same as it was.

16 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Are there any other

17 questions to the motion? I've been advised by

18 counsel that Mr. Cote should read the actual

19 figures of tax rate, actual figures of the budget.

20 MR. COTE: Okay --

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Mr. Moderator, there's

22 a motion on the floor that needs to be voted on.

23 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: That's correct. We

24 have a motion on the floor.

25 MR. CAPALDI: You can waive the entire

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1 reading of the --

2                   **MODERATOR BOUCHARD:** I believe the motion  
3                   is to waive the reading of the resolutions. At  
4                   this point, we'll vote on that, but I wish that  
5                   you would amend it to have the actual figures read  
6                   by Mr. Gary Cote.

7                   **AUDIENCE MEMBER:** I'll withdraw the whole  
8                   motion, let him read it. Doesn't matter to me.  
9                   Just trying to save time.

10                  **AUDIENCE MEMBER:** I'll withdraw my  
11                  second.

12                  **MODERATOR BOUCHARD:** Okay. Motion is off  
13                  the floor. Okay.

14                  **MR. GARY COTE:** It is resolved that the

15 following budget be approved for the fiscal year  
16 beginning December 1, 2010, and ending November  
17 30, 2011. Clothing allowance, 22,800. Computers  
18 and software, 2,500. Contingencies, 1,000. Dues,  
19 subscriptions and advertising, 3,000. Equipment,  
20 45,000. Fuel, 18,000. Hydrant rental, 1,200 --  
21 I'm sorry, 125,000. Insurance, general purpose,  
22 78,000. Legal, 10,000. Loans and lease payments,  
23 86,000. Medical expenses, 2,000. Medical  
24 insurance, 254,600. Payroll and taxes,  
25 \$1,269,950. Pensions, 178,600. Street lighting

**1 rental, \$100,500. Supplies, 25,000.**

**2 Telecommunications 5,500. Training, 2,500.**

**3 Utilities, 30,000. For a total of \$2,259,950.**

**4 It is resolved that the treasurer of the**

**5 Coventry Fire District is hereby authorized and**

**6 empowered to borrow a sufficient sum of money in**

**7 anticipation of taxes. The purpose of the money**

**8 is for paying bills and operating expenses of the**

**9 Coventry Fire District for the coming year.**

**10                    It is resolved that a tax of not more**

**11            than .50 for commercial and industrial properties**

**12            and not more than .21 for residential properties**

**13            on each \$100 of ratable real estate and tangible**

**14            property in the Coventry Fire District.**

**15            Mr. Cotnoir, there will be no increase on the**

**16            residential side. The purpose of this tax is to**

**17            pay bills and operating expenses of said district**

**18            for the coming year. Said taxes shall be assessed**

**19            as of December 1, 2010 at 8 P.M. Eastern Standard**

**20            Time according to law. Money shall be collected**

**21            and paid into the treasury on or before April 30,**

**22            2011. All taxes not paid on time shall earn**

23 interest at a rate of 18 percent per annum to be  
24 added to the original tax and collected by the tax  
25 collector. The tax collector is directed and

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1 empowered to collect all taxes on or before  
2 November 30, 2011. Be it further resolved that  
3 the taxes -- that the tax may be paid in four  
4 installments. The first installment of 25 percent  
5 of the total on or before the 15th of February,

6       **2011. Each installment of taxes if paid on or**  
7       **before the last day of each installment period**  
8       **successively and in order is free from any charges**  
9       **of interest. If the first installment or any**  
10       **succeeding installment of taxes is not paid by the**  
11       **last date of the respective installment period or**  
12       **periods as they occur, then the entire tax or**  
13       **remaining unpaid balance of the tax, as the case**  
14       **may be, immediately becomes due and payable and**  
15       **carries until collected interest at the rate of 18**  
16       **percent per annum. Presented at the annual**  
17       **meeting on December 21, 2010.**

18               **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: You've heard the**

**19 resolution readings.**

**20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Motion to accept.**

**21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.**

**22 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Motion made and**

**23 seconded to accept the reading of the resolutions.**

**24 Is there any question to the motions?**

**25 MR. BUDZIAK: My name is Ray Budziak. I**

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1 live on 429 Fairview Avenue for the last 50 years.

2 Got a question for you. Says \$45,000 for

3 equipment. What are we buying?

4 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: I'll refer that to

5 the chief. Chief, would that --

6 CHIEF LABBADIA: We deviated a little

7 bit, but normally I go through my PowerPoint which

8 explains everything.

9 MR. BUDZIAK: You're the chief, right?

10 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Chief, do you have

11 it on your PowerPoint; can you bring it back up?

12 CHIEF LABBADIA: What's the line you're

13 looking at, Mr. Budziak?

14 **MR. BUDZIAK: Right here, equipment,**

15 **45,000.**

16 **CHIEF LABBADIA: That is maintenance and**

17 **fire equipment itself.**

18 **MR. LA COLLE: Station upgraded, repairs**

19 **and maintenance on the trucks and the facilities.**

20 **CHIEF LABBADIA: I break it down a little**

21 **bit differently so you can understand it a little**

22 **bit more, which I will do in few minutes, if you**

23 **give me a second. I'll explain it to you.**

24 **MR. BUDZIAK: All right. Now, the loan**

25 **and lease payments, does that include that fancy**

**42**

**1 new high-rise truck we got?**

**2 CHIEF LABBADIA: It includes the truck**

**3 you have and also includes an acquisition of a new**

**4 rescue.**

**5 MR. BUDZIAK: How can we need a new**

**6 rescue? We ain't paid for this one yet.**

**7 CHIEF LABBADIA: It's paid for.**

**8 MR. GARY COTE: I said it was paid off.**

**9 MR. BUDZIAK: Now, when we bought this**

10 one, right, this was supposed to be a super-duty  
11 truck.

12 CHIEF LABBADIA: Nothing's super duty.

13 Rescues, average life for a rescue is five years.

14 MR. BUDZIAK: How many miles we got on  
15 it?

16 CHIEF LABBADIA: After that, it costs you  
17 double in repairs every time you're going --

18 MR. BUDZIAK: How much have we spent on  
19 it this year for repairs?

20 CHIEF LABBADIA: A lot. Over 8,000.

21 MR. GARY COTE: That's one we had to  
22 replace the fuel tank in at a cost of 3,000.

23           **MR. BUDZIAK: Gary, let's back this up**  
24           **just a little bit. I got up on this floor, well,**  
25           **no, down at the old high school, right, and it was**

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**43**

1           **costing us \$15,000 to maintain three rescue**  
2           **trucks, right? You remember that as well as I do.**  
3           **This fellow does. And I said at that meeting,**  
4           **\$15,000 wasn't a lot of money to keep three trucks**

5 on the road. I run trucks. Okay. Now, we spend  
6 \$18,000 to keep a truck that's four years old on  
7 the road. In the beginning, I was all against  
8 buying this truck because I figured we was only  
9 buying it as a parts truck for the Washington Fire  
10 Department. Now, are we going to give the  
11 Washington Fire Department this truck so they can  
12 keep their truck running?

13 MR. GARY COTE: No, Mr. Budziak, that's  
14 absolutely not going to happen.

15 CHIEF LABBADIA: They want to keep it as  
16 a reserve, as a reserve piece.

17 MR. BUDZIAK: But we didn't need any

18 reserve trucks before. We didn't keep --

19 CHIEF LABBADIA: It was the condition of

20 these reserve trucks.

21 MR. BUDZIAK: Wait a minute. Wait a

22 minute. Now, I've got some information on that,

23 too. I took a little time. Those trucks, there

24 was three of them, we turned them in. We sold

25 them.

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1           **CHIEF LABBADIA: New England Ambulance.**

2           **MR. BUDZIAK: Right. He sold one of**  
3           **those trucks, I well understood, for more money**  
4           **than he bought the three of them for and those**  
5           **trucks are still on this road to the day.**

6           **CHIEF LABBADIA: He may have, but you**  
7           **talked to -- Mr. Vance (phonetic) is a very close**  
8           **friend of mine. Mr. Vance invested money into**  
9           **those trucks to keep them on the road.**

10           **MR. BUDZIAK: But I bet he don't dump**  
11           **\$18,000 into them, these trucks.**

12           **CHIEF LABBADIA: It's not 18,000 into**  
13           **each truck.**

14                   **MR. BUDZIAK:** How much money did we just  
15                   put into our trucks?

16                   **BOARD MEMBER:** Excuse me, that 18,000  
17                   that he's referring to --

18                   **CHIEF LABBADIA:** It cost us 20,000 a year  
19                   to maintain the five vehicles that we have.

20                   **MR. BUDZIAK:** That includes the --

21                   **CHIEF LABBADIA:** That includes this  
22                   rescue.

23                   **MR. BUDZIAK:** So, by buying a brand-new  
24                   truck, we cut it down to 4,000 instead of 5,000,  
25                   our repairs?

**1 CHIEF LABBADIA: You cut them down a**  
**2 little bit, yes. But when that truck has to go**  
**3 out for service, we have a truck to replace it**  
**4 with.**

**5 MR. BUDZIAK: We had that before, too.**

**6 CHIEF LABBADIA: I wasn't here before, so**  
**7 I can't answer for what --**

**8 MR. BUDZIAK: So, we got rid of trucks**

9           that we still could have probably been having one  
10           as a spare right along? And the next thing is --  
11           where are these firemen going to park their  
12           trucks? If you get another truck to put in the  
13           garage, where are they going to put their trucks?

14                    **CHIEF LABBADIA:** Where they park now,  
15           outside.

16                    **MR. BUDZIAK:** Chief, I live on that road.  
17           Don't -- please.

18                    **CHIEF LABBADIA:** Mr. Budziak --

19                    **MR. BUDZIAK:** I know, I'm aggravating --

20                    **MR. GARY COTE:** Mr. Budziak, you never  
21           aggravate us.

22           **CHIEF LABBADIA:** Mr. Budziak, you have to  
23           understand that -- you have to know the whole  
24           story and you don't have the whole story. If you  
25           had the whole story, then you'd know. I can't

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1           answer for what happened in 1988. I wasn't here.

2           **MR. BUDZIAK:** That's all right. I

3           understand that. But now we're going to get

4           another --

5           **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Mr. Budziak, your**  
6           **question should be pertaining to the motion on the**  
7           **floor. Are there any other questions to the**  
8           **motion to accept the reading of the resolutions?**

9           **AUDIENCE MEMBER: Is the chief going to**  
10          **show us the rest of the budget?**

11          **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: We can do that.**

12          **AUDIENCE MEMBER: Because he was going to**  
13          **do it.**

14          **MR. GARY COTE: This resolution is only**  
15          **on reading.**

16          **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: That's correct. Are**  
17          **there any other questions to accepting the reading**

**18 of the resolutions?**

**19 (VOICE VOTE)**

**20 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Ayes have it,**

**21 reading of the resolutions passes. Now, we now**

**22 need to have a motion to accept the resolutions,**

**23 either individually or in whole.**

**24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Motion to accept.**

**25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.**

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1           **MODERATOR BOUCHARD:** You made a motion to  
2           accept. You didn't say whether it to be  
3           individually or as a whole?

4           **AUDIENCE MEMBER:** I say motion to accept  
5           all of them and put it to a vote.

6           **MODERATOR BOUCHARD:** There's a motion on  
7           the floor. Do we have a second?

8           **AUDIENCE MEMBER:** Second.

9           **MODERATOR BOUCHARD:** Motion on the floor  
10          is to accept the resolutions in whole, all three  
11          at once in one vote. It's been seconded. Are  
12          there any questions to that motion?

13

**(VOICE VOTE)**

14

**MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Ayes have it. The**

15

**resolution is carried, be placed on record. We**

16

**now have Item 14 on the agenda for new business.**

17

**Is there any new business to be brought before the**

18

**board, before the district?**

19

**MR. GARY COTE: Mr. Bouchard, if you --**

20

**before we move on to new business, could we dim**

21

**the lights and have the chief present his**

22

**PowerPoint presentation to the taxpayers so**

23

**they'll understand the budget a little bit better.**

24

**AUDIENCE MEMBER: Shouldn't that have**

25

**been done before?**

**1           MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Budget has been**  
**2    approved.**

**3           MR. GARY COTE: The numbers didn't**  
**4    change. I'm sorry. I've got a microphone here**  
**5    and I'm hollering. Sorry about that. No, the**  
**6    numbers didn't change but I know that there was a**  
**7    lady in red who would have liked an explanation**  
**8    and the PowerPoint presentation. Because this is**

9 her first meeting, it will help her to understand  
10 the budget, and I think it will help a lot of  
11 other people understand -- the budget passed. We  
12 already voted on that. I understand that. But  
13 the chief went through the work to put this  
14 PowerPoint presentation together, and I'm almost  
15 sure that there's more than one person in the  
16 audience who would like to see it to help them  
17 understand the budget that we work with at the  
18 fire station a little bit better to help educate  
19 themselves. So, I was just asking that the chief  
20 do that so everyone would feel like they got what  
21 they came here looking for and didn't leave here

22       shortchanged.

23                   **AUDIENCE MEMBER: Seems like it's out of**

24       **order. It should have been shown before we did**

25       **the vote.**

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1                   **AUDIENCE MEMBER: I make a motion that we**

2       **adjourn the meeting. If the chief wants to stay**

3       **afterwards --**

4                   **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Not at this time,**  
5                   **Mr. Gorman. Thank you. We still have an agenda**  
6                   **14 to attend to. We are -- under new business,**  
7                   **and under new business, somebody can ask for the**  
8                   **budget to be disclaimed or disclosed. That's not**  
9                   **an issue. I believe that's a motion, Mr. Cote?**

10                  **MR. GARY COTE: Yes, it is.**

11                  **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: That's a second?**

12                  **AUDIENCE MEMBER: She already asked for**  
13                  **it.**

14                  **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: That's correct. At**  
15                  **this time, Captain Pare, take down the lights**  
16                  **again for us. Chief, you'll present the budget.**

**17 MR. WEBSTER: Second.**

**18 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Motion has been  
made**

**19 and seconded to review the budget. Any questions**

**20 to the motion?**

**21 (VOICE VOTE)**

**22 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: That's a pretty**

**23 close voice vote. All those who wish to review**

**24 the budget for 2011 signify by raising your hand.**

**25 (COUNT TAKEN)**

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1           **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: I see 18. The**  
2           **motion is not carried. The budget will not be**  
3           **reviewed. Any other new business to be brought**  
4           **before the board?**

5           **AUDIENCE MEMBER: Only the information,**  
6           **Mr. Moderator.**

7           **MR. COTNOIR: Ernest Cotnoir. I don't**  
8           **see anything here on old business and I have a**  
9           **question about old business.**

10           **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Go ahead, sir.**

11           **MR. COTNOIR: I believe last year's**

12 meeting there was some comment or something said  
13 about updating the charter and reviewing the  
14 bylaws. Has that been accomplished? Is there any  
15 news on that, or did I miss something?

16 MR. CAPALDI: I'm not sure that was last  
17 year. That was -- Arthur Capaldi, attorney for  
18 the district. That was approximately two years  
19 ago, and we have, through legislation, updated the  
20 charter, and they have prepared bylaws, and that  
21 has all been done over the last two years.

22 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Yes, sir.

23 MR. MC VITTI: My name is John McVitti.  
24 (phonetic). I live at 43 Highwood Drive,

25 **Coventry, and I'm going to be leaving right now.**

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1 **I just don't like the way this budget was just**  
2 **approved or adopted without reading it. I**  
3 **disapprove of what happened here tonight.**

4 **MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Thank you. Yes,**  
5 **sir.**

6 **MR. BUDZIAK: Hello. My name is Ray**  
7 **Budziak, 429 Fairview Avenue. I have a question.**

8       **It says here we bought a ladder truck for the**  
9       **amount of \$535,000 and it also says we're going to**  
10       **be making payments, and I counted 12 payments from**  
11       **February 15th, 2010 to February 15th, 2021. When**  
12       **I multiply 12 by 60,850, I did not come out to**  
13       **535,000. I don't think we bought that ladder**  
14       **truck for 535,000. Can somebody correct me?**

15               **MR. GARY COTE: What did you come out**  
16       **with? Because there's interest on those payments.**  
17       **So, what exactly is the number you came up with?**

18               **MR. BUDZIAK: Well, I think we bought**  
19       **that ladder truck for \$730,200.**

20               **MR. GARY COTE: I'm not sure. That's**

21 probably about right. You're making 20 years'  
22 worth of payments. It's like buying a home that  
23 you're paying for for 20 years -- 12 years.  
24 You're making 12 years' worth of payments. So,  
25 the finance company that we borrowed the money

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1 from is charging us interest on those 12 years'  
2 worth of payments.

3                   **MR. BUDZIAK: So, we didn't pay**

4                   **535,000 --**

5                   **MR. GARY COTE: The purchase price --**

6                   **MR. BUDZIAK: The purchase price is \$730,**

7                   **200?**

8                   **MR. GARY COTE: No. That's with the**

9                   **interest. The purchase price on the truck, the**

10                  **price that we negotiated to purchase truck for**

11                  **from Sutphen Corporation was \$535,000. When we**

12                  **loaned -- when we went and borrowed the money to**

13                  **buy the truck, they assessed interest to that**

14                  **loan. And by the time the loan is paid back, it**

15                  **will be 700 and whatever you came up with.**

16 MR. BUDZIAK: 730,200.

17 MR. GARY COTE: 730,000 --

18 CHIEF LABBADIA: The actual truck itself

19 brand new would be almost 2 million. So, it's

20 still a 300,000 --

21 MR. BUDZIAK: No, 250.

22 CHIEF LABBADIA: Well, close to that.

23 MR. GARY COTE: Believe me, if we had the

24 \$535,000 in cash, I would have much rather done

25 that than pay the interest, but we didn't have it.

1           **MR. BUDZIAK:** I understand, but don't  
2           want to mislead anybody. We're going to pay  
3           730,000.

4           **MR. GARY COTE:** In total.

5           **MR. BUDZIAK:** Right, to buy the truck.

6           **MODERATOR BOUCHARD:** Any other questions  
7           on the new business Item 15? Take a motion for  
8           adjournment.

9           **AUDIENCE MEMBER:** Motion to adjourn.

10          **AUDIENCE MEMBER:** Second.

11          **MODERATOR BOUCHARD:** Motion's been made

12 and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

13 (VOICE VOTE)

14 MODERATOR BOUCHARD: Meeting is

15 adjourned. Thank you. Have a good evening.

16 (ADJOURNED AT 8:26 PM)

17 \*\*\*\*\*

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**1 C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-E**

**2**

**3 I, RONALD M. RONZIO, Notary Public, do**  
**4 hereby certify that I reported in shorthand the**  
**5 foregoing proceedings, and that the foregoing**  
**6 transcript contains a true, accurate, and complete**  
**record of the proceedings at the above-entitled**  
**hearing.**

**6 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set**

my hand and seal this 19th day of January, 2011.

7

8

9

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11

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**RONALD M. RONZIO, NOTARY PUBLIC/CERTIFIED**

**COURT**

12      **REPORTER**

13

**MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: July 24, 2013**

14

**IN RE: ANNUAL MEETING - COVENTRY FIRE DISTRICT**

15

**DATE: December 21, 2010**

16

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