

Meeting Coventry Fire, Anthony District

Wednesday March 13, 2013

Meeting called to order at 7:10 P.M.

Board members in attendance Gary Cote-chair, Shirley Matthews co-chair, Peter Pankowicz, and Louis

Cote. Jim Beckman- absent. Also in attendance Chief Labbadia.

AGENDA:

1) Emergency evacuation procedures.

2) Roll call.

3) Approval of the minutes from the meeting held on January 29, 2013. Louis Cote made a motion to accept the minutes and seconded by Peter Pankowicz. All in favor, motion carries.

4) Tax office report. Prepared by Jeanne Lukowicz, tax collector, and read by Gary Cote. Taxes collected to date are \$942,377.15. Interest collected to date \$30,058.28. Total tax and interest \$972,435.43.

Total legal costs collected \$17,623.11. Taxes, interest and legal collected \$990,058.54. The second quarter is due April 30, 2013. We have collected 33 of 2013 taxes \$717,257.19. We have collected

54 of back taxes \$225,119.96. The tax sale was March 8, 2013 \$12,544.26 was collected. \$54,229.22

was collected from legal letters, The total collected from letters and sale was \$66,773.58. Ten

properties were sold, and 1 piece of land did not sell.

Gary Cote asked how much of that money collected was going to be Arthur Capaldi's share. Jeanne

Lukowicz stated that all of the \$17,623.11 was for Arthur Capaldi.

Gary Cote said that he asked because

the line in the budget for legal is only \$10,000.00 and the figures add up to more than that. Jeanne

Lukowicz said that it goes under tax sale. Gary Cote said that he wants there to be separate line item on

the budget to show the money coming in and the money going out.

Gary Cote wants there to be

transparency in the budget. The Chief said that he would talk to Tom LaColle and have that be put in the

budget.

Shirley Matthews asked who pays all the legal fees for the piece of land that did not sell. Jeanne

Lukowicz said that it would probably go onto the next tax sale. The land has no house and doesn't have

a lot of value. Gary Cote said that we should retain the land and ask the neighbors who abut the

property if they would want to buy it for fair market value. It would increase their property value and

increase tax revenue.

Louis Cote made a motion to accept the tax office report as read, seconded by Peter Pankowicz. All in

favor, motion carries.

The Chief wanted to mention that the tax office had to be relocated.

The estimates have been around \$8,000.00 to fix the old tax office, and it would make more sense to make accommodations in the main fire station. The chief also mentioned that there have been a few accidents and breakdowns to the equipment. Gary Cote asked about the accidents and the Chief said that one truck backed into the ladder causing damage to the aerial ladder and engine damage. Gary Cote asked how much damage and the Chief stated that it was significant, but it would be covered by insurance. The Chief stated that there were also verbal warnings issued to those involved. The Chief said that there has been progress with the O. J.I... One has already been to see the three doctors required and is waiting on the sub-committee, which will probably be sometime in April. The second person on O.J. I. asked the Chief to send in his letter to the R.I. Employees System. Shirley Matthews asked how long it would take and the Chief said not too long. The Chief asked the board to consider letting him use the fire prevention fund to purchase a new staff vehicle from the R.I. State Police. Gary Cote asked if it was the same deal that the Town of Coventry made to buy new police cars. The Chief said that it was the same. The

Chief suggested to the board that we could donate his old vehicle to western Coventry. Western Coventry gave our district some hoses that we needed, and would have cost us a lot of money to purchase. This way we would be helping each other. Shirley Matthews asked if the hoses given to us were usable with our equipment. The Chief said that it was good and able to be up and running. Shirley Matthews asked if the vehicle would be paid in full and the Chief said yes. Gary Cote said the Board would take that under consideration. Shirley Matthews asked what year vehicle he wanted to purchase. The Chief said it was 2013, and would piggy back on the state at a cost of a little over \$29,000.00. Gary Cote asked what type of vehicle, the Chief said it was a Tahoe like the one he has already. Shirley Matthews asked what year and how many miles on the one we have now. The Chief said it was 2004 with 180,000.00 miles. Shirley Matthews asked if western Coventry would want a vehicle that old with that many miles. The Chief said it would be useful to western Coventry and is very well maintained. Gary Cote asked the Chief to check on how much it would cost to have the radio's outfitted for a new vehicle. Gary Cote also asked that the Chief get a price on the hoses and the blue book value of his truck in

writing for the Board. Gary Cote

asked how much money was in the fire prevention fund. The Chief said around \$70,000.00. That money

will also be used to get piper vents for the fire trucks. Gary Cote asked how long that money could

sustain the fire marshal's pay. The Chief said until the end of April.

Gary Cote also asked how long it

would take to replenish the fund. The Chief said there is about \$6,000.00 a year that goes into that

fund. They have more plan reviews coming in and the fees for that will go into the fire prevention fund.

The Chief said he would get a definite price for the piper vents. Louis Cote made a motion to allow the

Chief to purchase a new staff vehicle at the state bid for no more than \$30,000.00, seconded by Peter

Pankowicz. All in favor, motion carries.

The Chief said that we were doing well with our budget in the first quarter. The line of credit is down

from \$300,000.00 to \$190,000.00. The process of the tax sale for October is already started.

Louis Cote wanted to thank all the men that worked to keep the ramps open and cleared during the

blizzard at no cost to the district.

Shirley Matthews made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Peter Pankowicz. All in favor

motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Perry