

**HOPE VALLEY/WYOMING FIRE DISTRICT
996 MAIN STREET
HOPE VALLEY, RI 02832**

**MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2013
7:00 P.M.**

Those present: Board Members: Chairman, David Holt, Vice-Chairman, Pasquale DeBernardo, Ronald Richard, Georgia Ure, Elwood Johnson; Chief Fred Stanley; Treasurer; Deborah Nicotra; Tax Collector; Susan Bok; District Clerk, Julie Kelley

Those not present: Auditor, Pete Stefanski

The meeting commenced and was called to order by Chairman, David Holt at 7:00 p.m. with a salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

MINUTES

The minutes of the August 8th Monthly Board Meeting were presented. Mr. DeBernardo motioned to accept the minutes as presented and Mr. Johnson and Ms. Ure seconded the motion. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Holt-yes; Mr. DeBernardo-yes; Mr. Richard-yes; Ms. Ure-yes; Mr. Johnson-yes

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

The Tax Collector's report was presented for August 2013. Ms. Bok indicated that a total of \$274,838.47 has been collected to date. The board inquired as to how the collections to date compared with last year at this time. She informed the board that the collections received were normal for this time. The tax sale has been advertised in the paper. Ms. Bok indicated that the tax sale is for the time period covering year 2010-2012. Mr. DeBernardo motioned to accept the Tax Collector's Report as presented and Mr. Richard seconded the motion. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Holt-yes; Mr. DeBernardo-yes; Mr. Richard-yes; Ms. Ure-yes; Mr. Johnson-yes

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report for August 2013 was presented. Chairman Holt inquired about Acct. # 9999 – Uncategorized Expenses in the amount of \$98.57? Ms. Nicotra stated that this allows her to flag this line item. She informed the board that it is an expense that will be reimbursed. She also stated, that it is not printing on her reports because she does not include that account when printing. She will make corrections so that it will always show for future reports.

In the Actuals vs Budget report it was noted that under Payroll Expenses there was a category of Special Handling-Payroll in the amount of \$1,200 with no budgeted amount. Ms. Nicotra indicated that this is another flag for her to remind her that this is a transfer from the Special account; it is for the HazMat training and because of payroll it has to go through payroll but will negate itself out next month. In the report that shows Transaction detail under the Payroll Expenses/Special Handling, there is a paycheck that went to Mr. David Richardson that is reflected on this report but will be transferred later as reimbursement for HazMat training. Mr. Johnson motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and Ms. Ure seconded the motion. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Holt-yes; Mr. DeBernardo-yes; Mr. Richard-yes; Ms. Ure-yes; Mr. Johnson-yes

CHIEF'S REPORT

The Chief's report was presented for August 2013. The board discussed the following points of interest:

Chief Stanley postponed the vehicle inspections on the trucks in order to have them in this year's budget. It was discussed that the vehicles are up to date with their inspections but that inspections were held off due to the previous year's vehicle maintenance account being over budget.

We recently replaced tires on Ladder 911 and Pumper 913. We received a credit on Engine 913 in the amount of \$200 for the four (4) casings. This credit is reflected in the Treasurer's report under Acct. # 6120 – New Equipment.

The Ladder truck is now showing its age with the recent emergency repairs of the hydraulic line break and the alternator needing replacement along with new batteries.

The Brush truck now has a tank problem, which will require replacing. We have not received a quote for the repair, but believe the cost to be approximately \$5,500. These repairs will be mostly in-house labor. Between the three (3) trucks, the repair costs will use a good amount of the district's Truck budget this year.

Regarding the possible claim from the sale of the 1997 Pierce Saber pumper from Red Truck Sales or the Kutztown Fire Department, Glatfelter's conclusion is that not much is going to be done by them at this time as there is only a potential claim. We may be covered if we were presented with a claim.

The board discussed the problem with the fountain repair in Depot Square Park. The letter that Chairman Holt sent out stated that the board would take action and make the necessary repairs and seek reimbursement at a later date. The board estimated the repairs to cost approximately \$5,000 to \$6,000. The board recommended going out to bid on this project.

Mr. DeBernardo motioned to prepare bid specifications for the repair to the fountain located in Depot Square Park and place an ad in the local newspaper. Mr. Johnson and Ms. Ure seconded the motion. With no further discussions, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Holt-yes; Mr. DeBernardo-yes; Mr. Richard-yes; Ms. Ure-yes; Mr. Johnson-yes

The district had a site visit from Verizon as to their using our radio tower. No formal proposal has been received at this time. Verizon has approved the tower as being suitable for their equipment and if it were required to be reinforced they would have it done at their expense.

Captain David Dumsar and Hazmat team tech Mr. Mike Deniger both attended a week long training program at the National Transportation Technology Training Center in Pueblo, CO, which was very successful.

There have been some problems with Spring Street Market, as they have been sending customers over to use the bathroom facilities at the fire station. Chief Stanley sent a letter to them with a copy to the town clerk's office. We received a favorable response from Mr. Frank Landolfi, Hopkinton Town Council President also informing them not to send their customers to the station.

The conference in Chicago was well attended.

There has been a delay in the delivery of our air paks; we should be expecting them around the week of September 23rd.

Chief Stanley is presently working with Amerigas. We will be changing our propane services over to them and will be using them for the booth at the Washington County Fair.

We are still waiting on the Chariho bids in regards to heating fuel. Currently, we are still using Superior Plus who has given us a rate of 8.5 cents over the port of Providence the day of delivery. The board would like to wait until the bids at Chariho have been awarded before making any final decisions.

On September 26th, the RI Southern Firemen's League will again be hosting the RIAFC monthly meeting and mini vendors show at the Richmond Country Club, all board members are welcome to attend.

Bradford Fire District is out of business and has merged with the Dunn's Corner Fire District.

There is a proposed project to construct 100 low-income living units at the rear of Job Lot.

Richmond Commons area is presently performing test blasting.

Cumberland Farms is renovating their whole facility into one large store. Town Pizza will be relocating to the old Tim Horton's facility near Stop & Shop.

The 7:00 pm Siren has not been working properly. With both towns using the one call now alerting system this has not been a concern. The pole requires much-needed repairs. If removed, we will no longer have an outside siren at either station for alerting residents. The district has received phone calls from residents and the newspapers inquiring as to why there hasn't been a 7:00 o'clock siren. This has been a long-standing tradition for the district, since 1942.

Ms. Ure motioned to keep the Siren and complete whatever maintenance is required in order to maintain the siren. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Richard seconded the motion. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Holt-yes; Mr. DeBernardo-yes; Mr. Richard-yes; Ms. Ure-yes; Mr. Johnson-yes

The repairs to the Mechanic Street dam at Coastal Plastics are almost done.

The district was dispatched on September 1st, to the riding and horse boarding stable at Canonchet Farms for a possible barn fire. The district also responded to a second alarm at 24 Prospect Square for a fire related to the Lighting Storm.

Mr. Johnson motioned to accept the Chief's Report for August 2013 and Mr. DeBernardo seconded the motion. With no further discussion from the Chief's report, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Holt-yes; Mr. DeBernardo-yes; Mr. Richard-yes; Ms. Ure-yes; Mr. Johnson-yes

CORRESPONDENCE

Incoming:

1. Letter addressed to Frederick A. Stanley, Fire Chief, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, from Ms. Lori Tayman, Liability Specialist, Glatfelter Claims Management, Inc., regarding Claim No.: RITR213040448-00001 and Claimant Kutztown Community Fire Company.
2. Letter addressed to Frederick A. Stanley, Fire Chief, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, from Mr. Chris Rodgers, Risk Control Services, regarding meeting for Wednesday, July 24th and expressing their appreciation for the cooperation and hospitality during his visit.
3. Email addressed to Ms. Sue Bok, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, from Ms. Sarah E. McGuinness, Esq., regarding possible interest in utilizing the tower located at the Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire Department.
4. Letter addressed to Frederick A. Stanley, Fire Chief, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, from Mr. Jack Reed, United States Senator, inviting a designated member to attend the 2013 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Application Workshop.
5. Email addressed to Frederick A. Stanley, Fire Chief, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, from Mr. Frank T. Landolfi, Hopkinton Town Council President, regarding Spring Street Market and the use of the facilities at the Fire Department.

Outgoing:

1. Letter addressed to Spring Street Market, from Frederick A. Stanley, Fire Chief, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, regarding Public restrooms from customers at the Spring Street Market.
2. Letter addressed to Ms. Elena M. Pascarella, Landscape Elements LLC, and to M. Galipeau, Yardworks, from Mr. David C. Holt, Chairman, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, regarding repair of the fountain at Depot Square Park.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. DeBernardo brought to the board's attention the subject of raising money for the preservation of the Depot Square Park. The board decided to wait until further information is presented to them from Verizon and whether or not they will be using the tower. If Verizon does decide to use the tower, a monthly fee would be obtained from them which could then offset the cost of maintenance to the park.

ADJOURN

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Ure. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Holt-yes; Mr. DeBernardo-yes; Mr. Richard-yes; Ms. Ure-yes; Mr. Johnson-yes

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Kelley
District Clerk