

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

**MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 14, 2013
7:00 P.M.**

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

Those not present: Auditor, Pete Stefanski, Board Member, Elwood Johnson

The meeting commenced and was called to order by Chairman, David Holt at 7:02 p.m. with a salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

MINUTES

The minutes of the October 10th Monthly Board Meeting were presented. Ms. Nicotra indicated a change to be made to Page 1, under the Treasurer's Report, paragraph 1, to revise the last sentence from "Ms. Nicotra stated that this is for the Chief's clothing allowance and when complete, will be done for the year." to "Ms. Nicotra stated that this is for the Chief's clothing allowance and when at 100%, it will be closed." Mr. DeBernardo motioned to accept the minutes as corrected and Ms. Ure seconded the motion. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (4-0).

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

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

The Tax Collector's report was presented for October 2013. The report reflected that a total of \$576,212.95 has been collected for 2013 between both the towns of Richmond and Hopkinton. Mr. DeBernardo inquired about the 2012 tax sale fees in the amount of \$167.00 and the 2013 tax sale fees in the amount of \$1,097.14. Ms. Bok indicated that they were due to four (4) properties that didn't sell but money was still owed for the attorney fees. 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 (4-0).

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report for October 2013 was presented. Mr. DeBernardo inquired about the Transaction Detail by Income/Expense Report for the month of October, as to why the Net Income reflected negative (\$114,116.74). Ms. Nicotra indicated that this report reflects the cash flow for the month only. There were quite a few large expenses this month i.e. the Dime Bank Loans, and expenses for the Redemption of the Tax Sale, we had more expenditures than we had income this month. In reviewing the Actual vs. Budgets report, year to date, we have a positive Net Income of \$268,237.15. The Actuals vs. Budget report also reflects that at this point in time we are at 78.3% of Total Income received and 42.1% of expenditures.

The board discussed that they would like some type of an automatic back up for the office computers preferably on a hard drive and to an external drive offsite. They also agreed that backing up the Inventory would be beneficial. It was discussed that Mr. Pat Weber is already looking into a viable source. The board would like to discuss this further at the next board meeting.

Mr. DeBernardo motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and Mr. Richard seconded the motion. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (4-0).

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

CHIEF'S REPORT

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

The new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA's) and two (2) RIT packs have been delivered. The RIT packs are for rescuing a downed firefighter with emergency back up breathing air. You can plug it into the unit and it

provides a quick fill. Deputy David Caswell demonstrated some of the key features of the SCBA's packs to the board. These units allow for buddy breathing and have more safety features. The tank has forty-five (45) minutes of air compared to thirty (30) minutes with actual time being around twenty-two (22) minutes of working time. The unit weighs about 6 lbs.; it has a pack track scan tool; which will bring you to the pack. Each SCBA has accountability tags, every pack has a number, which is designated to a specific seat on a truck, and there is identification as to who is riding in that seat. The mask has a screen on the face for air volume and is more luminous, they are also angled instead of being flat which makes it easier to read. When turned on, it will have a blinking light. There are a few more attachments than the other packs had. The air volume gauge is built in and attaches to the frame, it looks the same but is easier to open when you have gloves on. Each pack has two tanks. The old SCBA units and spare cylinders were donated to the Union Fire District's fire academy and to the West Greenwich Fire Department.

The brush truck now has a newly installed poly tank and is in full service. Captain David Dumsar and other volunteer officers and firefighters did an outstanding job to get it back into service. The board was grateful for all their hard work.

The front of Station 1 has been sanded and repainted as a result of the damages from the overgrown shrubs.

Shoreline Sprinklers have drained the park lawn sprinklers and fountain. They have also repaired the fountain's water system. We will be charged for labor, which is anticipated to be approximately \$500, or less.

A registered letter from Ms. Elena Pascarella was received in response to Chairman Holt's letter regarding the fountain damages and the repairs required to correct the situation.

Verizon is in the final stages of completing the proposal in regards to their using our radio tower.

The Haz Mat grant for 2013 is estimated at \$65,000, last year's grant was \$64,840, this years grant is \$160 more than last year.

Chief Stanley is presently working with the new Executive Director of RIEMA, Jamia McDonald. Chief Stanley spoke very highly of her and indicated that he would be working with her to improve the MOU and meet with her to discuss making improvements to REIMA's daily operations.

During a REIMA workshop on school safety and the new legislative requirements which passed in last year's General Assembly, Chief Stanley was pleased to see a good representation from the school management as well as Mr. William Day from the School committee attend. This workshop was to promote calling the fire department and/or police department immediately on all issues relating to school safety whether it's a fire, shooting, chemical spill, or any other questionable situation.

A letter from Attorney General Peter F. Kilmartin was received on November 4th, describing the new requirements that all volunteer fire companies, associations, fire district companies, or any other organizations currently engaged in the mission of extinguishing fires and preventing fire hazards, whether it is incorporated or not, and whether it is a paid department or not, shall post unofficial minutes of their meetings within twenty one (21) days of the meeting, but not later than seven (7) days prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting, whichever is earlier, on the Secretary of State's website. We are already compliant with this law by submitting our draft minutes to the Secretary of State's website.

We are most grateful for Alarm New England for their generous donation of free smoke alarms for our free smoke alarm and free battery program. This program donates smoke alarms and batteries to the elderly, handicapped, and low-income residents in our area.

Mr. DeBernardo motioned to accept the Chief's Report for October 2013 and Ms. Ure seconded the motion. With no further discussion from the Chief's report, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (4-0).

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Incoming:

1. Letter addressed to David C. Holt, Chairperson, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, from Ms. Elena Pascarella, PLA, ASLA, Principal/Owner – Landscape Elements LLC, regarding Depot Square Park – Letter of September 8, 2013.

2. Letter addressed to Frederick A. Stanley, Fire Chief, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, from Mr. Peter F. Kilmartin, Attorney General, State of Rhode Island, Department of Attorney General, regarding legislative amendment to RI General Laws § 42-46-7(b)(2).

Outgoing:

1. Letter addressed to Captain Justin Lee, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, from Mr. David C. Holt, Chairperson, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, expressing congratulations on behalf of the board for his receiving his Associate degree in Applied Science.
2. Letter addressed to Mr. David Dias, Alarm New England, from Frederick A. Stanley, Fire Chief, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, expressing appreciation for their donation of smoke alarms for the handicapped, elderly, and low-income residents in the Chariho area.
3. Letter addressed to Attorney General Peter F. Kilmartin, State of Rhode Island, Attorney General Office, from Frederick A. Stanley, Fire Chief, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, regarding RI General Laws § 42-46-7(b)(2).

PUBLIC FORUM

Deputy Jason Caswell informed the board that he had an update regarding automatic back ups for the computer. It would be an automatic Internet based back up system called MozyPro. They would give you 2 GB of free storage and if you need more than that then there would be a monthly fee. The system should be installed in the next two to three weeks.

ADJOURN

A motion was made to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. by Ms. Ure and seconded by Mr. DeBernardo. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (4-0).

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

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Kelley
District Clerk