

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

**MONTHLY BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 10, 2014  
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:** Board Member: Elwood Johnson; Auditor, Pete Stefanski

The meeting commenced and was called to order by Chairman, David Holt at 7:01 p.m. with a salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the March 13<sup>th</sup> Monthly Board Meeting were presented. Ms. Ure motioned to accept the minutes as presented and Mr. Richard seconded the motion. With no further discussion, three (3) in favor, one (1) abstained, motion passed. (3-1).

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

**TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT**

The Tax Collector's report was presented for March 2014. The Tax Collector's report reflects \$657,642.81 has been collected to date. It was discussed that the tax sale may be postponed to September. Mr. DeBernardo motioned to accept the Tax Collector's Report as presented 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

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's report for March 2014 was presented. Mr. DeBernardo inquired about Acct. # 6130 – Portable Equipment and the expense from Moore Medical for Medical Supplies. It was discussed that we require medical supplies and some of the liquid items need replacement. Ms. Ure inquired about Acct. # 7120 – Protective Clothing and the expenses listed as Dumsar Uniform pants in the amount of \$180.90 and \$839.45. Chief Stanley informed the board that this was for dress uniforms and not just for Captain Dumsar but for a few of the officers. Acct. # 8200 – Dispatching Service was discussed at it is currently over budget by 1.9%. It was discussed that the payments are made on a quarterly basis. Chief Stanley indicated that we were aware that this would be over on this account as we were given the wrong number for the budget. The figures reflected in the report are correct.

Mr. Ure motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and Mr. Richard seconded the motion. Discussion: The board reviewed with the Treasurer as to how the Treasurer came up with the figures for the Reserve for Obsolescence, which was reflected in the Auditor's Report as an appropriation of \$20,000 with an expenditure of \$14,729 leaving a balance of \$5,271.00. Ms. Nicotra stated that she took the Income at the time at the end of the year and took the expenses at the time at the end of the year, leaving a delta of \$14,729, because the income was much less, this is what was needed to make up the difference in order for the income and expenses to zero out. It was discussed that it might be best to take a vote during the July monthly board meeting to vote on the Reserve for Obsolescence. The problem is that the numbers could change based on outstanding bills that occur from the July meeting to the Annual meeting. In reality, we have no reserve for obsolescence available as our unpaid taxes increase each year. Mr. Ure motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report for March 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

The board discussed the acceptance of the Audit Report. The board has reviewed the report and Ms. Ure motioned to accept the Auditor's Report as presented and Mr. Richard seconded the motion. Discussion: The board would like to discuss the Reserve for Obsolescence during the July meeting while reviewing the June report to discuss how the Treasurer should reflect the Reserve for Obsolescence. 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

Swearing in of New Officers

During a meeting of the Board of Engineers on April 3, 2014, the Board of Engineers promoted three (3) out of six (6) applicants. This evening we presented three (3) applicants that were promoted to Lieutenant. The District Clerk performed the swearing in for the candidates that successfully passed and were promoted to Lieutenant. The following were sworn in this evening:

1. Michael Deniger
2. Phillip Tretton
3. Keith Williams

The members of the board and the public that was in attendance congratulated the Lieutenants.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

The Chief's report was presented for March 2014. The board discussed the following points of interest:

The Richmond/Carolina Fire district has paid 25% of the 50% owed on the new fire alarm system at Westerly dispatch. The remaining 25% owed will be paid out of their FY2015 budget.

During the recent rainstorm we had heavy flooding in the Valley Lodge Estates and on Pine Shadows Drive. Richmond Town Council, EMA Director and DOT are working to resolve these flooding issues. They are looking into putting in detention ponds which would be a collection area for runoff water from Rt. 95, Rt. 3, and the hill areas on the east side of KG Ranch Road, but are having some resistance from local residents.

Within legislation there is nothing damaging at this time.

The board discussed the Fire District Survey, specifically page 18, which addressed Issues to be considered regarding the Rhode Island Fire Districts. This could be something the district may want to watch. We would need more information as to whom these questions are being addressed to? Another concern would be the tax levy's which could be restricted that might be a potential issue.

Ms. Ure suggested sending a letter out regarding these legislation issues. The board concurred that they would like to wait until we see what issues may come out that would be concern to the district.

Our brush truck is back in service now due to a recent addition of a Barton American 500 gpm pump that was donated from Chief Scott Barber, which allowed the truck to be back in service by April 1, 2014.

Chief Stanley will again be attending the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Conference in Washington on April 30<sup>th</sup> to May 2, 2014.

Mr. Richard motioned to accept the Chief's Report for March 2014 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

**Discussion on the Verizon Contract**

The board discussed the revised Tower Lease agreement. The Right of First Refusal has been changed and it applies to the tower only and not to the property as we requested. The Right upon Sale which stated we pay Verizon a specified amount as a reduction to their payment has been amended which supports the tower and our property. It specified that we own the tower and Verizon will provide to us the loading factor, as the owner of the tower, the district is to maintain the tower. We would be allowed to possibly add other items to the tower providing it does not provide interference, cause corrosion or rust or deterioration of the Tower, as specified in Page 8, Paragraph 16.

On Page 4, Paragraph 4c, it describes the electrical service and telephone services access within the premises. The electrical requirements will now be coming through our building and not the parking lot and if required a sub-meter may be required at their expense.

The board discussed whether this would fall under the requirement that the public must be informed and voted on during an open meeting? The district referred to the by laws stating that the Board has the authority to conduct general business, as the district is not spending any money to pursue this endeavor.

Chairman Holt commented that if there were no further questions and everyone was satisfied with the proposal that a motion be made to enter into the agreement. Mr. DeBernardo motioned to have the Board of Directors sign with Verizon to conduct and enter into a lease agreement with them for the next five (5) years with automatic renewals. 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

**Depot Square Park Bids**

Chairman Holt discussed that we are late in getting park bids out due to the bid specifications not being completed in a timelier manner. Chief Stanley commented that we did receive one (1) bid from S & S Landscaping to perform services for the Depot Square Park as well as Station 1 & Station 2 for grounds maintenance services. S & S Landscaping proposal came in at a total of \$4,625.00 with optional extra items to weed the park on a monthly basis that could be adjusted based on need. Currently in the Depot Square Park account, we have a balance of \$5,282.00. The board discussed whether an ad should be placed in the paper to go out to bid. It was discussed that if it were to go out to bid at this time, based on time elements, the first application to be applied in April would not be done until May after giving proper time for bid responses. Mr. Richard made a motion to accept the S & S Landscape proposal to perform landscape services for Depot Square Park, Station 1 and Station 2 to be performed on an as needed basis based on the numbers received on the proposal. Mr. DeBernardo seconded the motion. Discussion: The board concurred that the maintenance to the applications to the grounds were critical to be performed and should be done during April. 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

**Bid Proposals for the Ford Pick up truck**

The Bid proposals for the purchase of the 2002 Ford 250 Pick up truck with blown engine were opened.

The following proposals were received:

1. Mr. Joe Godbout                      Bid: \$851.00  
401-323-88946
2. Gardiner Auto                        Bid: \$810.00  
Attn: Ron  
810-347-0139
3. Joseph A. Franco                    Bid: \$2,500.00  
183 Carpenter Road  
Scituate, RI 02825  
(401) 640-4884

The highest proposal was awarded to Mr. Joseph A. Franco at a proposed value of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500). Chief Stanley will call the highest bidder. The District clerk, Julie Kelley will call the other bidders not awarded and thank them for their interest in placing a bid with the Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**Incoming:**

1. Letter addressed to Cell Site Leaseholder, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, from Mr. Matt Scott, Senior Managing Director of Acquisitions, expressing an interest to sell our lease to Wireless Capital Partners for 10 years.
2. Email addressed to Frederick A. Stanley, Chief, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, from Ms. Sarah E. McGuinnes, Project Manager, VitalSite Services, Inc., regarding Hope Valley, RI Tower Lease Revised March 14, 2014.
3. Letter addressed to Chief Frederick A. Stanley, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, from Mr. Alan Perlman, Co-Founder/President and Mr. David Sarlitto, Head of Marketing, from Ocean State Job Lot, expressing appreciation for attending the 2014 Three Square Meals truck convoy event.
4. S & S Landscaping proposal from Mr. Scott Sunderland, Ashaway, RI, for Landscape and Maintenance of the Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District properties.
5. Bid Proposal for the 2002 F250 Pick up truck, from Mr. Joe Godbout.
6. Bid Proposal for the 2002 F250 Pick up truck, from Gardiner Auto.
7. Bid Proposal for the 2002 F250 Pick up truck, from Mr. Joseph A. Franco.

**Outgoing:**

1. Letter addressed to The Board of Directors, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, from Frederick A. Stanley, Chief, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, regarding Cash Incentive Program in response to the board's questions.

2. Letter addressed to Retired Chief Michael Williams, Ashaway Fire Department, from Frederick A. Stanley, Chief, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, regarding Diamond "T" fire truck.
3. Letter addressed to Chief Scott Barber, Richmond/Carolina Fire District, from Frederick A. Stanley, Chief, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, regarding Donation of 500 GPM front mount pump.
4. Letter addressed to Mr. John Vuono, President, Hope Valley Volunteer Fire Association, from Frederick A. Stanley, Chief, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, expressing his and his families greatest appreciation to all our officers and firefighters for honoring him at the annual awards night and presenting the beautiful axe plaque.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

No Public forum this evening.

**ADJOURN**

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:26 p.m. by Mr. DeBernardo and seconded by Mr. Richard and Ms. Ure. 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