

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

**MONTHLY BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 10, 2016  
7:00 P.M.**

Those present: Board Members: Chair, Pasquale DeBernardo, Georgia Ure, Paul Schaarschmidt, John Weeden; Chief, Justin Lee; Treasurer, Deborah Nicotra; Tax Collector, Susan Bok; District Clerk, Julie Kelley.

Those not present: Board Member: Vice Chair, Elwood Johnson

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The Open Session minutes of the October 13<sup>th</sup> Monthly Board Meeting were presented. Ms. Ure motioned to accept the minutes as presented and Mr. Weeden and Mr. Schaarschmidt seconded the motion. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (4-0).

Mr. DeBernardo-yes; Ms. Ure-yes; Mr. Schmarschmidt-yes; Mr. Weeden-yes

**3. TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT – COLLECTED AND OUTSTANDING TAXES**

The Tax Collector's report was presented for October 2016 reflecting all collected and outstanding taxes. A total of \$694,803.11 has been collected to date. Ms. Bok reported that the Tax sale has been completed and will provide the numbers to the board at the next meeting.

Ms. Ure motioned to accept the Tax Collector's report as presented and Mr. Weeden seconded the motion. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (4-0).

Mr. DeBernardo-yes; Ms. Ure-yes; Mr. Schmarschmidt-yes; Mr. Weeden-yes

**4. TREASURER'S REPORT – MONTHLY BILLS & EXPENDITURES**

The Treasurer's Report was presented for October 2016. The board reviewed the reports.

The board inquired about Acct. # 4240 – Postage/Print/Adv, for Hometown Newspaper for the October Tax Sale Ad in the amount of \$819.62. Ms. Bok will report in the next meeting as to what was received from the Tax sale. The board also inquired about Acct. # 1300 – Inspections, dated 10/31/16 for Liquor. It was discussed that this was for Liquor Inspection fees. It was noted that there are fourteen liquor inspections done each year within the district. A board member inquired about Acct. # 9999 – Uncategorized Expenses in the amount of \$1,985.02. Ms. Nicotra informed the board that she uses that account as a holding account when she requires clarification on how to properly account for it from the auditor. The board also discussed, Acct. # 7330 – Hepatitis B Inj; it was discussed that it is required by law to budget for this every year so that when a new member joins, they have the option to choose to accept or refuse their option and sign a waiver. Mr. DeBernardo, Chair informed the board that to date the district has collected approximately 85% - 90% of the budget based on the number Ms. Bok reported this evening.

Mr. Weeden motioned to accept the Treasurer's report as presented and Ms. Ure seconded the motion. Discussion, Ms. Nicotra reported that the Auditors' are waiting on formulas from the State on the pension then they will be able to proceed with the audit. Chief Lee informed the board that our insurance held with VFIS in 2010 due to the floods was a special insurance with a higher rate. Our premium will now be less, which will allow our premium to be lower. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (4-0).

Mr. DeBernardo-yes; Ms. Ure-yes; Mr. Schmarschmidt-yes; Mr. Weeden-yes

**5. CHIEF'S REPORT – EQUIPMENT, BUILDING, SEMINARS**

Chief Justin W. Lee's monthly report was presented for October 2016.

Verizon Tower

The Verizon tower has been raised as of November 4<sup>th</sup>, work is still in progress and should be completed in the near future.

### General Announcement

Captain John Vuono introduced Mr. Brier Wheelan, who is working on his citizenship in the community for boy scouts. Brier is with Troop 121/Hopkinton and he is working on Eagle. For this badge he had to pick a local organization and spend eight (8) hours of time with them learning about the organization and how he could help them in the community. Once he has completed his 8 hours of learning within our organization, he will present a project to his councilor, Mr. Bruce Kenyon. Brier has attended a Fire Company meeting, a District Meeting, a Southern League training and, he will also be viewing a live burn training. The board wished him good luck.

### Personnel

We had four (4) firefighters enrolled in Firefighter I & II and an officer enrolled in an Aerial operations class. Each takes hours of dedication. These members will be recognized at the Christmas party for their dedication to the district.

### Equipment/Vehicles

The board discussed that 50% of the Maintenance Budget has been spent. The district also received our annual Hazmat grant in the amount of \$120,000.00 of which \$80,000.00 was awarded for a new box truck to replace our current two trailers. The district will probably get a used truck and put a new box on the chassis. The remainder of the funds from the grant will be used for equipment maintenance and training. We will obtain three bids unless it is part of the State Purchasing agreement.

### Incidents

There was an incident where there was a plane crash due to engine failure. There was some damage to the plane but fortunately no fatalities.

### Park/Buildings

The park has been winterized for the season. The Town of Hopkinton has installed two new water meters, one for the station and one for the park.

The land trust will be handling all the details regarding the Christmas tree.

### Meetings

Chief Lee enclosed within his report information regarding "Recusal" with details as well as a "Statement of Conflict of Interest". The Attorney General will be planning on reviewing this with the board in February for further review.

Mr. Schmarschmidt motioned to accept the Chief's report for October 2016 and Mr. Weeden seconded the motion. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motioned passed unanimously (4-0).

Mr. DeBernardo-yes; Ms. Ure-yes; Mr. Schmarschmidt-yes; Mr. Weeden-yes

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE – INCOMING & OUTGOING**

### **Incoming:**

1. Letter addressed to Chief Justin Lee, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, from Mr. William A. McGarry, Town Manager, regarding 996 Main Street Depot Square Park and scheduling meter replacement.
2. Letter addressed Mr. Pasquale DeBernardo, Chair, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, from Mr. Humbert J. Polito Jr., Polito & Associates LLC, regarding Access to Public Records Act, R.I.G. I. 38-2 seeking information.
3. Letter addressed to Chief Justin Lee, Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, from Mr. Willam A. McGarry, Town Manager, regarding contacting Hopkinton Manager in reference to flushing the water hydrants in town.
4. Fire Apparatus Proposal prepared for Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District, from Rosenbauer New England, LLC, Brunswick, ME 04011.

## **7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

### **Ladder Truck Committee**

The board reviewed the Rosenbauer New England, LLC proposal/agreement prepared for the Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District. The board recommended the following changes:

-Throughout the document it references Hope Valley Fire Department/recommended change to Hope Valley/Wyoming Fire District throughout the proposal/agreement.

-Noted on number 5, whereas the buyer agrees to make the vehicle or equipment available to the seller for display purposes etc. It was discussed that people will view the vehicle at our district.

-Noted on number 10, whereas the Company reserves the right to make product improvement without notice. It was discussed that it would be upgrades.

There will be a 1-year warranty bumper to bumper on the apparatus.

Our district attorney, Mr. Panciera has reviewed and approved this proposal/agreement.

Mr. Weeden motioned to accept the proposal/agreement from Rosenbauer New England, LLC, for one (1) Custom 109' Viper Aerial Fire Apparatus at a cost of Nine Hundred Nineteen Thousand, Seven Hundred Ninety Seven Dollars (\$919,797.00) with corrections as discussed and Mr. Schmarschmidt seconded the motion. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (4-0).

Mr. DeBernardo-yes; Ms. Ure-yes; Mr. Schmarschmidt-yes; Mr. Weeden-yes

Ms. Ure motioned to have the Chair, Mr. DeBernardo sign the proposal/agreement as corrected and Mr. Weeden seconded the motion. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (4-0).

Mr. DeBernardo-yes; Ms. Ure-yes; Mr. Schmarschmidt-yes; Mr. Weeden-yes

#### **8. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES**

No appointment of committees this evening.

#### **9. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Charter Committee**

Chair, Mr. DeBernardo inquired whether or not anyone has displayed any interest in participating in the Charter committee. The District Clerk, Ms. Julie Kelley, indicated that she did not receive any emails. Due to her untimely removal of the notices, it was noted that one person signed up at the Fire District. Deputy Chief Brian Champlin verbally indicated his interest that he would like to be part of the Charter committee and noted that he had signed the notice posted. Mr. Schmarschmidt motioned to accept Deputy Chief Brian Champlin to the Charter committee and Mr. Weeden seconded the motion. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (4-0).

Mr. DeBernardo-yes; Ms. Ure-yes; Mr. Schmarschmidt-yes; Mr. Weeden-yes

A date for the committee to meet will be selected at the next monthly meeting to be held on December 8, 2016.

#### **10. NEW BUSINESS**

No new business before the board this evening.

#### **11. PUBLIC FORUM**

No public forum this evening.

#### **12. OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business before the board this evening.

#### **13. EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER RI GENERAL LAWS §42-46-5 (a)(1-10)**

No Executive session this evening.

#### **14. ADJOURN**

A motion was made to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. by Mr. Schmarschmidt and seconded by Ms. Ure. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (4-0).

Mr. DeBernardo-yes; Ms. Ure-yes; Mr. Schmarschmidt-yes; Mr. Weeden-yes

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Kelley  
District Clerk