

**Central Coventry Fire District
Board of Directors Special Meeting
July 12, 2011 – 7:00 pm
240 Arnold Road**

Minutes

1. Call to Order – 7:07 p.m.

2. Roll Call

President: Girard Bouchard Jr.

Vice President: Joe Bonn

**Directors: – Bob Crowe – Linda Giguere – Ronald Gizzarelli -Anna
Mae Lapinski, Armond Niquette**

Treasurer: Tom Lacolle

Tax Collector: Jeanne Graemiger

Clerk: Christine Moniz

Chief : Robert W. Seltzer

Asst. Chief – Scott Tucker

Union President Dave Gorman

Also present was a showing from the Local 3372

Not present: Director Niquette

Motion was made by President Bouchard to go into Executive Session for discussion on a personnel issue. Motion seconded by Director Lapinski. President Bouchard called roll call to go into session Directors Lapinski, Giguere, Crowe, Gizzarelli and President Bouchard all voted aye.

Board moves into executive session at 7:09 p.m.

Board reconvened back into open session at 8:48 p.m.

Motion made to come back into session by Director Gizzarelli

Seconded by Director Crowe

All Vote Aye

Motion made to seal the minutes by President Bouchard Seconded by Director Lapinski

All Vote Aye.

Budget Workshop – The Treasurer passed out a report to the board with figures for expenses due and also the payroll for the rest of the fiscal year. Meeting with the Credit Union to restructure the payments to pay off our line of credit using the rescue recovery.

He discussed the bills that are due and what was not paid yet.

Currently we have \$130,000 to pay out payroll and expenses the Treasurer stated that payroll runs about 85,000-95,000 per week. He stated we have enough to cover a week to a week and a half.

The Chief wanted to know where we are with the Credit Union. The line of credit's paperwork is getting worked out to modify the loan. We should pay about \$68,000 per month. The Treasurer will use the rescue recovery fund to pay it down. The treasurer also suggested that we use the recovery money to build up capital for a rainy day fund. The Chief would like to look into removing the recovery money as income and just placing it into a separate line to increase the fund after the line of credit has been paid off.

The treasurer feels we should hold up on paying our bills so we can meet payroll and make sure it was paid.

The Chief feels we may have to delay overtime and the possibility of not filling spots.

There was discussion on reinstating the automobile tax. The Tax Collector feels that with the time involved that it was not something we should get into. That it takes up to a year to get all the valuations and by that time most of the automobile owners have moved. She stated that she presented to the Board last year the figures and what it would take to implement to automobile tax and she claims the Board voted against it. The President acknowledged that Board did vote against it but it was with the advice of the Tax Collector. The treasurer feels we should bite the bullet and increase the home owner's taxes by 15%. He seems to be in agreement with the tax collector and just go after the home owner.

The Tax Collector again explained that the cost to send out notices and to get the program from OPEL to collect auto taxes is not worth it and would not be cost effective.

Director Crowe feels that the Board needs to lead and make more decisions. Instead of making the Chief decide all the answers to the issues that the Board step in and take care of it. The Board should be the one to tell the union that they are not getting overtime or they are not getting longevity. Director Lapinski asked if this was a recommendation that he is making. Director Crowe feels we need to do our job. The President of the Union is doing a great job and Chief is doing a great job but the Board needs to step up to the plate. President Gorman made a point by reading from minutes last June 2010 when the Board was discussing a automobile tax supplemental bill. The Chief presented it to the Board and the President felt it was a great idea but the Tax Collector felt it was to, late and too much work to get everything going. It is a year later and we still are not set up to collect the auto. We should have used the past year getting ready for the new fiscal year and a least have mailed out a bill for this fiscal year.

The Chief explained the reason behind the overtime and the larger amount of injuries that we have had. Again he stated we need a reserve fund. VP Bonn also mentioned the loss of the \$225,000.

President Bouchard would like to make a decision to help defray the costs. One may be to shut down the Harris Station. The Chief explained how we black out a fire station. He also explained taking a station offline which a lot of Towns have been doing. But the manpower has been reassigned.

The President interceded and stated the hour is getting late and he does not want to adjourn the meeting but he would like to meet on July 13 to brainstorm. He wants the Board to come together and make some decisions.

President Bouchard to recess the meeting at 10:00 p.m. The meeting will resume on July 19, 2011