

## **Exeter Fire District**

**(January 12, 2006)**

### **Call to Order**

**Chairman Peter Lacouture called the January 12th meeting of the Exeter Fire District to order at 7:38pm. Present were Commissioners Vergano, Lacouture, Nievera, Swanson and Walker. There were four (4) members of the public in attendance.**

### **Public Comment**

**Margaret Caito wished all a Happy New Year.**

### **Previous Month's Minutes**

**Ms. Vergano moved (Mr. Swanson second) acceptance of the minutes of the December meeting as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.**

### **Treasurer's Report**

**The opening (cleared) balance for the period is \$228,838.63. Cleared transactions of \$89,161.05 (\$2,280.89 in checks and payments and deposits and credits of \$91,441.94) leave a cleared balance of \$317,999.68. Uncleared transactions of \$1,062.98 bring our register**

**balance to \$316,936.70 as of 12/08/05. New uncleared transactions of \$173,161.84 (\$198,985.10 in checks and payments and \$25,823.26 in deposits and credits) leave an uncleared register balance of \$143,774.86. Mr. Nievera moved (Mr. Walker second) acceptance of the report. The motion carried unanimously.**

## **Communications**

**Mr. Nievera reported that no communications of operational concern were received during the past month. Mr. Lacouture reported receiving an e-mail from Brad Preston (VFIS) offering used computers to the district and fire organizations. It was agreed that one would be utilized as a back-up for the district tax office and one would be donated to Station #2.**

## **Old Business**

**Ms. Vergano reported that the (to date) total for abatements stood at \$1893.94 with two or three remaining to be acted upon by the Exeter Town Council. She also reported that we are at approximately 66% in our collections. Mr. Nievera reported that we have 326 delinquent accounts with approximately 25 to 30 delinquent for interest/penalty only, which will most likely be made current within a very short amount of time. Mr. Lacouture inquired as to the position of the town relative to delinquent accounts and tax sales. No one was able to answer. Mr. Nievera stated that he would like the board to**

consider sending a letter, when accounts are delinquent for a full year, stating the consequences (property liens and credit damage, etc.) of their delinquency. He feels the necessity to give delinquent taxpayers as many opportunities as possible to make their accounts current. Mr. Walker added that a tax sale is usually held after two years of delinquency. Mr. Lacouture said that it made sense to have something drafted. Mr. Nievera will work on a draft for the end of the fourth tax collection period. Chief Caito (Exeter Rescue Corps) suggested a bond to cover our shortfall.

Ms. Vergano inquired as to the sign for the front of the fire station. Mr. Nievera reported that the sign has been ordered and that he is waiting for its installation.

There was nothing to report on the three ad hoc committees. In answer to Ms. Vergano's question concerning the status of ISO Mr. Lacouture stated that he had not contacted Mr. Dowdy (ISOSlayer.com) with our request for information to assist with the ISO audit we will be seeking in the future. Mr. Lacouture will contact Mr. Dowdy sometime this month.

Mr. Nievera will contact the Board of Canvassers to obtain the necessary deadlines for our advertising and posting for the annual meeting to be held on April 12 of this year.

## **New Business**

The budgets for all organizations are due by the first of February. They will be electronically transmitted to Mr. Nievera who will forward

them to all board members for familiarization prior to meeting with each public safety entity. Ms. Vergano and Mr. Nievera will assemble a budget for the tax office and all collection functions. Mr. Lacouture voiced the desire for an annual performance review for Ms. McMahon. Any salary increase for Ms. McMahon will be reflected in the administrative budget. Mr. Lacouture will prepare a timeline leading up to the Annual Financial Meeting.

Mr. Walker noted his desire to remain on the board of commissioners and stated that he would contact the Board of Canvassers for nomination papers declaring his eligibility for the election to be held at the annual meeting.

Chief Caito stated that the Rescue Corps is looking to begin meeting with the capital expenditures committee. They have needs that only this committee can address. Mr. Lacouture will contact Mr. Wilbur to arrange a start date for those meetings.

Chief Caito inquired as to the possibility of the board contacting the Exeter Job Corps and the Phoenix House on behalf of the Exeter Rescue Corps. The Rescue has responded to in excess of thirty (30) calls to these organizations with no compensation. "The Rescue is generally able to bill the insurance companies for transports, however the clients involved are considered town residents and, as such, are not required to pay". Mr. Lacouture responded that this seemed like an issue that the Rescue should attempt to resolve on its own. Mr. Nievera suggested that communications with Senators Chaffee and Reed might be considered in an attempt to secure partial funding.

## **Next Meeting**

**The next meeting will be held on February 9, 2006 (@7:00pm) at the Exeter Public Library.**

## **Adjournment**

**Mr. Swanson moved (Mr. Walker second) adjournment at 8:28pm. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Bill Nievera, Clerk**

**Exeter Fire District**