

Approved 05/09/2013

Exeter Fire District

(March 14, 2012)

Call to Order

Chairman Peter Lacouture called the March meeting of the Exeter Fire District to order at 7:08pm. Present were commissioners Lacouture, Slater, Rooney, Chappell and Nievera. Ms. MacDonald, district treasurer, was also present. There were 15 members of the public in attendance.

Public Comment

There was no comment from the public.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. MacDonald reported a beginning balance for February, 2013 of \$328,778.70. Activity within the accounts brings the balance to \$417,325.86 as of March 8, 2013. Mr. Nievera has compared the report of the treasurer with the bank statements and is satisfied with its accuracy. Mr. Nievera moved (Mr. Rooney second) accepting the report of the treasurer. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. MacDonald stated that she is in need of a copy of our incorporation papers to show the payroll company. She stated that we are being charged a fee that should not apply to us and that she is attempting to have those fees rebated to the fire district. Mr.

Lacouture will obtain the required paperwork.

Previous Month's Minutes

Mr. Slater moved (Mr. Rooney second) acceptance of the minutes of the February 14th meeting, as amended. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Chappell then moved (Mr. Slater second) acceptance of the minutes of the February 28th budget hearing and meeting, as amended. That motion also carried unanimously. Mr. Nievera will re-circulate these minutes and file them with the Secretary of State's office at his earliest convenience.

Communications

Mr. Nievera reported that all operational mail has been given to the treasurer for her action. He also reported the receipt of a letter of interest from Mr. Cerullo, for the position of moderator at our annual meeting. Additionally, a letter was received from the EWG Regional School District concerning the National Domestic Preparedness Coalition.

Old Business

Mr. Nievera moved (Mr. Chappell second) the appointment of Mr.

Cerullo as moderator for our annual meeting. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Nievera will notify Mr. Cerullo of the appointment at his earliest convenience.

All budget requests were reviewed and the floor was open to discussion. There was much discussion on the request of the Exeter Rescue Corps. In addition to the cost of maintaining the organization was the quality of care offered by several of the employees.

Linda Wall stated that she felt the EMT's required more in the way of training.

Several questions were asked on the subject of 3rd party billing as well as utilizing full time paid personnel as opposed to per-diem people.

Chief Franklin asked who did the work of the two newly promoted captains before there were captains.

Mr. Rooney offered that the organization seemed to be top heavy, with too many officers for an organization of that size.

Ms. MacDonald asked if the other organizations have any checks and balances as the administrative operation does.

Mr. Slater stated that, as chief, Mr. Colacone should be aware of any problem on any run made by his rescue personnel. He feels that every run should be reviewed by the chief.

Several participants at the meeting raised questions regarding the need for more volunteers and more drivers for the trucks.

Mr. Colacone stated that he is trying to put plans together to run a more effective operation.

Mr. Nievera read the report of the collector and gave the delinquent report and a brief overview of the tax sale to be held in June of this year.

Mr. Lacouture stated that he was interested in reorganizing the Ad hoc committees over the next few months.

Mr. Colacone stated that all parties to the complaints filed with the state have been summoned to appear before the Ambulance Advisory Board next Thursday to discuss the charges.

Mr. Lacouture detailed the final budget request as agreed to by the commissioners and the organizations. The overall budget appropriation request is for \$1,163,463 which represents an increase of 4.1%.

EVFD#1 is asking for \$182,000. This represents an increase of 2.9% over last year's appropriation.

EVFC#2 is asking for \$152,700. This represents an increase of 1.9% over last year's appropriation.

EEDC is asking for \$347,944. This represents an increase of 5.5% over last year's appropriation.

The Exeter Rescue Corps is asking for \$454,362. This represents an increase of 4.5% over last year's appropriation.

The Fire District Administration is asking for \$24,457. This represents an increase of 2.6% over last year's appropriation.

Mr. Lacouture stated that he had hoped the increase could be held

to a figure at least as that of last year's 3.1%. There being no further discussion and noting that each organization would be required to defend their own budget request, Mr. Nievera moved (Mr. Chappell second) forwarding the budget requests from the organizations, as well as the budget resolutions, to the Annual Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

There were no reports from board members.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Exeter Fire District will be the Annual Meeting to be held on Wednesday, April 10, 2013. The meeting will be held in the Joseph Walsh Performing Arts Center (auditorium) of the Exeter-West Greenwich Regional Jr/Sr High School and will begin at 7:00pm.

Adjournment

Mr. Nievera moved (Mr. Rooney second) adjournment at 8:46 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Nievera, Clerk
Exeter Fire District