

# OAKLAND~MAPLEVILLE FIRE DISTRICT OPERATING COMMITTEE

## Meeting Minutes JUNE'S Meeting Held on JULY 2, 2014

### Opening:

The regular meeting of the Oakland~Mapleville Fire District Operating Committee was called to order at 7:12 pm on July 2, 2014 in the district fire station at 46 Oakland School St. Oakland by Bob L'Esperance, Moderator.

**Present:** Peter Leone, Richard Nolan, Patricia St.Pierre, Mike Cosetta and Albert Lavigne; Commissioners Ed Bertholic, Warren Steere and Tom Demers; Chief Joe Bertholic and Clerk Anne Chretien.

**Absent:** Alice Lavigne

**Guests:** Capt. Mike McGrane of OM Fire Dept.

### A. Approval of Minutes

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting were waived and accepted.

**Motion** to accept the minutes was made by Mike Cosetta and seconded by Patricia St.Pierre. Unanimously voted "I" by all present.

### B. Commissioners Report

- Issues occurred with the generator when the station experienced loss of power two weeks ago. The switch needs to be repaired and may need to be programmed to run weekly. Tom Demers will look into the issue. Pete Leone offered his assistance if the need arises.
- Comments were made regarding how good the front lawn looks. The decision to put in a springier system and new lawn has been a good one.
- Motion to accept the Commissioners Report was made by Patricia St.Pierre. Seconded by Mike Cosetta. Unanimously voted "I" by all present.

### C. Chief's Report

- 73 runs were completed. (see report) Average turnout was 4 per incident.
- Rescue 1 – air conditioning compressor needed to be replaced a cost of \$1200.00. Two new tires were put on the front of the vehicle.

- Engine 11 – exhaust needed to be replaced, work was completed by Scott’s Mobile Repair.
- Engine 13 – needs work completed on it by the end of August.
- RI State Inspection Stickers are on all trucks.
- Injury claim was completed by the Chief because he was using a drill on metal and spec of the metal went in his eye. He was wearing safety glasses.
- Motion to accept the Chief’s Report by Peter Leone and seconded by Mike Cosetta. Unanimously voted “I” by all present.

#### **D. Tax Assessors Report**

- N/A

#### **E. Tax Collectors Report**

- Collections from 9/1/2013 to 08/28/2014 which includes current and prior year taxes, and interest and fees totaled \$309,707.45 as of June 26, 2014. Outstanding balance to be collected is \$41,821.76. See attached report.
- The list for the Tax Sale scheduled for July 31, 2014 stands at 11 delinquent tax payers, down from 32. See attached list.
- 5 mobile homes at the Maplehill Mobile Home Park have been removed 3 of the 5 owe taxes to the district totaling \$1974. The other 2 properties have already been abated. The tax assessors agreed to abate the 3 bills. Discussion regarding the Town of Burrillville assessor’s office keeping the district informed of abatements by the Town would seem appropriate.
- Discussion was held regarding the new law for financial reporting that the State of Rhode Island legislator has passed. R. Nolan attended a preliminary meeting of how the reporting may take place. A formal meeting will take place on July 30<sup>th</sup> at CCRI campus in Warwick which R. Nolan will attend.
- J. Bertholic reported that he has spoken to both Rep. Cale Keable and Rep. Brian Newberry regarding this financial reporting. They will work to get volunteer fire districts exempt in the next legislative session. This occurred due to the situation in Central Coventry and the fact that 50 plus union firemen were going to lose their jobs.
- Motion to accept the Tax Collectors report was made by Mike Cosetta and seconded by Patricia St.Pierre.
- Unanimously voted “I” by all present.

#### **F. Treasurers Report**

- All bills are paid and up-to-date.

- The report was reviewed and a question asked about the posting of a check to the wrong line item. This will be corrected.
- Line items Insurance Annuity and Insurance and Bonds is over budget, due to an increase in pricing on the Term Life Insurance
- Discussion about all the policies with VFIS was held and it was determined that a meeting should be requested.
- Motion was made by Peter Leone to invite, in writing and mailed by certified mail, representative, Brad Preston, to meet with the Operating Committee to review all the policies currently held with VFIS.  
Motion was seconded by Mike Cosetta.  
Unanimously voted “I” by all present.
- List of members covered by the Term Life Ins and LOSAP was sent to the clerk and a review of the list showed names that should have been removed.
- Monies need to be moved to Capitol Improvements – Equipment account due to excess of revenues over expenditures. This amount is \$27,716.
- Motion to accept the Treasurers report was made by Peter Leone and seconded by Al Lavigne.
- Unanimously voted “I” by all present.

#### **G. Old Business**

- By-Laws committee did not meet in May.
- Rescue Truck committee had a meeting and looked at a Ford with 4 wheel drive the cost was \$210,000. At the next meeting Chris Bowman will bring a Chevy for the committee to look at. We are looking at different cabs and chasses. As of July 1 and new regulation went into effect regarding the stretcher and the mounting system for the stretcher. The added cost will be about \$30,000. to the cost of the new rescue. Checking with the State of RI Dept. of Health to see if we can get a variance. NFPA may have more stringent rules regarding this matter. Hope to have a recommendation for the annual meeting in September. Some companies recommend gas over diesel.
- Hose replacement money has been spent.
- Bob L’Esperance contacted Brad Preston of VFIS and requested his presence at the June meeting of the operating committee to answer questions about the LOSAP program. His response was that someone from Pennsylvania would have to attend. Bob did not get a timely response from that person, now they are on vacation. Not satisfied with the outcome.
- Pat St.Pierre contacted Pierre Rondeau regarding the spending of the funds from Daniele Corp. He quoted her the current law regarding this matter.

## H. New Business

- A memo was received from the State of Rhode Island – Department of Revenue regarding new laws passed by the General Assembly regarding reporting requirements for all fire districts. A seminar will be offered in July 30 to explain the reporting structure that fire districts have to adhere to. Richard Nolan attended a Q & A with regards to this process on June 30 at the department of administration. This was noted under the Tax Collector's report.
- Town Council at a future meeting may discuss the charging of the Fire Districts for dispatching of departments for emergencies. This has been tabled. R. Nolan noted that the Town Council received a bill from Nasonville Fire District for radio up-grade.
- Burrillville Chief of Police Stephen Lynch, emailed all Fire Chiefs of the town to invite them to meet with him. This may be annual event.
- Joe Bertholic said that a meeting with the Redden Group and with other districts in the town and with the town of Gloucester took place on June 18<sup>th</sup> for the purpose of writing grants to benefit the departments. This meeting resulted in the agreement with Harrisville FD, Harmony FD and OMFD to apply thru this company for federal money. All districts were invited and only these three were present. The grants could provide incentives for recruitment and retention of members; turnout gear; 401k monies; training; marketing, etc. The administration costs would come out of the grant money. Scituate uses this same company and has received grant money that has paid for Level 1 & 2 firefighting training and EMT training. Scituate had ad running on Channel 10 to try to attract new members.  
There is an August 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for applying.

- **Motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 pm was made by Mike Cosetta and seconded by Patricia St.Pierre.

Unanimously voted "T" by all present.

Minutes submitted by: Anne Chretien, Clerk