

Scituate Fire & Rescue Engineering Board

P.O. Box 123, North Scituate, RI 02857

Minutes – November 24, 2014

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:07pm at the Hope Jackson Fire Department

The following members were present:

Station 20: Chief Adam Hebert

Station 40: Acting Chief John Chevalier

Station 60: Acting Chief Keith Brown

Secretary/Treasurer: Kerri Dexter

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes from October 27, 2014 accepted as amended and approved.

3. Treasurer's Report

Accepted and placed on file

4. Old Business

Training:

- None to report**

SOPS:

- None to Report**

Communications:

- Audience member Chief Mark Ellis asked if “Code 600”, a distress code for police to respond to the call, was still in effect.
- On several occasions the “Code 600” was used, but dispatch did not have police respond.
- Suggested putting a written policy together for when “Code 600” is used and when a “man down” button is pushed to give to Police Chief Randall.
- Chief Hebert stated procedures should be done and put together for dispatcher, Also, a role call should be done on scene by dispatch.
- Acting Chief Chevalier discussed an issue with low audio input on fire 800 radios.
- Acting Chief Chevalier tested the volume level between police and fire 800 radios and noticed the possible low audio with fire 800 radio at dispatch.
- Determined that there is no tech maintaining the dispatch center.
- Acting Chief Chevalier and Acting Chief Keith Brown had discussion of moving antenna issues. Either Hope or Chopmist are affected
- Discussion had of radio box at National Grid building not working. Some kind of Radio interference at route 101 and route 102
- Audience member Chief Ellis stated testing higher antenna left bad reception near Samuel stone and Moswansicut road.
- Acting Chief Brown suggested possibly putting an antenna on the DEM tower to cover all of North end of town.
- Discussion of testing done and “dead spots” in town from years ago.

- **Police station receiver should be working**
- **Discussion had of how Scituate is using more of the 800 communication system due to the town being in the middle of the North and South line.**
- **Discussion of pros/cons of 800 system**
- **North Scituate and Chopmist hill switched to channel 2 and 15 on talk around channels on VHF system**
- **The town used to have North and South end transmitters then changed to transmit only out of Chopmist after a lightning strike to the South transmitter. When replaced the South end only has a receiver and not a transmitter.**
- **Agreement by all to have an outside engineer come in to look at system**
- **All chiefs will ask members to document any communication issues to be addressed at next meeting.**
- **Chief Hebert will be following up to see what is needed to get the IMC fire side working at dispatch and what else is needed to get I Am Responding up and running at dispatch.**

Other Business:

- **Run Card**
- **Some dispatchers having issues with updated run card that needs to be ironed out.**
- **Other**
- **Chief Hebert passed out the hose prices for review.**
 - o **Discussion had of colors, names, and lengths between all chief's**

- o Discussion had of NFPA standards of replacement of hose and what hose is OOS and total quantity needed
- o Bill Jasparro of the Fire suppression and EMS committee has approved specs and purchase order is ready with David Dagastino Jr., however, unknown delivery time of hose.
- Discussion had of the need for SCBA's.
- o The budget committee of the Town should be aware of the need to purchase Scott bottles and packs.
- o Discussion had of prices
- o Acting Chief Keith Brown will try to send an email with bid of 30 minute bottles and 45 minute bottles from Shipman's to Chief Hebert if located.
- Chief Hebert and Acting Chief Chevalier overviewed discussion of budget items had with the Fire Suppression and EMS committee
- o Forty one replacements on list for Scott bottles
- o If the town purchases the two new rescues, Which of the remaining three would Chief Mark Ellis take?
-  Audience member Chief Ellis stated he would have to consult with Dean Randall of Public Works and the Rescue Captain of Potterville Fire Department before making a decision.
-  The Fire Suppression and EMS Committee suggested having a fully stocked in service reserve rescue housed at Station 50 for the Town's use. Chief Ellis opposed to the idea
- o Audience member Chief Ellis stated Engine 51 is approx. 20 years old. Needs some cosmetic work to bring up to NFPA 1910 standard
- o Chief Hebert stated it will be approx. \$10,000 for the pump repair for

Ladder 22. The collector rings are fried and may only last a couple of years.

o Acting Chief Chevalier requested possible replacement of Ztron unit at police station to be on the budget list.

 Suggested to have a dual operating center where there could be two dispatchers at “big emergencies”

 Suggested replacing Ztron with Motorola in case console goes down there will be a backup.

 Currently the “man down” feature doesn’t work with police radios. If switched to Motorola the “man down” function would work again.

 Also, simulcasting would work again and would increase safety.

• Question brought up of possibly bringing ISO into town to do a study.

o Currently Scituate is rated 9.

o North Scituate does have some hydrants as well as Hope.

o Question of having underground tanks and doing a demonstration that ISO plans would lower rating.

• Audience member Chief Ellis stated a 10,000 tank will be located on Matteson Road near Tunk Hill road,

5. New Business

• None

6. Reports

A. Station 20:

- **None to report**

B. Station 40:

- **None to report**

C. Station 60:

- **None to Report**

A page will be set aside in the minutes for the late Chief Donald Campbell

The next Engineering Board meeting will be held on Monday December 22, 2014 at The North Scituate Fire Department at 7:00pm.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.