

DRAFT

04/19/15

Meeting Minutes of Fire Ward Meeting

Town of Enfield

Members Present: Fire Ward Richard Crate, Fire Ward Timothy Taylor, Fire Ward Fred Cummings

Also present: Fire Chief Crate

Meeting called to order at 3:10pm.

Assistant Chief Pollard had a meeting with the Town Manager in regard to some issues he had with the fire department. There was consensus amongst the Fire Wards that this was against the Chain of Command in the department structure, and there was disapproval that he chose to go this route. He was invited to this meeting, but was unable to attend as he was sick. The Fire Wards were provided a list by the Town Manager, and went over it issue by issue.

1. Upset that Dan Kiley was invited to participate in the new engine selection process and he (Pollard) was not specifically invited-

Dan Kiley was invited to participate because of his involvement with CIP and the Budget Committee. No members of the department were specifically invited. Notice was posted on the board at the fire station just inside the front door, and the Assistant Chief Chase was advised for his station involvement. There were anywhere between 10-20 people at most of the presentations by different vendors, and it is believed that Asst. Chief Pollard attended at least one presentation, though nobody was sure. There was no intention of leaving anyone out.

2. NIMS training- not enough

There was discussion about looking in to having department wide NIMS training. Some members have already taken it.

3. As an Assistant Fire Chief, he was upset that he was not consulted when the department acquired a new boat (which he felt was not needed), generator (which he feels is not used), and trailer (which he feels is not used).

There were meetings of the Association to discuss the purchase of the boat, which everyone had the opportunity to be at. There was no cost to the Town. The generator was purchased with excess funds,

and not out of the fire department budget. The trailer is used for the ATV and ATV trailer, and can also be used for cold water rescue events. This was also purchased by the Association. The Fire Chief, who has authority over equipment, approved the purchase of all these things and approval was not needed by any other officer.

4. Need new training officer

Cummings repeated his previous offer to become the training coordinator so long as he is promoted to a Fire Officer. This whole discussion was tabled until later in the meeting.

5. No meetings with the Fire Wards or Chief

6. No Officers Meetings

There have been meetings with the Fire Wards and Chief. It was decided that at a minimum, there will now be Fire Ward meetings at least every other month, and others will be posted as needed. Also, it was further decided that there will be at least quarterly officers meetings. The first one to be announced in the near future.

7. No CDL training

The Fire Wards and Fire Chief decided that they will continue to encourage all members who drive the trucks to get their CDL license, but they will not make it a requirement to drive. Before anyone who is not currently ok'ed to drive the apparatus is approved to drive, the Fire Chief must ok such approval.

8. Need new clothing/gear

When people need new gear, they are encouraged to see the Fire Chief and advise him that they need it. At one of the future trainings/meetings, a gear inspection and inventory will be conducted.

9. Need dry hydrants: on Bog Road, near Baltic Mill, near Shaker Bridge, near Proctors, and near Blacksmith Alley

The Fire Wards nor the Fire Chief will not be advocating for dry hydrants in these areas. Most are served by hydrants. If there were a fire on Blacksmith Alley, a hydrant there would not be accessible. The same with Baltic Mill and there is a lake that can be accessed by Shaker Bridge. There is already a hydrant on bog road in Enfield Center.

10. Need new pagers

There were just new pagers ordered and they have arrived. If someone needs a new pager, they simply need to see the Fire Chief.

11. Need new cold water rescue suits and ropes

This will be looked in to.

12. Need new helmets for UTV/ATV users

The Fire Chief will research and buy helmets

13. Officers no trained

Many of our officers have years of experience, and are certified. Once Assistant Chief Pollard meets with the Fire Wards and Fire Chief, clarification will be sought on this issue.

14. Need more drills at Enfield Elementary School

The school meets their criteria for drills at the school, and there is no requirement that members of the Fire Department be present. It was thought that if we approached the school to be involved in a drill, there would be no objection. However, there is a liability to us to just go in to the school and pull the alarm.

15. Need better Emergency Management back-up

The Fire Wards would encourage Assistant Chief Pollard to see Police Chief Crate with any issues he has about Emergency Management, as he is the Director

16. Union St Station maintenance

The new garage door panels are being worked on. It was not easy to find replacements that matched. The door in the meeting room is much more complicated to replace, but Fire Chief Crate advises he will look at it and move to get it replaced.

There was discussion about new pay rates that were put in to effect, and what the long term plan was as far as getting hourly wages to a more acceptable level for the job performed.

At 16:31, a motion was made by Crate and seconded by Taylor to enter executive session under RSA 91-A:3, IIA. All in favor.

At 16:55, Cummings excused himself from the meeting.

At 17:11, Cummings returned.

At 17:17, Crate made the motion to exit the non-public session, seconded by Taylor. All in Favor.

Fire Chief Crate then advised Cummings that he was promoting him to Training Officer/Lieutenant.

At 17:18, meeting was adjourned.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

