

Minutes
Litchfield Board of Fire Commissioners & EMS
August 11, 2016 7:00 PM
Litchfield Fire House, 258 West St., Litchfield

Chairman Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Chairman John Campbell, Douglas Hatstat, Gary Shuhi, Paul Parsons,

Members Absent: Francine Spencer, Teresa Berry

Approval of Minutes –July 28, 2016

P. Parsons moved to approve the minutes, G. Shuhi seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Requests/Comments - None

Commission Requests -

Troy Curulla was present to explain a proposed Regional First Responder Program. The purpose of this program is to encourage first responders to assist people with serious life threats outside of their PSA while remaining in compliance of regional and sponsor hospital regulations. Troy explained that one of the biggest hurdles of getting this program started is insurance coverage for members who would respond to such calls because presently, this is not allowed. He has been working with Roxanne Carroll regarding the insurance issues but thinks they need input from the Fire Commission. The Chair stated that he thought this should be up to the Chiefs to decide upon. The Chair asked Troy to get a list of questions and requests back to the Commission so that they can ask the Town for the information.

Budgets – Department, Capital & Operating Budgets

Ed Evers explained that the first meeting of the Capital Committee will be November 9, so they will be asking for budgets approximately 10 days before. He would like to have everything by the middle of October so he can go through everything before the meeting.

The Commission reviewed the proposed list that Ed presented.

John Fields from LVA was present and explained the issues that are presently affecting the ambulance service. He stated that because they are running on a small number of volunteer members they have had to hire Vintech to cover shifts that the volunteers cannot cover. They are projecting a revenue shortfall for this year. What is billed and collected from insurance companies and Medicare/Medicaid for a call is not enough to cover the cost of running the call. Their ambulances are in need of repair. He stated that in previous years, when they had the volunteers to cover the majority of calls they did not come to the town to request additional money to run the service, but he thinks that will not be the case for this and next year.

The SCBA compressor was budgeted at \$56,400. The cost for the compressor was listed at \$40,420 with \$1,500 budgeted for miscellaneous and the electrical work to bring the firehouse up to code to service the compressor will be \$8,900 and the advertisement for the bid spec came to \$118 for a total cost of \$50,948; which is \$5452 under bid. The bids were opened on August 8 in the Selectman's office. A single bid was received from Fire Tech and Safety of New England. P. Parsons moved to allow E. Litchfield to proceed with their SCBA compressor purchase in the amount of \$50,948. G. Shuhi seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

E. Litchfield representative was present to explain the bids received for the drainage and other improvements to the firehouse. The approved funding was originally \$250,000, funds remaining total

\$231,234. One bid was received from Millennium Builders for \$197,000. The group discussed the cost of a Phase II of this project which would include an elevator and windows. The Chair asked E. Litchfield representative to discuss and address concerns raised with the town Engineer the building inspector and the Fire Marshal.

Fire Marshal

Report from Acting Fire Marshal

S. Kinkade updated the Commission on progress of Firehouse Cloud storage for NFIRS. He stated that Public Works have easements to Scenic View fire pond so work can be accomplished. He reviewed his monthly report with the Commission. Hours for deputy fire marshal duties were discussed.

The Chair informed each company of their amount in this year's budget for protective equipment; E. Litchfield has \$900, Northfield has \$900, Bantam and Litchfield both have \$5900.

Update on Department Physicals -

- a) Bantam FD due in April
- b) E. Litchfield FD due in May
- c) Northfield FD due in June
- d) Litchfield FD due in November
- e) LVA due in November

Any EMS Business that needs to be discussed - None

Communications - None

Old Business

Update from ELFD on brush truck replacement. This item will be discussed at the next capital budget discussion.

New Business - None

Adjournment- P. Parsons moved to adjourn at 8:31 p.m. D. Hatstat seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**John Campbell, Chairman
Board of Fire Commissioners & EMS**

Date