

MINUTES
Litchfield Board of Fire Commissioners & EMS
December 11, 2014 7:00 PM
Bantam Fire Department, 92 Doyle Rd. Bantam, CT

Call Meeting to Order

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

Members Present: John Campbell, Teresa Berry, Doug Hatstat, Paul Parsons, Francine Spencer

Members Absent: Aaron Lanthier

Approval of Minutes –November 13, 2014 – T. Berry moved to approve the minutes, F. Spencer seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Requests/Comments - None

Commission Requests - None

Budgets – Department, Capital & Operating Budgets

Ed Evers was present to discuss results of the Capital Committee meeting held on 12/2/14. There was discussion about a suggestion from the Capital Committee to put the \$27,000 needed to repair vinyl siding at the Bantam fire house in the operating budget rather than in the Capital budget because it is a repair.

Discuss compressor replacement for E. Litchfield – The chief was present to ask questions about the compressor replacement.

Approval of 30 year truck replacement list – The Board reviewed the list and the Fire Marshal will make some revisions to review for next month's meeting.

Fire Marshal

Fire Marshal Rogers explained that he would like to update the Firehouse software that the town currently uses to enable cloud storage which might lead to a cost increase for next year's budget. He would like to hear from tech savvy fire department members regarding their thoughts on this system and their ideas.

He stated that the grant for SCBA gear has been completed and submitted. He also mentioned a letter he received from the State Fire Marshal stating that he will need to be formally appointed by Borough of Bantam to be their Fire Marshal. There was discussion about whether he needs to be appointed by the Litchfield Borough as well.

Update on Department Physicals

There was discussion on whether DOT physicals are acceptable to cover exterior fire fighters. The Board felt that DOT physicals do not clear someone for lifting, etc. that is required for exterior fire fighting. Members should receive a physical that would clear them for the more extensive requirements of fire fighting and if they go to the town provider, they will be able to get their lesser DOT sign off as well.

Any EMS Business that needs to be discussed

Chairman Campbell stated that Bantam Fire Company is now billing for ambulance service.

Communications - None

Old Business - None

New Business – Review department bylaws regarding driving ages.

J. Campbell read the bylaws for Bantam Fire which do not allow members between the ages of 18 and 21 to operate vehicles unless ordered by a line officer or by the Chief in an emergency or for training purposes. Litchfield FD does not have any language regarding minimum driving age but does require a certain amount of hours of driving training. E. Litchfield has it in their standard operating procedures which say a driver must be 21 years old and have a valid CDL license or a Class 2 license with a Q endorsement. Northfield has nothing in writing, but also requires a minimum training period, and LVA allows 18 year olds to drive only after they complete driver training. The Chair suggested each department review their procedures to ensure that they meet the same standards as what is required to be covered by the town insurance.

Adjournment – F. Spencer moved to adjourn at 8:45, T. Berry seconded and the motion passed unanimously.



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

1-8-15

Date