

MINUTES

Page 1 of 5

Board of Fire Engineers Board, Committee, Office, Etc.

Date: August 15, 2016 Time: 6:30 P.M.
Present: Chief Hamilton, Deputy Chief Rudge, Asst. Chief Gasco,
Asst. Chief Piscitelli, Asst. Chief Silver
Absent: None

Minutes from July 11 were reviewed and approved. Invoices were signed.
Account balances were reviewed. Mail was read.

6:45 P.M. WALTER SWENSON-PUMP TRAINING CLASS

Walter Swenson met with the Board to review the pump training class he recently held. Chief Hamilton said he was impressed with the class and asked how it could be tweaked. FF. Swenson had the following comments: - a second person would be helpful especially for hands-on-training and testing; the class size was on the larger side and limited the one-on-one time; each student was offered extra time for more training but no one asked; he tried to get the guys experience on each truck-with one captain questioning the use of the truck; when he notified one station that the truck would used-he was told a crew would go with it; feels more hands-on training would be beneficial, and would like a second location with more water pressure. He was told to use Elmwood Street School as well as Shaw. The class was asked to provide feedback on the training, but no one responded.

Asst. Chief Gasco asked if the company officers helped with training. FF. Swenson was not sure-but didn't think so. Asst. Chief Gasco said the burden was taken off the company officers and they should have offered extra training to those from their station who were in the class. Asst. Chief Silver said he attended several training classes and FF. Swenson did a great job. He said more hands-on training and extra help when testing would be good. Chief Hamilton thanked FF. Swenson for his help and said the next class would be smaller. Board members agreed and said Swenson did an excellent job.

7:00 EASTCOAST OUTFITTERS-LAKELAND GEAR

Andrew Harding met with the Board to present Lakeland Gear. He had bunker coats and pants for the Board to try on. Mr. Harding noted the jackets were pliable right out of the package. He had a 32" coat (B2) and a 35" coat (Stealth) and two sets of bunker pants. One with a higher waist and one with a lower waist and belt (belt is extra). Suspenders have been redesigned for easier use. The gear meets all NFPA Standards, boasts a greater stitch per inch than other manufacturers, and is 20% to 30% cheaper than Globe. If repairs are needed, they can be done in Manchester or by a certified seamstress located in Leominster. Lakeland Gear has been on the market for 8-years and is slowly moving into Massachusetts. Colors available include gold, khaki, or black.

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK

16 SEP 26 PM 1:02
TOWN CLERK

MINUTES CONTINUED

DATE 8/15/16

BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

Page 2 of 5

Different liners are available. The Stealth gear with a camouflage lining costs around \$1750 and \$1950 with the better liner. The department name is sewn on, while the firefighters name is a removable panel. Board members thanked Mr. Harding for his time. Discussion took place with Board members agreeing they liked the gear. Five sets are needed this year and the Board will decide on ordering at another meeting.

7:45 P.M. JOSEPH NEDDER- TRAINING

Joseph Nedder met with the Board to review what he can offer for training. Mr. Nedder was on the Uxbridge Fire Department for 37-years. He worked for the Fire Academy and helped design the recruit training program currently being used. He has also written two books on rapid intervention. Mr. Nedder said he was trained under Joseph Gervais. He said firefighting is so different now and that basics need to be instilled. He asked the Board what they wanted to stress. Chief Hamilton said he would like to see more hands-on training and drills. He also suggested a class for company officers. Asst. Chief Gasco agreed saying that officers need to learn how to be leaders. After some discussion, Mr. Nedder agreed to draw up several proposals for the Board to review.

NEW BUCKET TRUCK

Chief Hamilton saw several bucket trucks to replace the Fire Alarm Truck. An Article was approved at Town Meeting for the purchase of a new truck. He selected one that should be ready soon. The Board discussed what to do with the old truck. Deputy Chief Rudge made a motion to turn over the old truck to the interim town manager for disposal. This was seconded by Asst. Chief Gasco and carried on a 5-0 vote. Funds from the Article can be used to letter the truck.

TRANSFER REQUEST

FF. Brian Dalton and FF. Ray Hobin both submitted requests to be transferred to Fire HQ. Discussion took place. Asst. Chief Silver said he feels moving FF. Hobin to HQ would be beneficial. Asst. Chief Gasco said if anyone is transferred it should be FF. Dalton because he is senior man. Asst. Chief Silver then made a motion to transfer Ray Hobin to Fire HQ. There was no second and the motion failed. Deputy Chief Rudge said he was concerned with the dwindling manpower at Station 3. He suggested tabling the matter until the next meeting. Board members agreed.

PRE INCIDENT PLANS

Pre incident plans will be reviewed at a later meeting.

OLD & NEW BUSINESS

- VFIS provided annual *Summary of Benefits* forms for all members. VFIS questioned whether Brian Day was entitled to a lump sum distribution. Board members reviewed pay outs made to Mr. Day in previous years. Deputy Chief Rudge made a motion that based on the 10-year vesting

MINUTES CONTINUED

DATE 8/15/16

BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

Page 3 of 5

- schedule that went into effect in 2000, not to issue a lump sum payment to Brian Day. This was seconded by Asst. Chief Gasco and carried on a 5-0 vote. VFIS will be notified.
- Mark S. Strom has a hearing in September with his employer. He will make a decision after the hearing regarding his return to the fire department.
 - Lt. Michael Couture submitted a request for a six-week medical leave of absence. Asst. Chief Silver made a motion to grant him the leave effective immediately. This was seconded by Asst. Chief Gasco and carried on a 5-0 vote. Lt. Couture will be asked to turn in all gear which will be reissued when he returns to active duty.
 - Chief Hamilton suggested calling the white pick-up truck "F2". Discussion took place. Board members agreed the truck will be referred to as "F2".
 - The fire department was notified that their AFG application for a brush truck was denied. Chief Hamilton has contacted David Parr for more information on the denial.
 - A fire watch detail is in place at Colonial Drive Apartments. The fire alarm system was disabled during the recent severe thunderstorms. The Housing Authority is trying to get the system repaired and will keep Chief Hamilton updated.
 - Firematic conducted flow-testing on the SCBA's today. The units at Station 2 will be done tomorrow. Board members can bring in their packs for testing. Face masks will be tested next year.
 - Chief Hamilton gave the following Apparatus Report based on P.M. forms from August 1, 2016:
 - Engine 1: Left rear step light out, driver's side telescoping light out
 - Tower 1: All set
 - Rescue 1: All set
 - Engine 2: driver's side quartz light out, driver's side washer hose broken
 - Engine 4: pump primer problem (linkage?)
 - Hose 1: All set
 - Engine 3: driver's rear spotlight out, water tank gauge issue.
 - Forestry 1: problem with horn
 - Engine 5: driver's rear outer tire-valve stem problem, foam adjustment lever does not work, trash line valve leaks, hose bed cover snaps broken, LDH discharge leaking, driver's side front red corner strobe out
 - 7/28/16: Town mechanic replaced air-dryer on Engine.
 - Chief Hamilton asked Asst. Chief Gasco if he updated the Mass. Pike map. Asst. Chief Gasco said he drove the Pike to verify mile markers. He also marked the snow ramps/access gates. A new map should be available soon.
 - Due to several parking issues in Station 2's lower lot, Chief Hamilton suggested posting the area. Board members agreed and DPW will be asked to do this.

MINUTES CONTINUED

DATE 8/15/16

BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

Page 4 of 5

- Renaud Electric is working on the fire alarm system at 75 Elm Street. They will provide a map of the system. Asst. Chief Gasco noted the basement of the building is very cluttered and should be cleaned out.
- Chief Hamilton said District 7 will be holding a seminar in Auburn on "Science Behind The Tactics". This will be held on 9/17/16 with a cost of \$25 per person. Chief Hamilton asked if the Board will pay for those who attend. Discussion took place. Deputy Chief Rudge wanted an idea of how many officers are interested. A notice will be sent out.
- SVI has enough lights to convert another truck. Board members agreed to send Engine 5.
- Chief Hamilton is trying to schedule Engine 4 to have pump work done.
- The Town Mechanic will begin servicing the trucks next week.
- Aquarion Water made a donation of \$250 to the Fire Department. This will go into the Gift Account.
- In response to Chief Hamilton's request, Aquarion Water sent a list of hydrants with no steamer ports. Eight hydrants will be changed over.
- Deputy Chief Rudge: told the Board Station 2's annual outing will be held on 8/20/16 all are invited to attend. (HQ will cover for the station.) He asked for more training on the use of the new hydrant assist valve. He asked that HQ's be cleaned up-especially the front. The grass needs cutting and trees are growing against the library-side of the building
- Asst. Chief Gasco: reported his mobile radio needs repair. He will contact Jim Wilson to have repairs done.
- Asst. Chief Piscitelli: reported Engine 5 will go to New England Trim on Friday to have the new hose bed cover installed.
- Asst. Chief Silver: requested gear to use for fire investigations. He is looking for a jacket, boots, and helmet. Deputy Chief Rudge questioned if we should be investigating our own fires and not contacting the Fire Marshal's Office. Asst. Chief Gasco questioned who is responsible if Asst. Chief Silver does the investigation. Chief Hamilton said he likes the idea of having someone on the department doing fire investigation-it gets started sooner. Asst. Chief Silver said when the fire marshal arrives, they take over, but he does assist. He has been certified as a fire investigator and the experience he gets by assisting the fire marshal and going to other towns improves his experience. Asst. Chief Gasco wanted it made clear that when Asst. Chief Silver goes to other towns, he is going as an individual and not as a member of Millbury Fire. Further discussion took place. Chief Hamilton asked Asst. Piscitelli for his opinion. He said he agreed that he (Silver) should not be representing Millbury Fire in other towns. Asst. Chief Silver further explained that having his own gear eliminates the chance of his contaminating a scene with residue from a previous fire. And, the State Fire Marshal will continue to be notified when an investigation is needed. Asst. Chief Gasco then made a motion to purchase Asst. Chief

MINUTES CONTINUED

DATE 8/15/16

BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

Page 5 of 5

Silver a helmet and jacket for fire investigation use. This was seconded by Asst. Chief Silver and carried on a 5-0 vote.

Asst. Chief Piscitelli made a motion to adjourn, and the meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Rich P. Hal

Bryan K. Gisco

John P. Piscitelli

Colt A. L. Jr

Regina A. Markey, Clerk