

MINUTES

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

Date: February 3, 2014 Time: 6:30 P.M.
Present: Chief Rudge, Asst. Chief Hamilton, Asst. Chief Hobin,

Absent: Asst. Chief Gasco (sick), Asst. Chief Piscitelli (working)

Minutes from January 6 & January 27, 2014 were approved. Invoices were signed. Mail was read. Account balances were reviewed.

6:45 P.M. FF. CHRISTOPHER DALTON

Chris Dalton met with the Board to discuss his low attendance. He said he was working long hours, and he is now out of work so his attendance should improve.

7:00 P.M. FF. BRIAN STOWELL

The letter sent to FF. Stowell was returned and marked "unclaimed". FF. Stowell did not appear for the meeting. Asst. Chief Hobin said Stowell should validate why he has not been attending. Asst. Chief Hamilton said he hates to lose him but he is not helping us out and is holding a spot for someone else. The Board decided to wait until a full Board is present to take any action.

7:15 P.M. FF. JOHN LEAVENS

Asst. Chief Hamilton said he spoke to John Leavens. FF. Leavens expects to increase his attendance soon. He failed to appear for the meeting.

OLD & NEW BUSINESS

- Chief Rudge updated the Board on the progress of the public safety building. The approximate size is 34,800 sq. ft. with the bays remaining the same number and size requested. The architect will view four suggested sites and determine which best fits the building. At this time, the estimated cost is \$18 million. The Committee will meet again on 2/11/14. They plan to hold public information meetings and video the conditions at each fire station and the police station. The Committee intends to ask for funding at the next Town Meeting to have the plans drawn up. Funding for construction will be put on the Warrant of the 2015 Town Meeting.
- Sutton asked for station coverage on 2/15/14 so they can attend a retirement party for one of their firefighters. Station 2 will provide coverage.
- Town Counsel is reviewing the proposed change to the Length of Service Awards Program.
- The Board will wait until after July 1, 2014 to install the netting at Fire HQ. Funding for this was included in next year's budget as a capital outlay item. And, a transfer of funds cannot be issued until all monies in the budget have been expended.

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MINUTES CONTINUED

DATE 2/3/14

BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

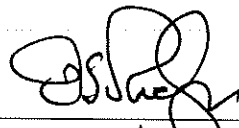
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- Asst. Chief Hamilton completed the Life Safety Educator course. He is now certified as a S.A.F.E. educator. He will not receive his certificate until June because the Dept. of Fire Services sends them out only twice a year. Asst. Chief Hamilton intends to apply for a FEMA S.A.F.E. grant to provide and install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors for Millbury residents. He is developing a plan for this project.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton will bring Engine 5 for new drive tires this week.
- Chief Rudge said he received an email from District 7 about forming a Communications Committee. Asst. Chief Hamilton explained that this committee will provide the means for anyone to run the trucks. This brought about discussion of the Southern Worcester County Radio Committee. District 7 may incorporate this Committee into their group.
- Recruits are doing well at the Mass. Firefighting Academy. Two need bunker pants to continue the training. Millbury will borrow these from Sutton Fire.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton will order the tank cover for Engine 4.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton checked Forestry 1. He said it ran well but the alternator is over charging. He will make arrangements to have this checked at McLaughlin's. The ladder rack on Engine 3 was checked and seems to be working.
- Chief Rudge said repairs were done on Engine 1 but there may be another leak at the ball valve.
- Chief Rudge will call Specialty Vehicles in the morning to have the pump packings on Engine 3 adjusted and other repairs done.
- Edd Cote will be asked to take the pictures of Dave Matson and the present Board.
- Asst. Chief Hobin will take the Safety Officer Training course on March 11 & March 12. This was rescheduled due to weather.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton ordered the batteries for the saws all, a new mic for the radio on Rescue 1, and the straps for the backboard on Rescue 1. He has a bulb for Engine's 1 light and the headlight seems to be working fine.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton made a motion to purchase five flashlights. This was seconded by Asst. Chief Hobin and carried on a 3-0 vote.
- Asst. Chief Hobin picked up and distributed the garden hoses for the portable pumps.
- Asst. Chief Hobin put together a check list for next week's pump training. Focus will be on pump operations rather than attack & supply. He would like to get 1200-1500 gpm coming into the trucks.
- Asst. Chief Hobin said Capt. Brock was telling him about new pull gates on some pumpers. They are cranks that are color coded. Though the Board liked the idea, this is something that can only be done when the truck is being built—conversion is not an option.

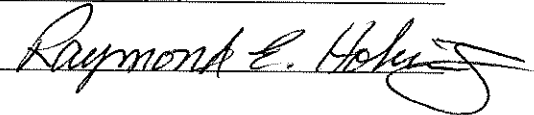
MINUTES CONTINUED

- Asst. Chief Hobin questioned if the fire department could be toned earlier for a call when the ambulance needs manpower. Discussion took place. Chief Rudge said it was a judgment call by ambulance personnel, and he did not want the fire department to be ambulance chasers. This brought about discussion of dispatching and the need to review fire department procedures with newer dispatchers.
- The Board received a request for an engine company to participate at a "Fun Run" to be held at the High School on May 18, 2014. This was approved. Asst. Chief Hamilton will check on the date since the Board also received a date of 4/13/14.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton told the Board Engine 5 may do a training session for District 7 on 2/8/14. He wanted the Board to know that lunch is not provided at these sessions.
- Open burning season began on 1/15/14. The Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) makes a determination everyday whether burning will be allowed. Their decision is based on air pollution and not fire conditions. This has resulted in "no burning" on some days that seem ideal. The Board would like to make the public aware that DEP oversees open burning and without their approval, the fire department cannot allow burning. A notice will be placed in the local paper noting the stricter guidelines.

Asst. Chief Hamilton made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.



Ricky P. Howard



Regina A. Markey, Clerk