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

Date:

April 23, 2012

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Chief Belsito, Asst. Chief Day, Asst. Chief Dore,

Asst. Chief Rudge, Asst. Chief Hamilton

Absent: None

Minutes from March 19 and April 2 were approved. Invoices were signed. Mail was read. Account balances were available.

Asst. Chief Dore will retire on May 1, 2012 after 46-years of service to the Fire Department. Board members commended him for his achievements and wished him a great retirement.

6:45 P.M. FF. BOB LAHAIR- DRIVER TRAINING PROGRAM

FF. Bob Lahair met with the Board to review the Driver Training Program. FF. Lahair went over the status of those needing training. He felt the program has been very successful. FF. Lahair asked for an increase in pay beginning 7/1/12. Both Asst. Chiefs Rudge and Hamilton commended FF. Lahair for the job he has done. Asst. Chief Rudge commented that the Board did not budget for an increase for FY13. Asst. Chief Hamilton also felt there was a disparity between the detail rate paid to firefighters and the rate paid to FF. Lahair for training. FF. Lahair explained that he is a certified instructor and revises and updates the program as needed. He spends many hours on paperwork, documentation, and purchases his own supplies. He also conducts the classroom portion of the program, does on-road driver training, and oversees the competency course. And, he has been doing driver training on Rescue 1 and anticipates doing the same for the new Tower. Asst. Chief Day asked if the rate increase would apply to FF. Brock as well. FF. Lahair said he was asking just for himself since he does the classroom and maintains the bulk of the logs and records. Asst. Chief Dore asked FF. Lahair if he would resign if he did not get it (the raise). FF. Lahair replied "no". Further discussion took place with Board members agreeing that no increase was included when the new budget was submitted and that the Fire Department should purchase all supplies that are needed. The Board advised FF. Lahair that they would consider his request and get back to him.

REVIEW QUARTERLIES

Quarterlies from Station 2 & Station 3 were reviewed. Asst. Chief Rudge was satisfied with Station 2's attendance. Asst. Chief Dore noted that two of his members are on leave and one is working long hours. Otherwise, he was satisfied with the attendance.

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OLD & NEW BUSINESS

- Board members discussed a request from Bob Giannette to retrieve some of his equipment from Station 3. Asst. Chief Dore arranged to meet him at Station 3 later tonight. At this time, the Board considered FF. Giannette's request to return to active duty. The Board received a doctor's letter stating, "Robert may return back to his fire fighter duties...." Asst. Chief Dore made a motion to return FF. Giannette to active duty effective 4/23/12. This was seconded by Asst. Chief Day and carried on a 5-0 vote. Asst. Chief Dore made a motion to immediately place FF. Giannette on administrative leave until the pending legal case is resolved. This was seconded by Asst. Chief Day and carried on a 5-0 vote. FF. Giannette will be notified of the Board's decisions.
- FF. Siebenhaar is working with the State regarding moving the fire alarm wires when the Rt. 146 Bridge is replaced.
- The Explorers will help to repair the grave markers once a "fix" is determined. The State Forestry Warden must approve the brush clearance to be done at the Butler Farm. Asst. Chief Hamilton is arranging this.
- Rescue 1 is in for repairs. The cascade system is being repaired as well as the hydraulic leaks. A new rail is being installed.
- FEMA notified the Board that the grant application was denied. Chief Belsito commended Asst. Chief Dore for his efforts. FEMA will provide more information on why the application was not approved.
- Asst. Chief Rudge said the radio system is all set and working well.
- The Public Safety Building Committee will meet soon.
- The remaining trees at Station 3 will be cleared after July 1, 2012.
- The pump packings on Engine 3 are being adjusted.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton is looking into replacing the guide wire at Station 3.
- Asst. Chief Dore will check with Steve Piscitelli about replacing the front window at Station 3.
- The window trim at Fire HQ needs to be painted.
- Asst. Chief Rudge told the Board the water level at Lake Singletary is coming up. Station 2 was going to try drafting at the dry hydrant tonight.
- Capt. King notified the Board that Engine 2 was leaking at the back of the pump and could not draft. He was told to try drafting at the boat ramp.
 Asst. Chief Hamilton will check the truck after the meeting.
- FF. Brian Day and FF. Jeff Kosiba received new turnout gear. Asst. Chief Hamilton will collect the old gear. Lt. Krumsiek and FF. Sciascia need to turn in their dress uniforms.
- Chief Belsito would like the oil tank at Fire HQ emptied and removed as soon as possible. Any oil will be brought to Stations 2 & 3. Automatic delivery to those stations will be suspended for the summer.

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- The Board was not able to reschedule a meeting with Chief Moore to review the run cards. Discussion took place with Board members agreeing that the cards will make it easier for the dispatchers during a major incident. They are not being asked to do anything more than what would be done for a multi-alarm fire. Chief Moore will be asked again to meet with the Board.
- Chief Belsito asked if a reminder was sent to the dispatchers about single-engine tones during certain hours. He said some dispatchers are not following the procedure. Asst. Chief Day said the notice was posted but not everyone reviews it.
- The parts to retrofit the generator at HQ have been received.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton will do the remaining repairs on Engine 4 soon.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton said Advanced Welding can do the repairs to Engine
 1's radiator tank. He is waiting for an estimate for the work.
- Asst. Chief Day ordered flags for HQ and Station 2.
- The grill on Engine 2 was damaged while the truck was at Direnzo's for fuel tank repairs. Direnzo's ordered a new grill and will install it at no charge.
- Pictures for identification badges will be taken on May 21 at Fire HQ. A make-up date has been scheduled for May 23 at Fire HQ at 6:00 pm.
 The Board agreed that all members will wear white uniform shirt (short sleeve) with tie and hat.
- The trim around the door at Station 5 still needs to be done. The Wiring Inspector will donate a motion light for the station.
- The wires on the pole in front of Fire HQ will be moved soon. The Wiring Inspector is waiting to hear from National Grid to arrange a date.
- The T & G will be contacted to see if the pass cards are ready to be placed in the Knox boxes. Also, the Board wants to be sure that someone will be on scene to meet fire department personnel when the alarm goes off.
- A Board meeting will be posted for April 26, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. to review the blueprints for the new Tower.
- A lengthy discussion took place concerning CPR/First Responder certification. In accordance with state mandates, all members of the fire department must be CPR/First Responder certified with refresher training and/or recertification done annually. If a firefighter misses the annual refresher, then he must complete the full training program to become certified again. The only exception to the mandate is the fire chief as this position can be classified as "administrative". Chief Belsito said he checked with the fire chiefs in Auburn and Grafton. Both enforce the regulation. If a firefighter is not in compliance, they are placed on the "inactive" list and given a certain amount of time to complete the training.

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Chief Belsito asked if Millbury should do the same. Asst. Chief Day said that with everything else we ask of the firefighters, how can they find the time to do this. Chief Belsito noted that with the online course, we are already getting results from those who need the training. Because of recent events with the Boston Fire Dept., the Office of Emergency Medical Services is scrutinizing attendance reports and certification records. Proper documentation is needed to show that Millbury complies with the state regulation and consequences need to be put in place for those who do not comply. As one Board member said, "it is part of the job, if they don't want to do it, they shouldn't be here".

Chief Belsito provided the following truck maintenance report:

Engine 1: some cab welds need to be re-welded.

Scope: all set

Rescue 1: out for service

Hose 1: all set Engine 2: all set

Engine 4: passenger side window crank broken, switch for rear work light is

broken.

Engine 3: rear passenger side bottle compartment has no latch. Rear left

cluster light out, running lights on front turn signal, driver's rear flood light out, foam tank B full light and lens cap missing, on spots not working, rear 2 ½ leaking, ladder rack?, passenger

side air horn.

Forestry 1: all set Engine 5: all set

Chief Belsito will allow open burning tomorrow. The season ends on May
 1, 2012 but was closed for several days due to dry conditions.

Asst. Chief Day purchased the hammer drill for the Fire Alarm Truck.

- Station 5 needs a new pump (small). This will be purchased after July 1, 2012.
- Asst. Chief Day updated the Board on the problems found at Millbury Health Care. The alarm system was not programmed correctly and devices were numbered incorrectly. Corrections are being made and Millbury Health will notify Asst. Chief Day when they are complete. A map with device listings needs to be placed in the annunciator panel.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton made a motion to purchase a new hat for Asst. Chief Day. This was seconded by Asst. Chief Dore and carried on a 5-0 vote.
- Asst. Chief Rudge told the Board straps are needed for the fuel tank on Engine 1. Asst. Chief Rudge also said Engine 2 is sagging on the right side. This repair will have to wait until July 1, 2012.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton told the Board that extra keys have been placed in the Knox box at Cordis Mills. Apartment numbers of tenants needing assistance will be placed on each floor key.

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- Asst. Chief Hamilton updated the Board on the numerous brush fires found at the Deering Estate. The first fire was reported on April 16 by a woman jogging in the area who saw someone lighting the fires. Asst. Chief Hamilton notified Forestry Warden Bush and the State Police. Upon investigation, six other fires were found and deemed suspicious. The other incidents occurred on April 20. In total, 16 fires were found and an estimate of 10-acres were burned. Asst. Chief Hamilton said the State Forestry unit was very helpful in combating the fires. Both Grafton and Millbury Police are investigating. Asst. Chief Hamilton commended the crew at Station 3 for the excellent job they did in fighting the brush fires.
- Asst. Chief Hamilton suggested buying new foldable style pump cans.
 New cans will be purchased after July 1, 2012.

Asst. Chief Dore made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Mather R. Belsite

Pich P. Hand

Regina A. Markey, Head Clerk