

## Board of Fire Wards

April 9, 2018

Fire Wards present at the meeting were: Chief MacDonald, Cliff Plourde, Wayne Blassberg, Scott Hunter, Dan Teague and Dale Smith

Guests present were: Kaleb Jacob, Karen Scott and Bill McFadden

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance

### Public Forum

Chief MacDonald asked if there were concerns from guests present:

Kaleb Jacob showed a picture of a fire fighter and an article asking for support of the fire station that was given to him – and asked who paid for it. No one paid for it – it was a Facebook post.

Kaleb Jacob asked who paid for the postcard sent out to residents promoting the new station. Chief MacDonald responded noting that the mailing was paid for by private citizens who chose to remain anonymous. Kaleb noted that there is a law that states if two or more citizens donate their names must be given and asked if the fire wards were aware of it. Chief MacDonald said they were not aware. Kaleb commented the Board should read the law.

Kaleb Jacob filed a formal complaint regarding a face book post in which a member of the department (a Fire Captain) referred to those against the fire station as” haters.” Kaleb noted the comment was offensive and felt that the Chief should address this with the member. Chief MacDonald agreed to address facebook posts with this member and all members of the dept.

Karen Scott – Karen noted that there has not been recorded minutes on the web page since January 8. It was noted that January 22 minutes were missing and the situation would be addressed. Karen also questioned why the agenda is not posted. It was noted by Fire Ward Scott Hunter that having a printed agenda is somewhat new to the Board meetings. Chief MacDonald stated that a copy of the agenda is available at the meetings.

Karen Scott asked who the Chairman of the Board was and why it was the Fire Chief. Scott Hunter commented that the Chairman just has always been the Chief.

Karen Scott noted that several of the members of the fire department members were rude with on line postings and asked why the Board has not done anything about it. Scott Hunter explained that the Board does not handle operational issues as a general rule. Operational issues are handled by the Chief. Dan Teague noted that since this has been brought up by Karen that it will be reviewed in non public session.

The minutes of the February 12 were reviewed by the Board. Scott Hunter made the motion to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded by Wayne Blassberg. All were in favor.

Chief MacDonald noted that the Board of Fire Wards works as the Board of Directors conducting the business for the Department. He also noted that Nbfd has the lowest cost of service in the State and over the last 8 years has saved the taxpayers \$1.3 million.

#### Old Business

Chief MacDonald noted that the dept is working with a default budget – About a 7% deduction.

#### Roundtable

Dale – Dale asked for an update on the new tanker. Cliff Plourde – a member of the tanker committee- gave a summary of the direction the committee has chosen to go -taking into consideration the confines of the station and continuing to meet the current ISO rating.

Discussion followed. It was agreed that the CIP should be reviewed at a future meeting considering the versatility of the new tanker and the need for a hose truck in the future.

Scott Hunter- Scott Hunter noted the need to get back to the Planning Board regarding the revamping of the master cistern plan.

#### Public Comment

Kaleb Jacob suggested a fund be established to support safety improvements at the present station. Following discussion, The Board agreed that if Mr. Jacob wanted to pursue the feasibility of a trust fund for the purpose of making safety improvements (with the vent system a priority) that the Board would work with him.

Karen Scott asked for clarification regarding the meeting with the Planning Board. Scott Hunter clarified.

Bill MacFadden asked for information regarding cistern installation and warranties.

Chief MacDonald requested the Board go into Non-Public per RSA 91-A: 3, 11, (A), (b), (c) Personnel and Legal to discuss 3 personnel items.

Scott Hunter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Wayne Blassberg. All were in favor.