



Town of New Castle, NH

Approved Firewards Minutes of January 12, 2016 Meeting

Present: Fireward Dennis Dinsmore Chair, Fireward Reg Whitehouse, Damon Frampton, Bill Stewart, Selectboard.

In Attendance: Dave McGuckin Selectboard, Theresa Golter, Peter Rice, Tom Smith

The meeting was called to order by Dinsmore at 16:06 hrs. and all joined in with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

A motion was made by Frampton to approve the draft minutes from the November 10, 2015. Seconded by Whitehouse. Motion passed.

Fireward's Report: Chief Blanding's 6 Month Update on Weekend and Holiday Part-time Shifts - Letter
11 January 2016

From: Chief David Blanding

To: Chief Fire Ward Dennis Dinsmore

Subject: 6 Month Update on Weekend and Holiday Part-time Shifts

Per your request, the following information is provided for your perusal. In my opinion as Chief of Department, the weekend and holiday part-time shift coverage has been a complete success and a tremendous value to the town. It is certainly money well spent!

All shifts have been filled on Saturdays, Sundays and Federal Holidays, including Thanksgiving and Christmas. Members of the department have certainly stepped up and ensured that shifts were filled and the town was covered.

25 Emergency Calls occurred during these shifts. Some examples are: a serious bicycle accident on the Wentworth Bridge. A boat collision at the Wentworth Bridge resulting in a serious head injury to one of the passengers. An elderly female found by a passerby down on the ground on the side of the road with hypothermia. Two fire alarms at two separate houses within a 30 minute period that were responded to immediately by Engine 4 with a four person crew. A 30 second response time for a person found down not breathing. Mutual Aid to Rye for a person down at Odiorne State Park. A Fire Alarm at the Wentworth Hotel. An elderly person who inhaled bug spray. A broken water pipe flooding a house. A walk-in Medical Aid call at the station. All of these calls were responded to quickly and professionally.

While on duty, the members have performed vehicle maintenance and checks, equipment maintenance and checks and building maintenance. I have attached Daily Logs for every shift and a Call Summary.

They have concentrated on training and education with some senior members coming in to work with them on their qualifications. I have noticed a marked improvement of the abilities, knowledge and competence of the members, who participate in the weekend shifts, during the performance of their duties during actual operations, drills and exercises.

Overall, I think the morale of the department has improved with most members becoming more active and involved with department activities.

Sincerely, David M. Blanding

A copy of the Company Report Records by Date and a copy of the Incident Reports by Date will be provided to Stewart.

Fire Chief's Report:

Chief Blanding was not in attendance due to performing emergency repairs to Rescue 7
New Castle Fire Department Monthly Report – July 2015

1. Calls for service in December: 13 Calls for service, year to date: 201
2. Types of calls in December: 6 Medical Aid calls, 1 Mutual Aid call to Portsmouth, 5 Carbon Monoxide alarms, 1 Water Leak in a residence.
3. Average response time: 6.07 minutes.
4. Average # personnel per incident in December: 5.38 and 3.84 YTD.
5. Apparatus responding to incidents:
 - Rescue 7 responded to 10 incidents in December and 120 YTD.
 - Forestry 1 responded to 2 incidents in December and 44 YTD.
 - Engine 1 responded to 1 incident in December and 4 YTD.
 - Engine 4 responded to 4 incidents in December and 35 YTD.
 - Hose 1 responded to 1 incident in December and 2 YTD.
 - Marine 2 responded to 0 incidents December and 4 YTD.
6. Training December: 120 Man Hours. Year to date: 1590 Man Hours.
7. Public Outreach Activities in December: Santa Claus Run on Christmas Eve & Toy Collections. Participated in the Wentworth Hotel Holiday Festival of Lights. Rye Holiday Parade.
8. Mutual Aid Given in November:
 - Structure Fire at the Gaslight in Portsmouth.
9. Budget remaining on 12/31/15:
 - Fire Department: \$183,200.
 - Emergency Management: \$5,960.
10. Staffing:
 - 2 Career members and 29 Volunteer members.
11. Other activities: Department Christmas Party at KPVC
12. Areas of Concern: None

Select Board's Liaison Report:

1. It is time to prepare department budgets and Chief Blanding has been asked to provide the NCFD's budget by January 19, 2016.
2. Stewart is planning to attend a Monday Night Training
3. New Castle is hosting the Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Providence while at the PNSY for about 16 months. Contact shipyard spokesman Gary Hildreth.

Recruiting Efforts Report:

1. New member, Tom Gross, EMS and Firefighter. (Emergency Room Doctor in Dover, NH)
2. There has been an increase in recruits joining the NCFD

Unfinished Business: None at this time

New Business: None at this time

Announcements:

1. Pancake Breakfast planned for April 16th.

Public Deliberation: None at this time

Upcoming Fireward's Meeting: February 9, 2016 at 4:00 PM Town Hall

Fireward Final Comments:

1. Dinsmore inquired about McGuckin's involvement with water upgrades discussions for Wild Rose Lane. McGuckin; Dependent upon decision on bridge replacement scheduled for 2018.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 16:33 hours by Dinsmore and seconded by Whitehouse. The vote was unanimous.

Reggie Whitehouse, Secretary

New Castle Board of Firewards

Draft Minutes Submitted: Mon 2/1/2016 9:13 AM

Minutes Approved: February 11, 2016