



Town of New Castle, NH

Approved Firewards Minutes of October 13, 2015 Meeting

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

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

The meeting was called to order by Dinsmore at 16:10 hrs. and all joined in with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

A motion was made by Whitehouse to approve the draft minutes from the August 11, 2015. Seconded by Dinsmore. Motion passed.

Fireward's Report:

1. Whitehouse commented that nothing significant happened in September

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 September: 20 Calls for service, year to date: 154
2. Types of calls in September: 9 Medical Aid calls, 5 Fire Alarms, 1 Bicycle Accident, 1 Mutual Aid to Kittery, 1 Mutual Aid to Rye, 1 Public Assist, 1 reported Boat Fire, 1 Arcing Wires
3. Average response time: 5.83 minutes.
4. Average # personnel per incident in September: 4.05 and 3.54 YTD.
5. Apparatus responding to incidents:
 - o Rescue 7 responded to 11 incidents in September and 89 YTD.
 - o Forestry 1 responded to 8 incidents in September and 38 YTD.
 - o Engine 1 responded to 0 incidents in September and 3 YTD.
 - o Engine 4 responded to 0 incidents in September and 23 YTD.
 - o Hose 1 responded to 0 incidents in September and 1 YTD.
 - o Marine 2 responded to 1 incident in September and 3 YTD.
6. Training in September: 77 Man Hours. Year to date: 1160 Man Hours.
 - o 3 members attended "Engine Company Operations at Dwelling Fires" training in Dover.
 - o 6 EMTs attended a class on "Left Ventricular Assist Device" at Portsmouth Regional Hospital.
7. Public Outreach Activities in September:
 - o Engine 4 and crew on display at the Portsmouth High School Soccer Team Annual Picnic in the Commons.
8. Mutual Aid Given in September:
 - o Forest Fire on Ram Island in Kittery. Forest Fire, Washington Rd. Rye
9. Budget remaining on 9/30/15:
10. Fire Department, see accountant
11. Emergency Management, see accountant
12. Staffing:
 - o 2 Career members and 29 Volunteer members.
 - o FF2/Paramedic Brentley Childs hired fulltime by Exeter Fire Dept.
13. Areas of Concern: None

Select Board's Liaison Report:

1. Stewart mentioned that the Town's accountant has been out and the reports to Chief Blanding have not been provided for the month of September.
2. No questions to the Firewards or the Fire Department at this time.

Recruiting Efforts Report: None at this time

Unfinished Business: None at this time

New Business:

1. The LUCAS® Chest Compression System is now in service and has been utilized during a recent call. It performed as advertised.

Announcements:

1. Open House at the Fire Department is scheduled for October 18th. Food and beverages will be provided by the NCFD.

Public Deliberation:

1. Stewart, Discussion regarding recruiting during the Open House
2. McGuckin, Status of weekend coverage? Full roosters responding to several calls, qualified participants only can participate and officer participation for training sessions on equipment.
3. Smith, The payroll records for weekend coverage is accurate and delivered on time.
4. Smith, Reference of an Audit letter from the Town; "Gentlemen, Enclosed is the letter I've sent to you at the Fire Department regarding the audit. The reason it's also sent here by email is I believe you'll see this sooner than the hard copy. As written, I'd like to have this information provided at Tuesday's Fire Ward Meeting. Please let me know if you have questions of if there's anything that might delay my request. Thanks for your help with this matter. Tom Smith, Treasurer"
Response from Dinsmore; "Tom, The official answer to the auditor's request from the Firewards is "The fire dept. has no money except for the annual budget from the town." As for Fire Dept. funds pertaining to the Pancake Breakfast and Christmas Toy Fund Drive, there are none. Both fund raising events are organized by the New Castle Volunteer Firefighter's Association, a private 501(c)3. Please pass this information along. Dennis"
Whitehouse; the New Castle Volunteer Firefighter's Association files an annual report to the States Attorney General.
5. Stewart; How will the NCFD's Budget process take place this year? Are there any high dollar items planned for the CIP for 2017?
 - a. Dinsmore; as last year, two senior officers from the fire department and EMT will develop the individual budgets and provide them to the Chief and the Firewards.
 - b. Whitehouse; there are no plans to for the NCFD to add to the CIP.

Upcoming Fireward's Meeting: November 10th at 4:00 PM Town Hall

Fireward Final Comments: None at this time

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 16:45 hours by Dinsmore and seconded by Whitehouse. The vote was unanimous.

Reggie Whitehouse, Secretary

New Castle Board of Firewards

Draft Minutes Submitted: October 14, 2015

Minutes Approved: January 9, 2016