Town of Newington, NH

Board of Fire Engineers Meeting Minutes

August 7, 2019 at 1800 hours

Meeting called to order by Chair Jim Fabrizio at 1800

Present: Engineer John Klanchesser, Chairman Jim Fabrizio, Engineer Ann Hebert, A/C EJ Hoyt and Laurie Mu

Public Comment: No public present

Meeting Minutes: Chairman Fabrizio made a motion to accept meeting minutes from July 10, 2019 as written. Engineer Klanchesser seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Chiefs Report: Chairman Fabrizio made a motion to accept Engineer Klanchesser, seconded. Motion Carried 3-0

Old Business:

Comstar writeoffs –A/C Hoyt will be meeting with the town financial officer next week about outstanding balances, the end of Comstar collecting for the department and proposed changes from new ambulance billing company.

Staffing – Department manning is currently at 3 (three) people per shift. Part-time firefighters are in short supply. Two out of the three new part time hires have been offered or are top candidate candidate for full time positions elsewhere and are unlikely to stay with our department.

Lieutenant Oral Boards- All four fulltime firefighters participated in the oral boards for the Lieutenant's vacancy. Two met the qualifications for the position - Firefighter Berghorn and Firefighter Nicol. Firefighter Berghorn was determined to be the top candidate.

Apparatus Status - Engine 2 is being repaired. Increase to the repair estimate was sent to budget committee for review. No objections noted from budget commitee.

Command Car 2 – FF Connors repaired A/C Hoyt's command vehicle air conditioning (temporarily) and front struts.

New Business:

Workman's Comp – to be discussed in Non-public.

Air Gas Lease - NFD has entered into an agreement to get oxygen and nitro from Air Gas. A/C Hoyt brought to the boards attention that initial billings for the account were incorrect and the department has since fixed the issue.

Station Needs –An RFP (request for proposal) has been requested (by BOS) from Altus for what has been deemed the immediate needs of the department – negative pressure room for gear storage/maintenance, insulation, making building ADA compliant and asbestos mitigation where necessary. A/C Hoyt acknowledged the list of needs generated by the BOS and went on to add new roof, new windows, rotten trim, parking lot,

and additional bay for apparatus. A/C Hoyt noted that the sewer lines for the administrative side of the building were re-inspected and the previous report of pipe rupture or blockage have been refuted.

NH EZ-Pass - A commercial EZ-Pass account was set up which will allow the department to use the pay by plate features in other states outside of NH.

Budget -Vacation Accrual Buy Down – A/C Hoyt presented the board with a preliminary idea for the town to save money by utilizing a vacation accrual buy down. Board took information under advisement.

The Board signed Purchase Orders.

Chiefs Comments:

The town's August newsletter included photo and information on NFD's Tower Truck and also fire prevention information regarding sky lanterns. A/C Hoyt plans to address symptoms of silent heart attacks in the next newsletter.

A/C Hoyt commended the staff for the extra work performed cleaning up the training site at the transfer station and the disposal of the roof training prop from the grounds of the station.

Good of the Order: None

Non-Public Session: Engineer Hebert made a motion to enter non-public session under NH RSA 91 A - 3: (e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation at 1855. Engineer Klanchesser seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Roll call vote. Fabrizio- yes, Klanchesser – yes, Hebert- yes.

No decisions made.

Engineer Klanchesser made a motion to exit non-public session at 2015. Chairman Fabrizio seconded. 3-0. Roll call vote. Fabrizio –yes, Klanchesser –yes, Hebert - yes.

Engineer Klanchesser made a motion to seal minutes indefinitely. Engineer Hebert seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Roll call vote. Fabrizio – yes. Klanchesser – yes, Hebert -yes.

The Board voted to adjourn at 2018. Motion by Engineer Hebert , Seconded by Engineer Klanchesser Motion carries 3-0.