Enfield Fire District No. 1

Regular Commission Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m. by Vice President Donald Hayward.

Attendees for the Board:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Paul Benis  | Gary Castle |
| Patrick Droney |  |
| Maureen Brennan |  |
| William Moran |  |
| Donald Hayward |  |

Also, in attendance was Chief Edward Richards and Deputy Chief William Higgins.

**1st Public Comment:**

Debbie Chapin, Old King St. – Thanked Maureen Brennan for notifying the public via email, Facebook, Twitter, etc. of upcoming meetings and hope that the effort continues by getting large readable signs at both stations. Also, she is glad to see the posting of the Administrative Assistant and she hopes to see more of that for other openings, including the by-laws committee openings and that it includes public participation. She also inquired about the car tax monies received to the district and the money coming in from the state for qualifying accidents the District responds to on I-91. Vice President Donald Hayward advises that these will be addressed later in the meeting and if there are remaining questions, they can be addressed during the second round of public comment.

Vice President Hayward closes the first round of public comment.

Vice President Donald Hayward advises that for the reading of the June 9th, 2022 Commission meeting minutes, we will look it over ourselves rather than having it read aloud since it is lengthy. Maureen Brennan then read aloud the August 16th, 2022 special meeting minutes. Motion by Patrick Droney and second by William Moran to accept the June 9th Regular Meeting minutes and the August 16th special meeting minutes. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

The Treasurer’s Report for June, July, and August were reviewed and discussed. Maureen Brennan inquires as to the difference in Med Reimbursement Expense from the previous year. Chief Richards advises it is difficult to predict and can vary. Vice President Donald Hayward inquired about the approx. $372, 000 received under PILOT and it is decided we will asked the auditors how best to manage this line item since it was not known before the budget was set and may not be in the future. Motion by Patrick Droney and second by Gary Castle to approve the reports as presented. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

Chief’s Reports for June, July, and August were reviewed and discussed. The reimbursement from the State for the I-91 accident calls is discussed. There have been approximately 11 thus far. The reimbursement rate is $500 per accident. The Deputy Chief mentions that Donald Hayward asked this metric to be added to the Chief’s monthly report. Motion by Paul Benis and second by Maureen Brennan to approve as presented. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

The Fire Marshal’s Reports for June, July, and August were reviewed and discussed. JFK Complete, just needs the CO. Motion by Patrick Droney and second by William Moran to approve as presented. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

 The Training Officer’s Report was reviewed and discussed. Deputy Chief Higgins advised that basic Fire Fighter training sessions were held over the summer and were successful and that we are continuing to get new member applications with five new in Firefighter 1 and one in Fire Fighter 2 and two pending applications. At 9am on September 11th, 2022 there will be a 9/11 ceremony at Station 2. Deputy asked for a commissioner to speak at this event. Truck 12 is in service and there are approximately 14 people qualified on it with three more in progress. Commission asked Deputy Chief for options for the Driver Simulator and it would need $40k in software upgrades in addition to structural repairs. The Deputy Chief recommends selling the Simulator. There is going to be a large-scale SERC drill on September 17th at Camp Hartell and it is a Hazmat Drill. New Engine, the quint, is expected mid to late December. Vice President Donald Hayward inquired as to if the Deputy believes there is a significant resale value for the Stimulator and if since it was a grant, can we sell it? The Deputy advised that the required time has passed since the grant and it can be sold, and it does have value. The Commission came to a consensus supporting the sale of the Simulator. Motion by Patrick Droney and second by Paul Benis to approve the report as presented. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

**Committee Reports**

By-Law Committee -Patrick Droney advised that the By-Laws committee met three times over the summer and we have received good feedback and input from the committee including Donald Ellis and Brian Ellis and we will be sending the revised document to our attorneys for review. Maureen Brennan advised that some of the changes being made are bringing us in line with other districts and that there will be a meeting before the vote on this so that members of the district can review the revised by-laws.

Strategic Planning Committee – Vice President Donald Hayward expressed he wishes to continue the work of the Committee that Scott Prentiss had started. Maureen Brennan advised she has asked President Grady if she can lead that now and if agreeable to the Commission she will do so. It is agreed.

Station Two- Town is looking to make the two lots on Weymouth into one, and it is decided we will need clarification on what this means. Wetlands received approval. Also planning and zoning is still needed.

**Old Business**

Patrick Droney mentioned that the new Truck is impressive with what it can do.

Gary Castle advised that the fundraiser for Ben Carlton went very well.

Vice President Hayward asked for an update on the memorial bricks and Deputy Chief will check with Brian Ellis who is heading this up.

Patrick Droney asked about plaques and Maureen Brennan advised she is handling those with Admin Asst.

Vice President Hayward asked about digital signage at the stations. We will start at Station One and Maureen Brennan advised that Derek Chapin is handling the signage and will likely have an update at the next meeting.

Maureen Brennan advised we have received quotes for the website upgrade and samples and she and Patrick Droney are reviewing these. She would like to see another quote for comparison purposes. Chief Richards is pleased with current company and Maureen Brennan concurs.

Gary Castle reminded everyone of the 125th Anniversary which is to be help on Oct 14th from 6pm-11pm at LaNotte.

**New Business:**

Vice President Hayward welcomed Rebecca Luke to the department as the new Administrative Assistant.

**2nd public comment**

Debbie Chapin, Old King St. – Asks for clarification on number of I-91 calls. It is explained that it is approximately 11 calls thus far.

Scott Prentiss, Meadowlark Dr. - Advised that he had extensive plans for the digital signage and he is willing to make that available. At the

Donald Ellis, 34 Post Rd. – States he would like to see monthly fire call attendance sheets for review at each regular commission meeting. He also would like to look at the extra monies received from the perspective of how it can enhance services for the district. He states it is important, too, to consider the core group of people that keep showing up even all through COVID they never asked for anything but no one has said anything other than the Chief. He realizes this is unintentional but feels it is important to note. He said we need to see who is carrying the load. The Chief reviewed some of the scenarios with what is happening with the coverage and gave some example of what can be done to have more coverage on calls. He advised the career folks are coming back at night and it is because they care not because of an hour pay.

Ed Shirley, Missle St- Advised our district is the exception with regard to charging for site plans. A recommendation would be a flat rate and a price per thousand. It would require a district ordinance. Vice President Hayward advised to put something together for review.

Motion to go into to executive session at 8:55pm by William Moran and a second by Patrick Droney. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

Out of Executive Session at 8:58pm with no votes taken.

Motion to adjourn at 8:59pm by Patrick Droney and William Moran. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Brennan

Clerk/Treasurer