

MINUTES
Litchfield Board of Fire Commissioners & EMS
June 16, 2011 7:00 PM
Town Hall Annex, 80 Doyle Road Bantam, CT

Members Present: Chairman John Campbell, Francine Spencer, Paul Parsons, Teresa Berry
Members Absent: Sam Kinkade, Doug Hatstat
Also present: Fire Marshal Thomas O'Hare, Chief M. Berry Northfield, and Chief J. Koser Litchfield

Chairman J. Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes – A motion was made by F. Spencer and seconded by T. Berry to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2011 meeting. Passed

Public Requests/Comments – None

Commission Requests – None

Northfield Engine 1 Truck Refurbish

Chief M. Berry (Northfield) explained to the Board that the work on Engine 1 was delayed till this year due to the situation at the old station and it was best to wait till the new building was complete. Chief Berry also explained the scope of the work. Due to the issues with the last meeting the bids for the truck were not accepted and new bid requests will have to be sent out. Chairman Campbell made a note that tire for vehicles should not be paid out from capital funds as they do not meet the criteria for this expenditure. Chief Berry explained that the tires for the vehicle were in the original request for refurbishment of the vehicle. Motion was made by P. Parsons and seconded by F. Spencer to approve the request to by Northfield to send out to bid to have Engine 1 refurbished with previously approved capital monies. Passed

Report from Truck spec Committee – No Report

Budgets – Department and Capital – Chief Berry advised the Commission that Northfield will be looking to apply for a grant FEMA to fund the purchase of a new tanker for the department. If approved the cost to the Town would be approximately 5% of the FEMA approved monies. Chief Koser spoke of the FEMA program and the fact that they are prioritizing projects that have a regional impact and that SCBA's are at the top of the list. The Commission has stated that they would be looking to do a global replacement of SCBA for the Fire Departments in the near future and Chief Koser felt that we should apply for this money. The Commission agreed and asked that the Fire Departments put together a grant request.

Fire Marshal

Fire Marshal O'Hare reported that things in the office are running smoothly. He approached Jeff Crampton about the fire pond on Whiskers lane and Mr. Crampton would like to look at the pond in August to check the levels. He checked out the pond on Hemlock Hill Road and will have the area around the hydrant cleared, the town will not dredge the entire pond.

Department Physicals

Fire Marshal O'Hare reported that the physical for this year are complete. At this point the account is approximately \$3237 over budget with more bills for Northfield that have not yet been received. It is expected that the account will be over approximately \$6000 when they have been received. Finance has been notified of this and the bill will be paid after we make the yearend transfers. There seems to be some discrepancies with the members that are medically cleared and those that have not. Some may have received a physical through other departments within the town. The Fire Marshal will look into this and report back at the next meeting.

EMS Business – Nothing to report

Pension Committee – Chairman J. Campbell stated that the committee should start to look at what is needed for retention of new and present members of the volunteer services.

Communications – It was again brought to the attention of Chairman J. Campbell that a request to cover the cost of prescription glasses damaged at a fire scene was presented to the Town, but due to the \$1000 deductible they would not be covered. The board requested that a town policy be researched on the loss or damage of personal property at emergency scenes or drills. It was also suggested to find out what the costs would be if a rider for just this purpose could be obtained. Chairman Campbell stated that the town had previously held a policy that would have covered the cost of these incidental replacements but the Selectmen at the time revised their insurance policies and found that the cost of the policy was more expensive than the claims that were presented to the town. At the time the selectmen advised the Fire Companies that they would cover the cost of these claims through the operating budget as this would be a savings to the town.

With no other business to bring before the Board a motion was made by T. Berry seconded by F. Spencer to adjourn the meeting at 7:35. Passed



**John Campbell, Chairman
Board of Fire Commissioners & EMS**

7-21-11

Date