

NEWTOWN BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Regular Monthly Meeting
Botsford Fire and Rescue
November 24, 2014

Commissioners Present: Bolmer, Cragin, Goosman, Jossick, Manna, Nezvesky and Whelan
Marshals Present: Clark, Frampton, Halstead and Ober
Chiefs Present: Ciaccia, Corbo, Halstead and Basso

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

Chairman's Comments: None

Minutes:

Motion: Goosman moved that the minutes of October 20, 2014, be accepted as presented.

Seconded: Bolmer

Motion passed unanimously

Motion: Goosman moved that the minutes of Annual Dinner Meeting of October 27, 2014, be accepted as presented.

Seconded: Jossick

Motion passed unanimously

Correspondence to BOFC

<u>Date</u>	<u>From/To</u>	<u>Subject</u>
10/27/14	Halstead/Manna (on behalf of combined chiefs)	Additional Paid Driver Budget Line Item Increase by \$26K Create Turnout Gear Repair Account
10/14	Corbo/Manna	NH&L - SCBA non-compliant with NFPA Standards

Correspondence from BOFC

<u>Date</u>	<u>From/To</u>	<u>Subject</u>
None		

Under a separate subject, Manna and Cragin met with First Selectman Llodra and Finance Director Tait. The previously requested increase for DFM Frampton was denied by First Selectman Llodra. FS Llodra suggested that a request for DFM Frampton's increase be submitted (with corresponding backup) in the 2015/2016 budget.

Public Participation: Harvey Pessin of 59 Main Street, Newtown, CT, asked the BOFC to consider changing the protocol of sounding the siren at NH&L. Mr. Pessin commented that there is no standard set for when the siren is activated and that it seems to be used randomly. Mr. Pessin said the alarm is quite disturbing to him and his neighbors. Mr. Pessin offered a compromise to the BOFC that the alarm be set off every Wednesday at noon, start of the labor day parade or for any emergencies, such as a tsunami, earthquake or hurricane.

Chairman Manna stated that the BOFC will take it into consideration, and will get back to Mr. Pessin if the current protocol will be changed.

Chief Halstead stated he would like to ask Maureen Will to stop blowing the siren at the Sandy Hook Station. Chief Corbo would like the siren to continue as it does alert his department members to calls.

Marshal's Report for the month of October

- Halstead reported there were 117 calls, 535 incidents, and 392 hours worked.
- Hose testing completed except for Botsford. Very little hose lost this year.
 - Halstead:
 - Table Top Exercise – Conference call
 - Complaint at 31 The Boulevard and 71 Great Ring Road
 - Tent inspection at 4 Primrose Street
 - Meet with SHES Design Committee
 - SHES – Startup Meeting
 - SHES – met with Architect
 - Frampton:
 - Fire Drill – Children's Adventure Center
 - Aquarian Extinguisher Training – 24 Commerce Road
 - Reed School – event check
 - Ober:
 - Extinguisher Training – Waldorf School Staff
 - Assist inspection Advanced Fusion and Braun Moving
 - Clark:
 - Extinguisher Training – Waldorf School Staff
 - Poster Contest

Committee Reports

Combined Chiefs Meeting:

Chief Halstead stated that three major issues were discussed:

- The additional paid driver addressed in correspondence.
- Turnout gear – the chiefs would like to see the town pay for repairs to the gear. This would help alleviate some of the departments' costs.
- Dispatch procedures – Halstead will meet with Will and Nute and go over the items that the chiefs would like to change. He will submit them to the Chiefs for their review before discussing.

In addition, they discussed future replacement of air packs for each department as most of the packs will become out of compliance at the same time. At this point most of the departments have received FEMA grants for airpack upgrades, however NHL was unsuccessful in obtaining such a grant and will need a large quantity of airpacks in the near future to remain in compliance. Forms stating inventory from each department should be completed for submission to the BOFC or its designee. Perhaps in the future the town could apply for grant money to obtain the air packs needed for the departments for replacement. As well, the idea of leasing airpacks was also discussed as an option to replace the non compliant units.

Truck – Jossick reported:

- #226 was involved in an accident. Paperwork was filed with the town.
- #331 has three major repair issues: rebuild gearbox, rebuild pump and new generator needed. The amount of quote is \$29,992.02. The gear box will be fixed first. The pump will be rebuilt and the generator will be sent out to bid.

Budget – will discuss under New Business.

No reports for:

Policies and Procedures

Radio

NUSAR

Hydrant

NSHFC – Cragin advised all fire departments that there will available to members Mental Health First Aid sessions on January 10th and January 17th in Newtown.

Purchasing Agent Report - see attached.

Old Business:

Hawleyville OIC Truck Replacement

Manna, along with Cragin, discussed their conversation with FS Llodra and Finance Director Tait regarding the letter presented by Chief Basso. Manna reported that the FS indicated that the money in the budget for the new OIC vehicle for Hawleyville could not be used for the land they recently acquired. Manna also reported on the request to change the spec to a SUV. FS Llodra indicated that the intention of the OIC vehicles was to be one standardized spec for all the departments and if Hawleyville chooses not to accept from the town the vehicle they requested, than the program for those vehicles will be disbanded.

Motion: Cragin made a motion to have the Chairman call a Special Meeting next Tuesday, December 2nd, for the sole purpose of moving and acting upon Hawleyville's truck purchasing decision.

Seconded: Goosman

Yays - Bolmer, Cragin, Goosman, Jossick, Nezvesky and Whelan

Manna – Nay

Motion passed

New Business:

Budget 2015-2016 – Nezvesky thanked Burton and the Chiefs for assisting the Budget Committee in completing a draft of the budget.

Motion: Cragin makes a motion to add to the Special Meeting discussion and action on the 2015/2016 budget. The meeting will take place at NH&L 7:00 p.m.

Seconded: Nezvesky

Motion passed

Training Requests: None

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Terry Hennessey
Secretary

NEWTOWN BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

PURCHASING AGENT REPORT

November 2014

For month of October:

- 41 Hours worked
- 77 Emails were received
- 39 Emails were sent
- 27 Purchase Orders were issued
- 90 Phone calls/texts from departments & vendors

Unication pagers are in and engraved and are being programmed this week

Hose Testing is complete with the exception of 551 and 559. This apparatus had to leave for a call. The testing company will be back in town on 12/12 to finish. The hose failure records have been passed out to each department. We had less failed hose than in past years. 46 lengths of hard suction were tested. All passed.

Dodgingtown's XTS 1500 portables have come in

I completed the spreadsheet for all the Town SCBA based on the recent Flow test results. It shows # packs per company, along with the unit's age.

The Finance Department has instructed me to purchase all equipment on the Capitol Bid List and forego the bidding process due to the fact that most items were either under \$2000 or proprietary in nature. This process will be completed in the next two weeks

All of the fire houses have had their alarm systems serviced. Sandy Hook and Hawleyville had phone issues due to the fact that Frontier put long distance blocks on. The alarm company had them removed for us.

I met with the Budget Committee to go over historical spending

I had conversations with Gowan & Knight concerning several large ticket issues on Engine 331.

I have had requests from a couple of Departments for non-traditional EMS supplies which if purchased would have a substantial impact to that account. How would the Board like to proceed?
