



BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
TOWN OF NEWTOWN

Regular Meeting  
August 23, 2021 at 7:00 pm

Hawleyville Fire Dept.  
34 Hawleyville, Newtown, Ct. 06470

**Meeting Opened By:** Tim Whelan, Vice Chairman opened the meeting at 7:00 pm and the pledge of allegiance.

**Commissioners Present:** Tim Whelan, Jeff Dugan, Brian Sharnick, Ron Bolmer & Jay Nezvesk

**Chiefs Present** - Chris Ward, Paul Basso & Steve Murphy

**Marshals-** Rich Frampton, David Ober, Steve Murphy & Jami Zapata

**CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:** None

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** July 29, 2021 Meeting-

Ron Bolmer stated the under Radio /Hydrant report it should have been listed that Rob Sibley was supposed to look at was Gracemore Rd. and not Glenmour Rd.

Ron Bolmer then made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected.

Jeff Dugan Seconded

Motion Passed unanimously

**COMMUNICATIONS-**None

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION-** None

**REPORTS:**

**Fire Marshal:** See attached -was presented by FM Frampton.

**Purchasing Agent:** None starting to change things over to Dave Ober. Some of the Capital have been delivered or on order. Wrapping up last budget year (Sandy Hooks computer issues pushed their Pay Per Call).

**Combined Chiefs-** Steve Murphy read Bill Hallstead's Notes

**Meeting held on 8/4/21 at Dodgingtown Fire Station:**

1. Starting 9/1/21 a new dispatch for Structure fire will start- Instead of setting off 4 individual tones the ALL CALL will be activated, the first 4 companies will respond as usual and the 5<sup>th</sup> company will go on standby at their station, should the fire be upgraded to a working fire then the 5<sup>th</sup> company will send its tanker to the scene and their pumper to the scene.
2. Dispatch will be giving the type of incident of incident involved, such as smoke in the basement, outlet on fire etc., instead of just saying structure fire.
3. Also starting on 9/1/21- On MVA's where the PD has been on scene for 15 minutes or longer and an evaluation is requested Dispatch will tone NVAC to the scene and the District Fire Co. will go on standby at their station.

4. Discussed going to a 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> alarm, each company to look at.
5. Combined training- discussed- good idea for CME's, Bloodborne Pathogens and other annual training that is a requirement.

## **STANDING COMMITTEES**

**PPE & Policy** – Tim asked if the Budget Monitoring Policy had been reviewed. Brian said that they had circulated it around for review, they will bring it to next meeting.

**Radio & Hydrants** – Ron reported that the Ponds (Gracemore and Currituck) he is still researching and talking with Rob Sibley with Land Use Dept. We may need to need to hire a surveyor and I will report back to the commission when we get information.

Ron also reported that the suppression tank at 3 Glenmour, He has an issue only finding one manhole and hasn't found the second. The owner of the property that the easement is on was upset if the trees need to be dug up. He may have to hire someone to dig down to find the second manhole, a guy from the Highway Dept. may be able to dig down with a posthole digger-

Cleaning the tank can cost up to \$3,000.00+ inspection, cleaning etc.

As far as the repairs on the other tanks that are leaking- there is still the original contractor that would inspect the tanks for \$5500.00.

**Radio Sub Committee-** Jeff Dugan read notes from Bill Halstead on the Radio Project

1. Equipment for all towers in staging at NORCOM
2. Fiber to all sites, will be brought in to cabinets once all equipment is installed.
3. Meeting at Eden Hill site on Thursday 8/19/21 with contractors etc.
4. May need some fill for Eden Hill site from Highway.
5. Ferris Rd. site, P.O's for generator & civil work issued.
6. Dinglebrook site, P.O.s for Centech & equipment cabinet issued.
7. All other sites awaiting equipment & fiber hookups.
8. P.O's issued to Centeck, Crown Castle & SBA for their work.
9. May need to use the towns portable generator at Ferris Rd. site when cut over takes place.
10. Appears budget for Phase 1 is on target.
11. All Mutual Aid towns have been notified that we are changing over our radio to digital over the next several months.

Paul Basso asked if they could purchase a triband radio to put into the tanker (339) instead of putting an old one and then changing it out when the new radios are purchased and issued. Tim said that he thought they should wait and see in the near future.

## **Truck-**

Tim reported-Pump on 221 has been repaired.

Hawleyville's Tanker is almost complete- Tim Whalen, Paul Basso and Don Digioia will be going out to do final inspection Tuesday Aug 31, - Sept 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Budget** – No Report

**Technology Sub-Committee-** No report

(H&L has questions on the certain sections of new software)

Rich Frampton brought up that he was cc'd on an email To Dan Rosenthal asking for a meeting pertaining to Community Connect, is this necessary being we already have CODE RED and SMART 911 that residents are already being encouraged to sign up for. It also has a \$2500.00 fee (500.00 per Company). I know not all Fire Companies are interested in doing this.

**NUSAR-None**

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** CIP

Ron Bolmer made a motion to increase the CIP amounts by \$50,000 for scheduled replacement of fire apparatus and generator and transfer switches from 2022/2023 till 2029/2030, this is due to price and material increases.

a second by Jeff Dugan

There was discussion: It's all about price increases, per item for Apparatus and Generator and transfer switches.

Chief Murphy Asked about increases for their 2029-2030 addition \$475,000.00,

Ron Bolmer amended his motion to include Dodgingtown Addition by \$50,000.00. with increases as seen fit in the years to come.

Passed unanimously

Jeff Dugan made a motion to add \$1,200,000.00 for Hawleyville to put an addition on their Fire House building which will consist of a bay on the far side of existing bays and 16 feet bump out off the back of existing building for offices and Gym.

It was discussed that this would need to be put in the 2030-2031 CIP

Ron Bolmer 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Passed unanimously

Jeff Dugan also stated that one of Hawleyville members gear was stolen from his locked shed, They have a Police Report. It was suggested that Hawleyville put it through their insurance.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** If any dept. needs to update their apparatus Knox Box (delete, add or needs it reprogrammed) to let the Fire Marshal's office know of the changes and they will make arrangements with the Towns IT department.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting

By Jeff Dugan

Seconded by Ron Bolmer

Passes unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 7:33pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Nancy Schreiner, BOFC Clerk