

MINUTES OF THE 871ST BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, OCTOBER 06, 2015

President Rob Shillington called the meeting to order at 19:03 hours.

Board Members present: J. Barton, M. Trick, J. DiPace, J. Boullie, M. Caron, , M. Galliher, J. Kowalczyk, B. Mansfield, R. Shillington, L. Solari, Excused: n/a.

Other Members Present: A. Corrado, S. Gottlieb, S. Jansen, J. Speich.

Member Comments:

- R. Shillington said a draft of the capital budget was submitted October 15th. It requested money for a town-wide building committee, new apparatus, new facilities, and SCBA.
- R. Mansfield suggested that members go to FireHero.Org to see a video of the annual convention meeting. Also, mentioned the necessity of sprucing up Company 1.
- J. Barton wanted the board to find out how much it would cost to get the carpet replaced and furniture cleaned in the recreation room.

Board Member Comments:

Minutes of the 870th meeting were reviewed. One change was requested to the name of Ramona Mansfield. A motion was made by J. Boullie to accept the changes. J. Barton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Secretary's Report: Jean Barton

- The "Thank You" cards from Grace Bianchi and Rick Solari were read and acknowledged.

Oath of Office: William "Tad" Green was sworn in to the board.

Town Representative's Report: Jamie DiPace

- We received a \$2500 check from the Home Builder's Association.
- The Verizon contract is moving forward. The contract will bring in \$6000 each year for up to twenty (20) years. It can be renewed every five (5) years.
- The process for the fire training facility is continuing. Farmington is offering t-shirts and hats as fundraising incentives. The ground-breaking ceremony will be on October 29th, 2015.
- Jamie presented and discussed the latest master plan for the development of the center of Town. The dollar investment would be \$250 million, which would add 30 new buildings.
- The American Red Cross is making plans to give out free smoke detectors and discuss fire safety in town. He does not feel as though this is appropriate for them to take on alone.

Treasurer's Report: Joe Kowalczyk

- Total cash in the corporate account is \$887,000. Of this amount, \$113,000 is unrestricted. There are no donated funds that are still unrestricted, because they were issued in a check for the Live Burn.
- The only remaining Live Burn funds are considered to be "Board Restricted," so the Board can decide to change their designation at any time.
- The Corporation's income is running positive, to date, at a total of \$36,000. Income from the golf event is a net of \$11,000. We have only spent \$65,000 of the \$663,000 in the annual budget. Last year at this time, we had spent \$63,000.

Committee Reports:

- Jean mentioned that the Annual Dinner is coming up. The goal is to get invitations mailed this week.
- On October 24th there will be a car show for the new training facility.
- The 75th Anniversary meeting will be on October 13th at 7 p.m.

Chief's Report: Michael Trick

- November 19th is the Hartford County Dinner at Company 1.
- Headquarters is an official polling location. One of the Registrars of Voters was concerned about the lack of handicapped access through the back door. As a result, Public Works demolished the old patio and repaved it to make the back exit more accessible. He will also raise the issue of the front stairs as one to be addressed.
- The Live Burn event went well.
- At the Officer's meeting, a proposal was made that the Fire Department change from a strictly volunteer staff, to a "paid per call" system. AVFD is not on par with other towns with the benefits/compensation that members receive.
- The Town sent out a Request for Proposals (RFP) on a new emergency radio system. Tom sent out the RFP to 12 national business contacts of his as well. We are hoping that the RFP process will produce many submissions.
- There is a possibility of opening up the Clam Bake to families. The benefit of this change is that it would enhance recruitment and retention. There are several pros and cons with this idea. Members should take the next few months to seriously consider this possibility.

Old Business:

- Effort should be made to advertise about the Fire Department so the two empty board seats can be filled. Applications are due October 16th at 16:00. Also, during this time we should reexamine the structure of the board, and reconsider the need for so many members/positions.

New Business:

- An antenna booster from Verizon will be added to the utility pole across from Marshalls (at the Nod Brook Mall). Revenue from this arrangement will be \$6000 annually. The contract period is 5 years; renewable at the end of that period. The out of pocket cost of legal fees will be \$2500. A motion was made by R. Solari to accept the Verizon agreement. M. Caron seconded. The motion passed.
- The Medical Officer discussed the success of the Health and Wellness Program. The program has affected the culture within the whole department. It includes training, candidate physicals, vaccinations, workplace injuries, cancer screenings, as well as physical fitness of the members. The Wellness Program is focusing on combatting The Big Three: Cancer, Heart Disease, and Suicide Prevention. The broad scope of the program covers a 10-year focus on retention, recruitment, retirement, and replacing personnel. (1) Requests that before the year is over a resolution is drafted that the board will show support for the program. (2) Also requesting support for the Peer Fitness program. Would like trainers to get some type of point reimbursement as an incentive. The Trainers will become more visible by wearing red and white shirts. (3) Third request is for a firefighter occupational evaluation process so that the individual will know how well they are doing compared to a group of their peers. Dr. Corrado wants to send two peer trainers to a Fitness Center for formal International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) certification (\$1000/person) that lasts 2 years.

A motion to adjourn was made by J. Barton. J. Boulie seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 21:05.