

## MINUTES OF THE 878<sup>th</sup> BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 5, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President Robert Shillington at 19:05.

**Board Members Present:** J. Barton, M. Caron, J. DiPace, M. Galliher, W. Green, J. Kowalczyk, R. Mansfield, R. Shillington, R. Solari and M. Trick.

**Other Members Present:** A. Corrado, S. Jansen and Dave Theriault.

### Comments from Members:

- Sue Jansen expressed concern about the financials being more transparent. The President stated that the Board feels that the financials are very transparent and that they are put out before every Corporation meeting and that Joe Kowalczyk always asked if there are any questions on the financials.

### Eagle Scout Project Presentation: Christen Frost

- The first project that he suggested was to do a Memorial Wall located on the grass by the stairs at Company 1. It would start at the sidewalk and continue to the wall. This project would entail having a wall built with brick facing and also selling bricks to make a walk way. After project was completed it would be turned over to the fire department. Rough estimate is about \$2,400. The Board members questioned Christian on the scope of the project being too big for him to take on and asked if there was another project that he had in mind.
- The second project would be to identify all hydrants by painting an H with an arrow or something like this in the middle of the road with paint. The Board thought that this project was important and something that can be completed by Christian.
- These projects will be brought under new business.

Minutes of the April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved with a motion from Ramona Mansfield and seconded by Joe Kowalczyk.

### Treasurer's Report: Joe Kowalczyk

- Corporation:
  - There is total cash in the Corp. of \$513k for the month down from \$572k which is almost completely due to budget checks and Live Burn Expenses of \$57k for the month as the Corporation saw limited activity of its own money (deposits and expenses). The breakdown of the cash balance held is the following:
    1. Encumbered Funds of \$20k
    2. Town of Avon Grant Money of \$340k
    3. Live Burn Funds of \$44k (there is now zero remaining from donation)
    4. Corporate Funds of \$109k that are free of restrictions
  - We still remain very quiet as we had no major expenses and no major fundraising without the letter campaign. Again, we continue to show a small loss but this will be gone once the letter is released.
- Budget:
  - We spent \$36k (\$28k in prior year for the month). Overall we have spent \$324k of \$642k. Tracking it by percentage, we are at 49% of our spending compared to 49% in prior year. Tracking exactly the same to the 100<sup>th</sup> decimal place
- Monthly News and Notes:
  - This item from last month is still outstanding and in process. (***We will be issuing new credit cards, reviewing who has credit cards and the limit needed. We are also increasing the overall Department limit and moving to a \*Reward Bonus Card\* with even greater rewards if we spent more than \$20k a year (we do). It has no annual fee also.***)
  - This item from last month is still outstanding and in process. (***We will also be consolidating our credit card payment service that we currently accept with Simsbury Bank and our lockbox provider to reduce cost and provide simpler reporting.***)

- The Town of Avon has selected Blum Shapiro as its auditor again. This means we will not be having an audit done due to the high cost.

#### **Town Representative's Report: Jamie DiPace**

- Jamie has been meeting with the developer that wants to put 20 houses off of Sylvan with an emergency access road to Jackson. The houses would be 2300 to 2500 sq. ft. with 25 ft. apart. This is not affordable housing. It is what they call work force housing, but they will sell for \$400,000. If the town does not approve than the developer can use State Statue Chapter 8 30G and if that is the case then he can put more homes in the same area.

Ramona brought before the Board a question from Assistant Chief Speich, he asked her to bring to the meeting. He would like to know if the Board would support a Live in program at Company 3 for any firefighters in the department. The Board would like to have someone look into this with Assistant Chief Speich. Matt Caron will work with him and do a proposal to present to the Board,

#### **Chief's Report: Michael Trick**

- Getting pricing for some type of container to put all the gear in so that it will be out of the cage and into a better environment. The money for a container will come out of the operation budget.
- Chief met with Alex, Bruce Williams and Bob Theriault to discuss what stations will be getting fixed with the \$100,000. It looks like Company 4 will use up most of the money to get the floor shored up and all the other problems that are there. One thing the Chief did stress was Company 4 does need a shower. Also discussed was the old M.H. Rhodes building which we were supposed to have our own secure section and the down spouts at Company 2. Will try to meet every quarter to make sure things are getting done.
- Chief has asked for a revised Plan for the department. Rob, Jamie, Steve Kushner and the Chief met to look at the Plan for the department from 2006. It is a shame because everything that was in the plan in 2006 is still what we need. Rob will ask the planning committee to work on a draft to be submitted,
- The Chief would like the Board to approve paying the registration fee for all members that are going to do the stair climb.
- Stair Climb Results: Peter Delap - 1st in age group – 9:10 Dave Costill - 2nd in age group - 9:18 Ramona Mansfield - 1st in age group - 11:48 and Tom Sherber - 1 in age group - 6:24

#### **Unfinished Business:**

- By-Law Article V Vote – The Board discussed the membership vote for next Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. The Board discussed that there will be questions at the meeting and also maybe some discussion. Rob will try to keep order and let the discussion proceed as long as they don't get too long.

Ramona made a motion to go into Executive Session before discussing new business. This was seconded and approved. Went into Executive Session at 20:30  
Came out of Executive Session at 20:36

#### **New Business:**

- Neighborhood Assistance Proposal – Mike Galliher is submitting the following list of energy efficient projects.
  - Company 2 new insulated roof
  - Mack Garage Door
  - 3 new windows at Company 2
  - Company 2 & 3 new appliances
  - Company 1 and 3 new boilers
- Mike Galliher made a motion to bring into New Business discussion of the Eagle Scout projects with Joe seconding.
- After a lot of discussion of the two projects it was decided to let Christian Frost know that they would like the hydrant locations painted on all neighborhood streets not state roads. **Adjourned: 21:04 (GB)**