

MINUTES OF THE 894th CORPORATION MEETING July 10, 2023

President Gina Kline called the meeting to order at 19:00
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Present: 50 Absent: 25

Introduction of New Members and Member Recognition

- Garrett Long was moved from Probationary member status to Regular member status.
- Ian Doukas has joined the department. He was an Explorer.
- Eoin Mogilewsky-Wilson is a new Probationary member.
- Haley Schuntermann is a new Explorer.
- John Ryan retired from the department.
- Ethan Gillard has resigned from the department.
- Captain Andrew Bloom has retired from the department.
- Steve McMahon has resigned from the department.

Oath of Office:

- The following officers took the Oath of Office.
 - Matt Polesel took the Oath of Office as a new Lieutenant of Company 3.
 - Dave Theriault took the Oath of Office as the new Captain of Company 3.
 - Peter Tedone took the Oath of Office as a new Lieutenant of Fire Police.

Jack McGuire made a motion to accept the 893rd Corporation minutes with Torri Haskins seconding. Motion passed.

Presidents Report – Gina Kline

- The board is looking to align both the Operation Budget and the Corporation Budget so that both will run from July 1 through June 30. Assistant Treasurer Steve Gwizdak is working with the accountant that does the Corporation's 990 tax form to see if he would be able to do this, which will mean the accountant will do two 990 returns one for the Corporation to cover the timeframe from November 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, and the other for the Corporation from November 1, 2021, through October 31, 2022. Steve will report back to the board on this item.
- On July 11, 2023, the Board of Directors will be holding a special board meeting to discuss the Member Survey that is part of the CGR report. This is an open meeting and anyone may attend. The board is hoping to work on the survey to see what can be addressed.
- Jamie DiPace, Jim Speich and Chip Carpenter are working on a form to do the chief appraisal. They will report back to the board.
- Annual Dinner – President Gina Kline and Vice President Nancy Crozier will meet with Jean Barton to go over the guest list.
- The board asked Robert Theriault to get quotes to replace the generator at Company 2. It was found that the generator needed to be replaced when it needed service recently and was told it needed to be replaced. So far, the board has received quotes ranging from 18,000 up to \$30,000 depending on what type of generator is purchased.

Secretary Report: Kristen Shaw for Chip Carpenter

- From the Avon High School PTO for the department's participation in the senior parade.
- Exeter Rhode Island Fire Department thanking the department for their support during their wildfire.

Treasurer's Report: Kristen Shaw

- Total restricted cash position in May 2023 is \$35,383 higher as compared to May 2022.
- Total unrestricted cash position in May 2023 is \$8,918 lower as compared to May 2022.
- Donations and Fundraising are \$3,108 higher from 11/1/22-5/31/23 as compared to the same period in 2022.
- Corporate Expenses (Non-grant expenses) are \$19,454 less in 2023 from 11/1/22-5/31/23 as compared to the same period in 2022.
- Avon Grant (budget) Expenses are \$106,503 less from 11/1/22-5/31/23 as compared to the same period in 2022.

Town Representative Report: Jim Speich

- The town has put together the building planning committee. The members from the fire department are as follows: President Gina Kline, Jamie DiPace, Chief Bruce Appell and Jim Speich. Jim Speich is the chairperson. The committee met for an introductory meeting. At this meeting they decided they would put together a Request for Qualifications to be sent out to architects. Hoping to get these back by August to go over and pick the 5 best architects so the committee could meet with them,

AV-2 Tom Kline

- The radio project is moving along. There will be a meeting with Motorola on August 1 to go over their proposal for the cost of new radios and pagers.
- There have been some problems with the dumpsters at all companies, especially at Company 4. Citizens are dropping of their garbage and leaving it in front of the dumpster. The dumpsters have locks on them and should be locked.

AV-3 Joe Speich

- Engine 9 has been sold.
- Engine 13 has some drafting issues. Joe is working in trying to figure out a solution. Just make sure if you take Engine 13 to a call that the call does not need drafting.
- We are starting the new budget and there will be purchases of new equipment.
- Engine 11 will be getting a new fan. It has been ordered.
- Engine 11 will be getting new struts,
- Company 4 has been trying out new battery operated chainsaws. I have received favorable feedback from the members. Will look into purchasing more of these.
- SOGs are done and Chief Appell is looking for them over. Once he has approved them, they will be printed out and given to each company to keep at their station.

AV-4 Aaron Gelber

- There will be training for stabilization which will be in classroom format on July 17, 2023. The practical will be on July 22, 2023
- Firefighter I classes. If anyone is interested, please contact Deputy Chief Gelber.
- There was not enough interest in an in-house training for EMT or Firefighter I
- In August there will be a basic pump class. The date is not known at this time.

Lieutenant Ray Crozier

- The Hydra-Ram has been fixed.

Committee Reports

- Community Outreach- Dennis Bianchi
 - Did the little league jamboree. Gave out items for fire prevention.
 - Jefferson Fry fundraiser was a big success.
 - The Food Drive at the Simsbury Stop and Shop was well attended by our member. Did really well.
 - Did rehab at the Memorial Day Parade
 - The Roaring Book School did a fire truck ride to school. Dennis did get a member to drive a truck.
 - Roaring Brook School PTO did an event and Dennis was able to get someone to bring a truck to this event. This event was very well attended.
 - Dennis finished teaching in the schools and will be working on teaching again in the fall.
 - August 26th Carr Hardware is having an event and requested a fire truck and some members to help him. They will also be grilling in the green egg cooker,
 - September 9, 2023, will be a town sponsored touch a truck at Thompson Brook School from 9 am till noon.
- Good and Welfare- Dennis Bianchi
 - Sent a gift card to Lynn Sedlak after her surgery.
 - Sent a gift card to Erin McCall who was recovering from a medical issue.
 - Jamie DiPace has reached his 50th year as a member of the department.
- Recruitment – Dave Theriault
 - We have received seven applications since May.
 - The Clambake will be September 3rd.
 - The Clambake committee will be meeting next Wednesday July 19, 2023, at Company 3 at 6:30 pm.

Old Business:

- Lifetime Tax Abatement – Eligibility procedure
 - Now that we have the Member In Good Standing approved the Retention Committee and the Policy taskforce is working on the Lifetime Tax Abatement. One of the qualifying requirements is to run a report on the past 5 years of a member that will be eligible for the lifetime tax abatement. From this report an average will be decided and that will be what the member will receive. President Gina Kline told the membership that the ordinance has to change to state that after the 25 years if a member chooses to stay active, they will be vested and not penalized if they cannot meet the Member in Good Standing requirement.
- AOG MEM-3 Member in Good Standing was approved by the board at the June 29th meeting. Copies were printed out for any member that would like to take one. This AOG was also sent out to Avonfire.

Other Business:

- A thank you from Jamie DiPace to Dave Theriault and Nick Mathein for having him acknowledged for his 50 years on the department, They had this announced from the reviewing stand when the department marched by. They are located next to Munson's Chocolates.
- Erin McCall told the members that the manager at Playa Bowls has offered member a 10% discount of orders. They just have to mention they are with the fire department.
- Attendance Award: \$10.00 won by Ryan Bagley
- Pot o" Gold – \$35.25 won by Jamie DiPace
- Next meeting: June 12, 2023, 7:00 p.m.
- Pot O' Gold - \$10.40 Steve Gottlieb
- Attendance - \$10.00 Peter Delap

Meeting adjourned at 20:00 p.m. (GB)