

INFORMATIONAL NOTES August 14, 2023

There was no quorum to hold a corporation meeting.

President Gina Kline told the members there was no quorum to hold an official meeting. She said she would just inform the membership what the board has been working on and Chief Appell will let the members know items that he feels they should know.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Membership Report:

- Ryan Bagley has resigned from the department.
- Frank Lupis has resigned from the department.
- There are new applications in the process.

Oath of Membership:

- The following Probationary Members took the Oath of Membership
 - Eoin Mogilewsky-Wilson
 - Jamison Appell

Member Comments:

- Brian Baldwin talked about the 9/11 ceremony which will be held on Monday September 11, 2023, on the town green, weather permitting. It will start at 8:00 am. Members should arrive by 7:30 am
- There will be a memorial run from the Church of St. Ann to Company 1 that morning. The run will start at 6:30. If anyone is interested in running, please let Brian Baldwin know.

Board Update – Gina Kline

- On July 11, 2023, the board held a special board meeting to look over the CGR survey the members filled out. The board wanted to concentrate on three items they felt needed to be addressed. They are as follows:
 - Better communications from the board and officers to the members.
 - Better leadership from officers and board.
 - Encourage all members to serve as mentors for new or less experienced members.
- One way to communicate to the members is for the board to have an article in the running card to keep the membership up to date with what the board is working on.
- President Kline also asked the members of each station to help new members get acclimated with the equipment and make them feel welcome.
- The CPA contacted to do the Corporation taxes has filed the 990 tax return for the fiscal year ending 10/31/2022 and will be doing another 990 forms for the Corporation from 11/1/2022 through 6/30/2023 so that the Corporation's fiscal year will now be the same as the money we receive from the town.
- Assistant Treasurer, Steve Gwizdak, has started the process of changing the corporation from a 501c4 to a 501c3 which will open up more opportunities for grants and also for donation to be matched by companies that have that capability.
- AOG CM-1 was changed to include information on FOI protocols so any new board members will be informed on these regulations.
- August 9 Special Board Meeting:
 - Open Board Seat – The board accepted the resignation with regret from Chip Carpenter which left an open board seat.
 - Explorer Reorganization – The board felt that the Explorers should be under the direction of the chief as another line company. The board does not need to be in charge of the Explorers. Since the Explorers are trained in the operation of the department and when they are needed, they can perform as support members.

Correspondents: Kristen Shaw

- Chief Appell received an email from a citizen on Morningside Court thanking the members for being attentive and caring during their stove fire.

Financial Update: Gina Kline

- The town grant money and the Corporation money are now in one budget which will make it easier for reporting the financial reports.

President Kline's Report on Building Committee

- Building Committee – The committee has sent out to architectural and engineering firms a request for qualifications. 9 firms have sent back their qualifications. The next step is for the committee to look over the qualifications. Possible make their selection sometime in September.

AV-1 Chief Appell

- The building committee will be ranking the firms that responded to maybe 4 or 5 to interview and send out RFP for pricing which is the first phase of the building process.
- Chief's car – There were very few cars on the market that had everything the department was looking for. Most of the funds for the car were from the 2022/2023 fiscal year encumbered funds, with some from the Lion's club hero dinner donation of \$9,000 and around \$4,000 from this year's fiscal budget. It doesn't have a command center but that can be put in at a later date.
- The Firestone building is under construction. The bears that were part of the building have been given to the department to do what we want with them.
- Training
 - Starting September 1, the training department is looking into once a month during the week try to do training during the week and weekend training to help members who can't do Monday night drills.
 - This fall there will be Firefighter I classes starting up. If you are interested in taking these classes, please contact Deputy Chief Gleber.

Committee Reports:

- Community Outreach – Dennis Bianchi
 - August 26, 2023, fundraising at Carr Hardware.
 - September 9th Touch a Truck. Chief Appell told the members that this was going to be in conjunction with the Horse Guard. Chief Appell will get more information.
- Clambake – Dave Theriault
 - If you haven't RSVP yet there are cards in the foyer. Please fill one out. Thank you to Carol Baldwin for being available before the meeting to get members to RSVP before the meeting.

New Business:

- Open Board Seats/ AOG CM-2
 - The board voted that since there will be 2 open board seats in November, they voted to suspend AOG CM-2 so that they could look at AOG JD-1 to see if the minimum qualifications need to be changed to allow more members who are interested in being a board member a chance to meet these qualifications.
 - If any member has suggestions for this AOGs minimum qualifications please let President Kline know.
 - President Kline explained what the board does for the department. The board looks ahead to make sure the chief has what he needs to run the department. They are not involved in the day to day operation of the department.

New Business cont.

- Explorer Realignment – The Explorers will be moved to the line under the Chief.
 - Assistant Chief Tom Kline explained the realignment to the members.
 - Both Assistant Chief Kline and Sedlak will be helping with the Explorers for now.
 - Starting in September Assistant Chief Kline will be looking for advisors. Tom Post will stay as head advisor. If any member would like to be advisors you must be 21 years old and at least a support firefighter. If you are picked you will have to register with the Boy Scouts and take their Youth Protection Program.
 - As of right now the Explorers train on Wednesday but we are looking into possibly training on some Monday nights with the companies.
 - The training for the Explorers loosely follows the Firefighter I requirements.

Meeting adjourned at 20:08 p.m. (GB)