

## BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

MONTHLY MEETING

10/18/16 @ 4:00PM

**Present:** Chief Peter Shemeth, Deputy Chief Alex Schaeffer, Asst. Chief Andrew Kelly, Retired Asst. Chief Scott Ellis, Retired Deputy Chief Larry Thomas, Capt. Geoff Freeman and Anita Billings.

Meeting called to order late by Chief Shemeth at 4:30pm due to motor vehicle accident.

Reviewed and approved minutes from the September meeting

Reviewed budget balances

### Old Business:

The Chief talked with insurance company to clarify insurance coverage for retired Asst. Chief Ellis. She stated that only active members are covered under the Town's insurance policy. She also stated that the policy retired Asst. Chief Ellis had received a quote for, was only for liability and did not cover if he was injured. The Chief also asked about the volunteer firefighter policy and was told that there may be another policy available now that would provide additional coverage for volunteers.

### Budget:

- The 5 year capital plan was due last week. We are looking to replace 222 in 2018. CAF's system is going to run close to \$68,000 for one button high tech system. Least expensive system is roughly \$35,000. Hopefully we can get \$200,000 in trade.
- In 2019 we are looking to replace Chappy truck with something smaller. Questions arose about personnel to man the truck. Standard trucks won't hold more than 300gallons so we would have to build something custom. Deputy Chief Schaeffer indicated we also need to start thinking about upgrades to the Ladder Truck such as lighting, generator and cascade system.
- Chief Shemeth said that the Police Department is requesting a feasibility study for 2019 for \$180,000 for Police/Fire/Cemetery storage building. Questions arose about including study for new fire station/emergency services facility. There was concern that a new station would be put on the back burner if we go for a storage building first.
- After much discussion it was agreed by all members present to submit the capital plan as follows:
- 2018 – Replace Fire Truck @ \$750,000
- 2019 – Replace Fire Truck @ \$300,000; Ladder Truck upgrades @ \$200,000; and Feasibility Study for storage building and new emergency services facility @ \$200,000.
- 2020 – Replace Fire Truck @ \$750,000
- 2021 – Replace Ambulance @ \$300,000
- 2022 – New Emergency Services Facility
- We should also put an article for Town Meeting in for a motor for the Carolina and other repairs

### Vehicles, Equipment & Maintenance:

- Tank vests are back ordered until December
- Inflatable boat – Deputy Chief Schaeffer found someone who used to sell those boats. He said it would cost a minimum of \$500 to repair transom but it's a gamble.
- ***A motion was made to spend \$500 for the repair. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.***
- Jet Ski is running again. It rolled and then swamped with water. Deputy Chief Schaeffer has been working on it. He found about 75-100 gallons of water inside of it. Water has been removed and it

has dried out. The Chief commended Deputy Chief Schaeffer for his efforts. Asst. Chief Kelly asked about the broken board. It would cost approximately \$2,000 to replace.

- ***A motion was made to purchase new board. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.***

The Chief said the letters to Buck and Capt. Kelly have not been done yet. Asst. Chief Kelly reported that the tub is arriving the day of the next EFA meeting. It would be nice to invite Selectmen and go over tub. It might be good to give Capt. Kelly the letter then.

### **New Business:**

#### **Budget:**

- We received notice from the Town about level funding for next year. Also there will be a hiring freeze.
- There has been talk about paying members \$15.00/hr for training. That is what the State is going to pay for the Boom class. We turned money back last year. It would cost maybe \$5,000 to pay for the upcoming classes scheduled. Deputy Chief Schaeffer feels like it's worth also looking at paying extra for certifications obtained. Asst. Chief Kelly feels that we should pay less per practice, but pay for every practice, not just one per month.

#### **Training:**

- Asst. Chief Kelly met with a gentlemen regarding 2 Muskoday demo. Hoping to have a live burn drill sometime in November or December.
- Deputy Chief Schaeffer participated in boat class. He said the instructors recognized that he and FF/Paramedic Cooney were pretty efficient and invited them to participate in CHAMPS course.
- Asst. Chief Kelly feels we need further Jet Ski training. He thinks the guys are nervous to use it after the couple incidents.
- At All Island Chiefs meeting there was discussion that MFA is no longer going to allow joint training and certificates. Deputy Chief Schaeffer said the Dukes County Fire Training Council is not sustainable. Asst. Chief Kelly thinks we should bring down the Barnstable Fire Academy to do FF1 and FF2. We have 6 members in house with nothing. A lot has changed since our guys took these courses years ago. It was expressed that we should lead the charge and see if other towns want to participate as well. Much of the practical would probably have to be done off Island, but smaller modules could be done here.
- Asst. Chief Kelly to look into further.

We've been working on the mount upgrade on the water tank, but due to engineering issues, we can't do it right now. The antennas have been moved and repeater is not working. The water department superintendent is still looking into options for the tower.

With no other new business, meeting adjourned 5:45pm.