

BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS
MONTHLY MEETING
6/9/15 @ 4:00PM

Present: Chief Peter Shemeth, Deputy Chief Alex Schaeffer, Senior Captain Charlie Smith, EMS Rep Kara Shemeth, Assistant Chief Andrew Kelly, Retired Capt. Richard Kelly, Retired Asst. Chief Scott Ellis and Anita Billings. Brenden Cooney was also in attendance to present uniform ideas.

Meeting commenced at 4:10pm

Kara and Brenden presented their ideas for uniforms. They, along with Joan Shemit have been working on it. Patch samples were handed out to review. There was discussion of using the Town Seal because it will never change. Retired Capt. Kelly also presented his idea for a patch. Brenden reported that the cost per uniform would be approximately \$450.00 which included shirt, pants, coat, hat, belt & shoes. Badges, depending on design choice, would range from \$50.00 - \$75.00 a piece and collar pins would be \$7.50. Brenden also presented an idea of a color band on the hats to differentiate EMS from Fire. The consensus from the Board was to put badges on hold right now and address the uniforms, patches and flags. Based on the number of new department members as well as missing pieces for others, we are probably looking at \$10,000 just for uniforms.

Review and approved minutes from May meeting
Review budget balances

Old Business:

Building

- Oil tank is sitting waiting for oil to run out.
- Retired Asst. Chief Ellis agreed to contact Tom O'Hanlon and see if he wants the oil. Then we can install new tank.
- There was discussion of using the old tank for training.

Personnel:

Lt. Martin

- The Chief had sent him a text to contact him and he never responded back. The Chief and Asst. Chief Kelly both called him again today with no response. Asst. Chief Kelly reported that Buck was apparently upset about the "tone" of the Chief's original text, but he should have responded directly to the Chief.
- The Chief will call one more time and then a letter is going out to him.

Capt. Gundersen

- The Chiefs met with him. He acknowledged that he doesn't have the time to devote to the position, but would still respond as a firefighter.
- He is current on his certifications through the Airport

Open Positions

- The Chiefs met about moving forward with the department and open positions, and have spoken with several members.
- Lt. Sylvia is willing to step up to Captain of Engine 2/Engine 4 and Firefighter Shemeth is willing to step up to Lieutenant of Engine 4.

- Firefighter Maciel is willing to step up to Lieutenant on Engine 1, which will help to motivate the members and improve training which has been lacking on that truck.
- Firefighter Magri is willing to step up to Lieutenant on the Ladder Truck. Buck has been grooming him for the position for some time.
- Deputy Chief Schaeffer suggested the department have annual officer reviews to see how things are going and make sure officers are fulfilling their responsibilities.
- Everyone should remember that decisions are made for the betterment of the department, and are not personal.

Vehicles, Maintenance & Equipment:

- Engine 1 - is off at Bulldog and will be going to the show 6/26 & 27.
- Ladder - went off for service and testing. Deputy Chief Schaeffer to call Bulldog and see if they can bill us after July 1.
- Ambulance – passed inspection with the State so we are good for another year.
- Foam – cannot purchase until after July 1.
- New Pickup – what we initially wanted is too expensive. Asst. Chief Kelly looked into an F350 from MHQ with utility body and tool boxes for \$45,000. Price does not include super size tires, paint, plow, radios.

Training:

- Asst. Chief Kelly talked to land bank. Their goal is to have house down by January 1st, so we will shoot for drill sometime in September/October. Would like to invite WTFD tanker and maybe an OBFD truck.
- Asst. Chief Kelly went over to Chappy on Sunday. Went through the pumps, everyone seemed excited. The Chief saw a solar field on Chappy when he did an inspection. He thought it might be a good idea to go over that with the crew as well.

Summer EMS positions:

- Thursday at 4pm, the Chiefs will conduct interviews with Josh, Trevor and Stephen.
- Potential to hire 2 people. If we hire 2, they can work out a weekend schedule on their own.

New Business:

Recent Incidents:

- Truck ran over propane tank – Vineyard Propane ended up giving us 2 gas meters. 1 went over to Chappy, the other is behind Engine 2. The Chief discussed requiring some type of barrier around tanks on construction sites. The Chief will bring it up at the next Chiefs meeting.
- Rescue at South Beach - If we hadn't had the truck fire earlier, the outcome might have been different. The Chief wants to have a meeting with Trustees next week to work on things for improvement.

Budget:

- With the Chief going full time, there will be money in several line items available. This includes, alarm pay, inspection pay and mileage reimbursement. Deputy Chief Schaeffer will still be paid to do tank inspections.
- Deputy Chief Schaeffer stated that financially the inspection pay helps, but with time constraints, it may be a more efficient system for the Chief to eventually do them.
- Asst. Chief Kelly stated he would like to get FinCom here to discuss budget increases as well as the Personnel Board to discuss the FF/EMT positions.

PPE:

- The department needs gear. We have 3 guys from Chappy with absolutely no gear.
- Are we keeping officers in yellow or all black? If we get everyone the same, we can switch more easily.
- Consensus from the Board was to keep everyone in the same color.
- Dave from IPS is coming down in July.
- Asst. Chief Kelly suggested asking for 10 sets of gear on Town floor

EMS Rep. Shemeth asked if EMT's who show up to a fire drill will get compensated?

Paramedic Cummens is teaching a class today on his own for the Trustees of Reservation. He is using Town property for personal gain and should at least have cleared it with Chief. The Chief said he will talk to him.

Meeting adjourned 5:50pm.