

# Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS Commissioners' Meeting

Meeting called by:	Commissioners	Date, Time:	August 21, 2008 at 18:00 to 21:37
Note taker:	Janine Vary	Place:	Center Street Station

Attendees: Comm. Kevin Waldron, Comm. Bob Watson, Comm. Paul Auger, Treasurer Roland Seymour, Chief Steve Carrier, Deputy Mike Robinson, Capt. Brad Ober and Secretary Janine Vary and members of the public and media.

Comm. Waldron called meeting to order at 6:01PM. Those in attendance noted above.

Review of minutes: Kevin requested that future agendas need to list the dates of the minutes to be reviewed. First public minutes from July 17, 08. Kevin has not had a chance to go over, wanted to wait on those until 9/18/08. Other special public meeting minutes on 7/23/08. Kevin motioned to accept those minutes as printed. Paul seconded. Discussion: at end of first paragraph, he didn't have a time for time entering nonpublic session. Janine said it was 5:32. No more discussion. Kevin motioned to accept minutes as corrected. All commissioners said aye. Minutes approved as corrected.

Treasurer's report. Roland said that Northfield has given 7 payments and Tilton has made 7 payments. No comments on expenses. Account balance checking funds operating has \$161,330.70. App and E account, 7 months of payments received. Are ahead of anticipated revenues. \$107,065.03 in fund. Opened the debit card account, \$5000 in that and \$500 in Payroll account. Kevin asked why \$500 in payroll account. Roland explained the payroll account is a "wash" account. We transfer in the payroll amount and then disburse electronically. Need an amount to keep the account open. Roland reported that the investment pool hasn't been doing too badly. He did call the bank on the Apparatus and Equipment account to see that we could get that money in an interest bearing account. Chief asked how much extra money we spent from the Apparatus and Equipment account to pay off the vehicles. Janine explained that it was \$97,177.89 for the Rescue truck and \$32,000 to Ford Motor Credit for the 2 pickups. Chief had a question regarding an insurance payment we received for some of the loose equipment that was damaged in E3's accident. He wasn't sure if we can put the money in the Apparatus and Equipment account, which is where the equipment is being purchased from. Would DRA have a problem with where the money came from? Kevin asked what the amount was; Chief said \$4,993.00. Chief said LGC also took our \$1000 deductible from that amount of the claim. Tom Gallant commented: he believed the money should go into the general fund in a miscellaneous revenue line and wash the purchases against that and then take the difference out of the Apparatus and Equipment account. We know the equipment will cost more than the amount we get. Chief said we do have an insurance reimbursement line. Mike asked about the deductible. Chief believes that the deductible has already been used up with this first claim. Our overall expenses will exceed what we provided for in the budget, Chief said. Tom Gallant also commented that this \$274,000 needs to get invested in overnight deposits. We were criticized sharply from the budget committee to invest that money in an interest bearing account. Roland said that he will again contact the banking person. He had called him several times but had not heard back. Kevin motioned to accept the treasurer's report, Bob seconded and vote taken. All commissioners accepted the treasurer's report.

Chief's report. Chief he needed to make a correction to his report. He has not made a job offer yet for the FF/Fire Prevention position. He has just returned from Denver, CO from the International Fire Chiefs convention. It was a great seminar, filled with education and opportunities to interact with folks from around the country. We had two major incidents since last meeting. PSNH was a major loss, did a lot of damage to equipment and supplies and tools. Also had a building fire on Lancaster Hill Road. He was proud of how the company acted in his absence. Lt. Ames and Capt. Ober did an excellent job. Kevin asked about response times. 10 minutes for Tilton and 8 minutes for Sanbornton said Chief. Paul asked if we had enough people on scene. Brad said we had 3 of us and 1 from Sanbornton in the beginning. No extra help until the first and second alarm companies arrived. When tone goes out for confirmed fire in building then Franklin gets toned also. Chief said we are trying to get out of "smoke from a dryer vent" to be toned as a fire. Paul asked in Franklin do we respond to just smoke in the building. He believed there was a call for a fire outside the building and smoke coming from the building. Chief intends that there is confirmed fire in the building before mutual aid is called. Paul asked whose discretion, the dispatcher? Caller describes what they see and the dispatcher makes decision. Chief said we have cut back on getting Franklin. Chief is hoping that dispatchers are using good judgment when dispatching. There was discussion about Sanbornton responding automatically. Chief felt that we have officers who can make decisions on what they need. He remembers the officers telling him when he started that they wanted to back off on how many other towns responded on automatics. So Chief took that counsel and they changed the run cards. Bob asked how many volunteers came. Brad wasn't sure, he'd have to look at the run report. Chief said that MRI suggested to increase our automatic responses substantially for reported building fires. Paul also asked if the full timers came in and Brad said yes, at least two. Kevin asked about Chief meeting with Chief Davis re: the Winnisquam fire station. Kevin asked if Chief has taken that up on his own and Chief said yes at the request of Chief Davis.

Fire prevention report: Brad: stores open: Tractor Supply and Walgreens is getting close. They'll be testing fire alarm systems next week. Holiday Inn won't be opening on Oct. 1, maybe the middle of October. The Family Tree Restaurant opened up in Winnisquam. Had inquiry about current businesses adding more office space to their buildings. Not getting many new construction requests at this time. Sears is open and needs to get some smoke detection. Kevin asked what should have been done. Brad reported that they should have put in a floor plan to the town and gone to the planning board. It was a drastic change in traffic flow from the previous boat dealer. Someone asked about how much gasoline is stored on site there and Brad said they store only minimal amounts of gasoline for their equipment. Paul asked about the Winnepesaukee River Health Care facility. Brad said they will be on Scribner Road. Brad hasn't heard any more on it since there was talk of upgrading Scribner Road. Brad reported that the fire prevention trailer was used at the summer fair held in Tilton this month and it was well attended.

#### **Old business**

Tilton FD study. Paul said if we are talking about MRI report. he still has a lot of questions and hasn't had them all answered yet. Doesn't want to present anything until he has his answers. Kevin asked Bob. Bob said we should have a separate meeting to discuss. We either need to discuss the fire dept study that Tilton did or are we just going to let them do what they want? Paul said the commissioners could meet with the Chief and Deputy. He knows that the Chief can answer a lot of the questions. He has only read through half of it so far. Bob isn't sure where Tilton is heading after last Thursdays meeting. Paul made a motion to have a special meeting and Bob seconded. No discussion. Kevin is out of town for 15 days starting Sunday, 8/24. Decided on Monday, Sept.22, 2008 at 6:00PM at Center Street station. Bob mentioned that he wasn't sure if Center Street is the best location. He has been told by members of the public that they cannot attend meetings because there is no handicap provision. Kevin said maybe we should look for another location. Right now it was decided to have the special meeting on 9/22/08 at 6:00PM at the Center Street station. Kevin asked for a vote on the motion: All commissioners voted in the affirmative.

2007 Audit: Roland said the consensus of the board and other discussions it appears that we don't really need an audit but we will have a "review". We have been in contact with Plodzick and Sanderson and they have responded back. A copy of their response was sent to the commissioners when we received it on 8/12/08. They won't be doing all the outside verifications and confirmations. They will prepare the MS 35 and send to DRA. We have received the 06 audit. We will move forward with the 07 review. Roland will contact Greg Colby to see that he gets it done. Kevin asked if the agreement will be signed by 3 commissioners. Roland said the information returned by Plodzick and Sanderson didn't have a signature line. It doesn't have a written cost either. He will get in touch with Greg to have an agreement drafted including the cost for the commissioners signature.

Step and Grade Increases: Chief has received the information from the 3 communities. He hasn't compiled it yet, that will be forthcoming.

Paramedic Training and Training Policy. Kevin has looked into this and he was hoping to hear back from the national registry. He sent them a request looking for information asking if the certificate programs are going to go away. His understanding is that you can obtain paramedic certification either from a 2 year college course or something else. Elliott hospital has a one year program. If we can still use certificate program and it is shorter, then it is less expensive. Then we could get it done faster. The 2007 annual report from national registry said something about 2013 and the certificate program and the 2 year programs. He is trying to find out if in 2013 that everyone needs to have the accredited course. Chief commented that Greg has 2 associate degrees already, so he is not taking all the general ed classes. Kevin looked at the program at the Concord Tech, it is a \$12,000 program. Greg Michaud commented from audience: He said that is the cost with having no course work done already. Greg said it is the same program whether you are a basic or intermediate. Mike said so we are paying for the paramedic classes only. Kevin said what will the cost be for anyone else who would take that program. Greg said it would depend on what they can transfer in towards their classes. Kevin stated so the \$51,000 that we talked of last month it was based on Greg's current situation minus books. Chief said it has always been relayed to him that the tech program is superior to any certificate program that is around. It is an educational setting verses being in a hospital. They come out of it with a degree, not just a certificate. You are educating them. Clinical ride times are superior. Can you get it cheaper somewhere else, probably. Greg said he has spoken with many paramedics. They feel the program is a superior program and come out of it more prepared. Mike commented that being staffed with more paramedics we will have higher income from our ambulance runs. Mike said we figured 4 paramedics with one on every shift. Chief had gotten figures from Elliott Hospital of \$7800 for a 15 month program. No application fees, books, testing fees which could be \$1000 additional. We are looking at \$10,000 for 2 a year program. NHTI program is spread out. Less money for the learning part of it but comparable for fees. It is \$175 per credit hour at NHTI currently. Bob motioned to reimburse Greg for the cost for these classes, etc. as per his request, \$4178.76. Chief handed out a memo that Greg gave Chief. Is asking for reimbursement for Anatomy and Physiology classes and also book expenditures so

far. Mike suggested that it is more of a college, semester type setting. Suggested money be dispersed for this semester and that Greg would prove that he is doing well before we pay for another semester. Kevin seconded the motion. Discussion: Paul wants to know the long time investment, what do we get from this. Do we have a commitment? Mike said according to the proposed training policy he has to stay with us for 5 years or he will be in debt to us retroactively based on time he left before the 5 years was up. It is 5 years from being certified. Kevin asked Bob if he was OK with 100% reimbursement. Paul asked if Greg attends these classes, do we need to cover his absence. Chief said that he, Brad or the fire prevention person will be able to cover when he is out at class. He is earning his regular salary while he is at school. There is no extra cost if Brad or Chief is covering. When Greg is at school on his days off he isn't getting paid for the time. Roland asked if this type of contract is enforceable. Chief was not sure one way or the other, he feels it would be difficult for us to enforce it. We still have a policy that anyone taking training they have to commit to 2 years to stay with us. We are required to train our employees. How do we make it more restrictive for the paramedic training? The current training policy only requires a two year commitment. Mike had redone the training policy but it is still in draft because it hasn't been voted on by the commissioners. Kevin asked how the payment would be made. Mike said it could be done through payroll deductions. Chief said this decision on reimbursing Greg has been before the commissioners since April. He, Mike and Greg have tried to meet all the requests from the commissioners. Greg felt that all the commissioners were in favor of having paramedics in the work force. The only way we can have paramedics on duty is to train them. We should allow him to take the training and pay for the costs. Mike said he made the training policy vague so you can treat each individual differently based on their circumstances.

This is the first time we have discussed the training policy since it was written in April. Paul said we need to protect our investment. Mike feels that the policy is clear. Paul would like it to be 5 year commitment for the paramedic. Mike replied that that is in there. Brad commented that if the commission put the same effort in the workplace having a positive look at what is being accomplished and focus on the positive, then people aren't going to want to leave. Kevin asked Chief that if he was aware that if this is paid out of the training line, we have \$600 left. Chief said we will cut back on training then or we may go over on that line. It is more of an issue than dollars and cents. Employees and morale, work place morale. It is discussion like this that sends a negative message; we are saying more about numbers on the paper rather than the people. If we don't treat our people well and don't show we're behind them, the workplace will change from what we know it as. We are not wasting the tax payer's money. We're not putting every employee in the paramedic program. We have the safeguards in place to protect our investment. Kevin asked for a vote: All in favor of reimbursement. Paul and Bob said aye. Kevin opposed. Bob asked the commission to vote on the training policy. It is on the agenda. Kevin thought that the training policy was going to be tied to a matrix that would be more involved with personnel and their training. Mike said the training policy tells people how to apply for training, etc. Chief said you have to keep training your employees to the highest level that they can be trained to, some can progress and some cannot. You want your employees to be the best employees they can be. If he hired someone for the vacancy and they have all the basic requirements, is the thinking we don't send them to training again? Where do they go from C2F2? There is value in additional outside training. People need to see new things and experience new ideas. It is not realistic to not train someone to move up. Paul said there were some things in the training policy he wanted to change. No more discussion on the training policy.

Engine 3. Chief reported E3 is in NY at a body shop for big trucks that E-One purchased. Latest he heard is that they will repair the truck and replace the body on it. Speaking with Dan Desorcie, Chief mentioned that he would like to see the truck and speak to the dealer and talk with the adjuster. The adjuster was there today, Chief felt that this is going to be a new truck to us and we should treat it that way. We should let them show us a set of plans, showing the same body, etc. Prior to taking delivery of the truck look at it again and be sure it goes through the certification test. The UL certification test as if it were a new truck. Chief would like to be able to go and see it. We are looking at a \$400,000 investment and a truck we will have 20 to 25 years. If we have problems with it when we get it back, we at least have made the effort to ensure it was repaired correctly. He is trying to protect our investment in that piece of apparatus. Mike said he does this often in his work. He highly recommends that you have the adjuster, owner, and policy holder meet together. Paul asked what are they trying to do. Chief believes the tail end of the frame has been bent. Paul said he would demand that the frame would have to be brand new. He wants it just the same as it was before the accident. Kevin said the obligation is that they are to put it back as in the previous condition. He doesn't think that going out there will guarantee that everything will get done. Chief had sent Kevin an email saying that he wanted to sit down with Dan and the dealer to see and discuss what needs to be done. Mike commented that even when it was being built, after we went down to Florida they had to make corrections to the specs that it was built to. Chief says it shows accountability, they know we are watching. We care enough about this to talk with them about it. We would be holding them accountable. A tank of gas and a few hundred miles, he still feels it is worth the time and effort to get down there. Bob is all for Chief going over there to see the truck. Mike said he has had too many dealings with insurance companies. Mike felt we need to do this and he would even pay for it out of his pocket if the commissioners feel we don't have the money for it. Kevin asked how many trips they were talking about. Mike feels we would have to go out twice. Once to be sure they are heading in the right direction and once before delivery. Chief said once in September before work started and then on the final

day to do final inspection and to witness the acceptance test. Paul asked about the warranty. Chief said this dealer is an E One dealer warranty will be valid. Chief feels it would be a brand new warranty on the body part of the truck. Bob motioned for Chief and the Deputy to go out there. Paul seconded the motion based on previous discussion. Paul doesn't want to see a number of trips. Vote taken, all 3 commissioners voted in the affirmative.

The LGC membership. The Associate Membership prorated fees for the balance of 2008. This was discussed in July's meeting. Kevin motioned to go to the associate membership with LGC. Paul seconded. Discussion. None. Vote taken, all 3 commissioners voted in the affirmative.

2009 Northfield payments. Kevin went to Northfield's selectmen meeting last Tuesday. He asked if they would pay us quarterly even if school board doesn't agree to receive quarterly payments. They said they will pursue quarterly payments with anyone they can. Their letter indicated at the end of each quarter. The two selectmen there didn't intend to change the date of payments. Tom Gallant said that this will put the district in the posture of having to go out and take out a loan. Tom said this will save them money and cost us money. Roland said he remembered the school district sending a letter to the town of Northfield saying that the school district would take Northfield to court if they didn't pay on a regular basis. Roland was the treasurer at that time for Northfield. Northfield then began to make more regular payments. Scott Davis asked to comment. He said the only people who can collect our taxes are the towns. They are collecting your monies and sitting on your monies for that period of time. The amount of money they make off that money while they are sitting on it is more than the interest on the TAN. Roland said their goal is to reduce/eliminate their TAN payments. Roland said we need to draft a letter stating we reject their proposal. Kevin asked who would write the letter. Roland said he will draft the letter and sign it as the Treasurer of the District. Other discussion followed that Tilton could follow suit and then the district would be in great financial difficulty.

#### **New business**

Purchasing Requests: Chief: We are looking for two new adapters to be used with the new portable pump. We could buy the hard suction hose and strainer, lowest total was \$334.90 and this was with Darley. However, FF Smith also got prices on just purchasing the adapters that will use the existing 6" suction on the engines. \$183 for the adapter and \$109 each for 2 4" Storz. FF Smith recommends to buy these from Fire Tech & Safety for \$401. Chief commented that we do a lot of business with Fire Tech and Safety and we get very good service from them. This is a new purchase and this is why it is being brought up. Kevin motioned to approve. Bob seconded. All commissioners voted affirmative.

Traffic safety vests. New law that takes effect in November 2008. Have to wear a new ANSI 207 first responder safety vests with a breakaways to the vests when working on federally funded roads. We need to buy new vests to comply with law. Quotes are in \$1600 to \$756 range. Problem with low bid from Admiral Fire in ME. We received a written quote for \$27.50 and a verbal quote of \$25.50, but no written to confirm that discount. They haven't provided a demo either. Fire Tech & Safety gave us a demo fits over all bunker gear and meets the standard. We are asking for \$808.50 for 30 vests. Additional 150 to \$175 on top of 800 to have screen printed at Embroidery Plus. Chief feels important because that way our personnel would be easily identified on the highway. Kevin motioned to approve the purchase up to \$1000 for 30 vests and the screen printing. Paul seconded. Vote taken and all voted in affirmative.

Revised Estimated Revenues (RDA) Form. MS forms for DRA. Roland commented that we have overspent our budget already. Tom Gallant commented: when tax rate is approved in October, then we have a fixed number that the towns should be paying. For 9 or 10 months they pay us on a prior year's budget. So if Northfield paid us quarterly this year like what they want to do next year, we would be short of cash. Roland estimated around \$80,000. MS 34 is where the \$150,000 is used to defray the taxes for this year. Kevin motioned to use the 150,000 as was the intent of the voters at the annual meeting. Bob seconded. No more discussion and vote taken and all commissioners voted in the affirmative.

Set date for district meeting. Kevin would like to discuss in September's meeting. Janine commented that it impacts the entire calendar of deadlines that Katina has to set up of hearings, etc. We cannot wait until November to decide this date.

Budget for 2009. Chief is looking for a timeline. Budget Committee doesn't have a chair person and so someone needs to call a meeting. Tom Gallant commented that whoever calls the meeting would chair the meeting. Only order of business would be the appointment of a chair. We give them the budget and they review. Chief asked when the commissioners want his numbers for next year. Kevin said the sooner the better. Chief said he could have for next meeting. Tom Gallant commented that someone has to be appointed to be representative for the commissioners to the budget committee. When that decision is made, then maybe that commissioner could call the meeting. One member of the board of commissioners is a member of the budget committee pro tem. Kevin asked for a volunteer. Bob said he has done it for two years. Bob nominated Paul be the liaison to the Budget Committee. Kevin seconded. Discussion: none. All in favor, all commissioners voted in affirmative. Paul will be liaison to Budget Committee.

Any other business: Chief asked that there seems there were issues with the agenda. He asked how commissioners want him to address. Kevin only issue just put the dates of the minutes to be reviewed. Chief has been doing agenda. Tom Gallant said generally the Chairman and the town admin would do the agenda. When Tom was Chair, Chief just took over doing the agenda. If Tom had any additions, he just mentioned it to Chief. Be sure you have all the minutes. Chief doesn't mind doing it. As long as he knows what the commissioners want ahead of time. Kevin asked about the item "Any Other Business". Tom feels it is an open ended item where people can bring up anything. Kevin asked how the purchasing policy is working. Chief feels we are getting to understand it better. It is more formalized. It does create excess work. "any new additions to inventory", getting 3 quotes for a \$23 adapter. Some things we know up front where we will get the best price, we've done the research before and it becomes tedious to do it again for each item. Kevin asked about mutual aid and automatic response. What is deal with Canterbury? It is their request. Chief hasn't seen a written agreement with them. We deal with Capital Area Mutual Aid. Chief felt it is unique we go to Canterbury a fair amount of times. Concord comes up to us. Concord doesn't bill us when they come up to cover during a major incident. Greg Michaud from the audience said Concord did do a medical call for us when they were covering for us this week and they did give meds before the ambulance got there, so we may see a bill from them for that. Kevin asked about the delivered price for the new boat motor. Kevin was under the impression that that was the delivered price to us up here, not us having to go down to RI. Mike and Chief commented that they knew that the motor was being delivered to the RI company and we would have to go down to get training on it and bring it back.

Kevin made a motion for the board to reconsider the purchase of a thermal imaging camera. Bob stated it was approved by the voters at the district meeting. Paul seconded for the purpose of discussion. Kevin said purchase was approved at June 19<sup>th</sup> meeting because Tom Gallant, who hadn't been voting on the commission meetings due to the court order from Tilton, decided to vote on this item at that meeting. Kevin had objected to the purchase. The camera has been ordered but not paid for. Chief addressed the issue: that the camera is an additional camera. The original camera, the Bullard, was bought with donations and that will be put on ladder truck. The newer one has a much better picture quality and doesn't "white out" like the Bullard does. The situation came to light that we needed another camera when we were working on the roof at a fire. The camera on the first attack truck goes into the building, leaving nothing for those on the roof. They can identify fire beneath the roof before they fall through a weakened area. The ISG has performed way above any camera out there. It was specifically discussed at district meeting. Voted on to approve that budget line. This item came to the commission based on new purchasing policy. This camera is being built and will be delivered. This would go to engine 1. Chief continued: could we ever use 3 cameras at the same time? Yes. Is it beneficial, yes. It is a piece of safety equipment which is for the firefighters' safety as well as the public. We can't pinpoint lives saved here yet, but it saves time to locate the fire, chimney fires you can see if they are spreading without opening walls. Chief believes we have used the camera in excess of 30 times this year. Kevin said he is tired that all he hears about is public safety and being threatened with fear if we don't have these items. All he is aware of is the money we spend to do it. Brad Ober asked Kevin what he intended to buy with the money set aside for the camera. Kevin said maybe \$2000 of it could be used to pay for the equipment that the insurance company doesn't cover plus the deductible. We could go out and get contributions to pay for another camera like the first one. Paul said what he thought Kevin meant was do we need the best of the best all the time. Chief said this dept doesn't reflect that at all. Chief said that public safety is what we do. You have proof that we don't have the best of the best even in the MRI report. They stated how they are impressed on how we accomplish what we do with what we have, sometimes even jeopardizing our own safety. Brad said he doesn't feel that we should be going for contributions to buy something that the district should be buying. There was more discussion that at district meeting the voters looked at the items being bought through the Apparatus and Equipment Fund and they approved those budgeted purchases. Kevin said he withdrew his motion. Paul withdrew his second on the motion.

Kevin asked for public comment. Pat Clark said he is glad to hear the commissioners will have a meeting to discuss the MRI Study. It ought to come from this body as you represent this body. Pat has a few notes to think about. At the hearing represent the fire district and not just look at one town. Come up with 3 options. Give public some options that cover the gamut. To provide equal or better coverage than what we are doing now, looking at the report. Have cost impacts to present to the voters with each option. Approach should address needs in both towns, not just East Tilton. There are also far away places in Northfield. Can you improve response times in Northfield as well as East Tilton. Have this information ready before that meeting. He feels the high school is an appropriate place to reserve for a public hearing, to hold a public forum. Film the meeting and we can get it on community TV through Tilton through their contract with LRPA. He feels it should be played on public access for those folks who cannot make the meeting. The commissioners should formally invite the selectmen from both towns, planning and school boards, invite Sanbornton and Belmont, both fire chiefs and selectmen. Put a public notice in the newspaper. Have an agenda that people are knowledgeable about before they come. They can have a look-see before they get there. A public hearing you want to put some thought into what you will present. The commissioners need to show the people of the district that we want to keep the district together. There is a lot of talk about splitting up. Talk with people about cost impact of splitting the district. Put all the issues on the table. If commissioners feel if that splitting up is the direction we want to go in present ideas of how the needs of both towns would be met.

TNFD Commissioner's Meeting Minutes  
August 21, 2008

Tom Gallant said Pat's idea is a good idea, he feels that this would be a good "second" meeting. The September 22 meeting is going to be the first time the commissioners are able to get together to discuss the MRI report amongst themselves.

Scott Davis: he commends Paul for sticking up with the voice of the people regarding the thermal imaging camera; it was discussed at length at district meeting. Someone tried to make an attempt to remove something from that list of items to be purchased. It failed. It was the people's choice that the governing body carry out the wishes of the people. The unreserved fund balance is only there because of how Chief has run this department very well yet under budget. We need to use caution in dealing with Northfield. We will need to urge caution to the body that you need to have an amount in the unreserved fund balance. District needs to keep so much in there especially if you have a town not sending in payments. We have to be cautious as to what we take out. When an article comes forward to remove some of the unreserved fund, we need to urge the body to use caution. Tom said he did speak to that point and he did caution the people and he got blown away.

Tom also commented that as far as the MRI report, he is getting tired of reading the reports in the paper that keep lumping him in with all the commissioners that says they had little or no confidence in the ability of Chief Carrier. Tom has never said that. Chief Carrier has always had his support as a commissioner. He feels it should be made public who said that to the MRI study group.

Pat Clark: as far as a public hearing. If you have one focal point, like Chief, he could put it together. Chief could get feed back from the others. Doesn't have to have a formal meeting. Talk one on one with the Chief and have him put something together. It is long overdue for the public to hear from this body. Do we want to stay together? Will we move ahead as a district? Most people he speaks to in both towns want to stay together. He feels the commissioners need to have something to present to the body. Tom said that it might be more constructive for the commissioners to meet with the public there but they don't have to accept public sentiment at that meeting. Then have the public hearing where people can make their comments. If commissioners haven't had the time to meet and discuss amongst themselves, they won't be clear in their direction or options. They need to speak to each other and then, maybe a week later, have it before the public in a hearing. Scott Davis said he agreed. Digest the report. If anyone has questions, you can't go into it blind. Have to know where you stand as a fire district first. Can't go to a public forum without knowing that already. Pat said so you have the first meeting and just have the commissioners discuss the MRI report to look at their options. Tom said that MRI report has one option- stay together.

Pay bills: Paul had questions on several bills and Janine had answered them for him. He was all set. Kevin had crossed off the LGC membership and that was approved tonight. Manifest in entirety was approved for August.

Kevin motioned to go into nonpublic session and Bob seconded. Roll call vote taken: Bob aye, Paul aye and Kevin aye. Nonpublic session began at 9:12pm.

Public meeting resumed at 9:36pm. Paul motioned to keep the nonpublic information sealed. Bob seconded. Discussion: none. vote taken and all commissioners voted affirmative.

Bob motioned to adjourn and Kevin seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:37.

**Next Meeting Date, Time, Place:**

**September 18, 2008 at 18:00 at Center Street Station**