

Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS Commissioners' Meeting

Meeting called by:	Commissioners	Date, Time:	March 2, 2006 at 18:00 to 19:27
Note taker:	Janine Vary	Place:	Center Street Station

Attendees: Comm. Tom Gallant, Comm. Harold Harbour, Chief Steve Carrier, Capt. Brad Ober, Fire Prev., Deputy Mike Robinson, Treasurer Roland Seymour and Clerk Janine Vary. Absent: Comm. Sleeper

Tom called monthly commissioners meeting to order. Review of minutes. Harold motioned, Tom seconded. Discussion. Minutes accepted as printed.

Treasurer's report. Comstar balance \$26,176.52, which is the ambulance fund. Also received \$15,190.56 deposited today. \$41,367.08 in that account. This account is subject to any changes on Monday night will become the Equipment and Apparatus account. There will be a myriad of items will be paid through there. Vehicle, truck funds, EMS equipment, all will need to be made from that account. This is pending Monday night's decision. If it remains intact, then Tom suggests for purposes for a clean trail, order some checks and print them. Roland: If stays intact this Monday, will need to go back to January 1 and abstract all payments that should be charged to this account. Roland: had transferred all monies from this account to general funds leaving \$500 in that account. Chief had a question on how the new fund would work. Operations \$87,837.35 as of 2/28/06. Roland also handed out sheets showing the balance in the other trust accounts. Bills total \$22,376.19. Treasurer's report accepted by Commissioners.

Old business

Tom: much discussion about equipment leases and those on for the 2 new trucks this year. He has had conversations regarding this with DRA and will have copies available Monday night. A question was asked about why money wasn't taken from truck fund to pay for those trucks. RSA 33:7 states equipment lease, lease agreements can contain an escape clause. If funds aren't appropriated, then they are terminated. If funds are not appropriated, only require a majority vote RSA 33:7;e, in general fund budget would have a line item budget, the 700 lines in budget. Capital reserve funds cannot be used for this lease purchase. Lease agreements without this clause are long-term debts. A select person in Northfield wanted to know how we could get indebted without a vote of the body. But this is not that type of lease. RSA 31:3 states state law allows municipalities to make contractual agreements to conduct business. There is a non-appropriating clause and Northfield uses this with their vehicle purchases.

Chief mentioned that the new ambulance was registered today and state inspection done. Discovered a small electrical problem that will be taken care of tomorrow and should be on the road next week.

Building committee: Chief met with architect yesterday. Start with tours of buildings and start from scratch. Get a letter from the commission and state the need for a new facility. This architect can set up tours of other buildings he has designed. He questioned if we should be doing a joint building. Should we go on the fire side and let the police follow. Our needs exist now. Tom: appreciates that but a lot will be told after town meeting on the 18th. Safety complexes are the only way to go, many communities are going that way. If the police depts. had a new building, however, then we would have to go alone. Have to see if current building committee wants to continue, then good; or we'll need to make other appointments. Tom felt doing the tour would be good and go to other complexes both fire only and the safety facilities would be very beneficial.

Truck committee: Chief reported that the salesman has the drawings all done and meeting scheduled for 3/16/06 for engine 4. Tom: what if warrant article dealing with purchase of pumper passes, will a formal order go in? Chief said that it would go in the next morning. Prices will be going up rather quickly, so timing will be of the essence. We don't have to pay anything upfront, we can get 6% discount on money paid up front. Tanker is due in 180 days. Would be better to take money from grant. The tanker has been ordered and if we pay for the chassis this is a conditional order waiting on the warrant article passing. The government will release money from the grant to pay for the chassis when it is delivered. The tanker price is a locked in already.

The 2006 budget is as it was published, no changes made. Budget is being driven by labor, a third person to each shift and an adjustment across the board for wage based rates that brings us comparable to other departments, about 5% below some.

2006 public meetings, March . Tom would like to get the whole year's meeting dates published and copied to the commissioners.

The Tuesday fire at Lancaster Hill Road. Chief Carrier reported that A2 was at the Shalimar when the tone went off for the fire. There was discussion about the fire and responses. Officer Patton will be awarded in November. The 5:29 response was with call people. Fire Marshal's office and Chief don't believe having three people on would have changed the outcome. Chief if we could have had the 3-member crew, there could have been an engine there with only one person. Tom would like a list of all the members on TNFD's list. Chief reported that we used dry hydrant behind Dunlop residence. Did accountability. Will be doing a critique on the fire on the 13th for personnel. We had 20 people respond. Chief reported that 7 towns responded: TNFD, Sanbornton FD, Franklin FD, Belmont FD, Laconia FD, Gilford FD, and Concord FD. We can get 1 line in operation with 3 people but we needed more than 1 line. Mutual aid put in the second lines, where there was some delay. There are some inherent problems with our size and we have limitations and the only thing that can affect that is manpower. Cause of fire is still under investigation. Working with DHHS and some evaluations that need to be done and the meeting will be next week.

Tom: Winnisquam Fire Dept., Warrant Article 10 is to see if district will raise and appropriate \$18,000 to support them. As a group, commissioners had endorsed this article. A meeting with our commissioners and fire chiefs was discussed back in August, but meeting did not take place. There was more discussion.

New business

April fire commissioners meeting: Chief will be attending a conference in Washington, DC on April 2nd. Wouldn't mind having it on Weds. 4/12/06. After discussion, meeting will be held on Weds. April 12, 2006. Janine needs to get on website.

Other business: Chief received a verbal announcement from FF Ryan Booth that he had taken a position in North Hampton. His last day with us is March 26, 2006.

Janine mentioned to Commissioners that she could not get Channel 25 to come and videotape our District Meeting but they recommended someone we could hire. It was decided not to pursue the videotaping of district meeting.

Fire prevention report given by Capt. Brad Ober. Kohl's will be contacting the Aqueduct Co. (T-N Water District). Pizza Hut coming in with plans. Fire works store on 140 has reached a fix for water problem. Cross Mill Road development is up and running. Two plans for hotels came in which have already received pre-approvals. Tom has asked Sandy to email all public notices of meetings to Brad. He is seeing some rental property work being completed.

Tom mentioned that if warrant article succeeds for the officers to be done by ballot, that will preclude 3 members of Tilton or 3 members of Northfield to not happen. Individuals are elected to represent the district, not town they live in.

Tom motioned to pay bills. Harold seconded.

Motion to adjourn made by Harold Harbour and seconded by Tom. Meeting adjourned at 7:27.

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

~~April 12, 2006~~ at 18:00 at Center Street Station
*Changed to Thurs., March 30, 2006 at 18:00 on 3/9/06
by Commissioners.* Change posted to websites, and other town locations. Jv