

Volunteer Incentive Committee Meeting

Special Meeting Minutes, May 11, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:22 pm by Ron Masters.

Present were: Cal Meyers, Chief David Lockwood, Chief Jim Barton, Marie DeSousa, & Ron Masters.

Minutes of the meeting of previous meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by D. Lockwood and 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Barton to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed.

The Fire Chiefs presented the data for the quarter ending March 31, including officers pay for the quarter. Volunteer incentive expenditures for BBFD were \$23,725 as reported by Chief Lockwood. Chief Barton told the committee that expenditures for the WPFD were \$14,358 for the quarter for a total for the quarter of \$38,083. This brings the total for the current fiscal year to \$139,727 against a budget allocation of \$135,000. This leaves \$40,273 remaining in this year's budget. The Chiefs indicated that thus far this quarter, calls are down from the previous quarter. Also, since this is the final quarter of the budget cycle, expenditures have to be submitted by June 15. Any calls after that date will be included in the first quarter of the next cycle. The committee felt that we should finish the fiscal year within the budget allocation. Regarding training, the Chiefs indicated that officers in both departments will be taking the federally mandated NIMS training during the next quarter. There may be a CROG grant available to cover the cost of this training and that will be investigated. If that grant money cannot be obtained, the expense will come out of this budget. It was suggested that the committee continue to update the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance on the details of expenditures from this budget.

The Life of Service Plan or LOSP retirement program was discussed by the committee. Dave Lockwood reported that the current interest rate for the investments in the program is 4.75%. This results in a cost for the year 2010 of \$17,926 for the Broad Brook firemen . The current budgeted amount is \$15,000. Therefore, the program continues to be underfunded. This year, the portion of the total which pays for life insurance is \$4816. However, eliminating the life insurance portion from this program would only result in a savings of about \$2500 since the equity in the life portion is considered when calculating the annual cost of the pension portion. The committee decided to set up a meeting with representatives of VFIS when the next bill arrives which should be mid-summer. The purpose of the meeting will be to answer some questions and concerns about the program and hopefully restructure the plan to return to a fully funded program. The next regular meeting of the committee will be June27 at 7 pm at the BBFD.

.The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ronald Masters