

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF THE WAREHOUSE POINT FIRE DISTRICT

Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 3, 2018

Station 138, 89 Bridge Street East Windsor, CT 06088

Time: 7

Call to Order: 7pm

Attendance: Kevin Clynch, Louis Flynn, Kirk Montstream, Charlie Miller, Charlie Nordell

Motion to out of order to open commissioner spot Kevin Clynch, Charlie Nordell second. All in favor

Added Agenda Items: NA

Treasurers Report: Treasurer is absent from the meeting, a report was provided and read aloud by Louis Flynn. Meeting notes will be attached to the meeting minutes.

Clerks Report: Motion to accept the minutes from 11/5/2018 Charlie Nordell, Kevin Clynch second. All in favor

Chairperson's Report

-Open Commissioner Spot: Motion have Charlie work with Jill to advertise on town website, Facebook pages for the commissioner spot Kevin Clynch, Charlie Miller second. All in favor

-Town Communication: Rich Austin, Chief Barton, Louis Flynn met with Bob Maynard. A job well done to Chief Barton for the report that he prepared for the meeting. Bob Maynard was going to speak with the new town council and get back to Louis Flynn. I have heard some towns people recommend a law suit to make the taxation fair, it is discrimination. I would like to see a consolidation into one fire district, but I am not optimistic that will happen. I am uneasy for the next budget season without this resolved. Andy Hoffman, asked why would we not push for a Town of East Windsor Fire District? Louis replied with that is a good option, staffing is the departments number one issue right now. Both departments have hired part time firemen to work and cover the lack of volunteers. Andy- have both department under one district, let the people vote on the budget based on the needs of times and safety. How do we solve it? I don't happen to like multiple districts. Let's take this out of the towns budget. Rich- we already formed a committee more than a year ago, 8 out of 9 voted for one fire district. They could not get a second on the

motion more than a year ago. We need to share the cost of the fire service across the whole town. More discussion on the history of the district and renaming the current district. Andy Helth- I was at the BOS meeting when this came up, Bob said he was going to solve the problem. This will be the 3rd year. We as residents are being double taxed. Expanding the district would be great. What about disbanding the fire district? Make a town department. The town cannot have to different mill rates. The towns people are the ones that control the budget. Louis- I don't feel like we should disband and give up. Andy H- I am not trying to be confrontational but the residents of the district could disband the district. Charlie N- There is not incentive for Broad Brook to fix this. It is a district problem. Andy H- I am glad the meeting took place between the to side of town. Both fire departments provide great service. Louis- I feel like this will come to a lawsuit, then the court would tell the BOF what to do.

-2018-2019 Calendar: Motion to approve the calendar for the 2019-year
Charlie Nordell, Kirk Montstream second. All in favor

Old Business:

-District Bid Procedures: Louis wrote a procedure for the bid process for the district. Louis will rework the procedure

-Casino: Andy BOS talked to a few people with the state, they are guarded but optimistic with the new governor. The casino said they would be up and running with a profit in 18 months. Discussion of politics and the casino.

-Expansion of District NA

New Business: NA

Fire Marshal Report: Motion to approve the fire marshals report as read by FM Austin, Charlie Miller, Kirk Montstream second. All in favor

Fire Chief's Report: 51 Calls for the month of November. 45 call over this year from our previous years. We are looking to redoing the FM office. We have over 6 people working back there with only 2 desks. We are looking at used furniture, we will make 4 work stations, I will move my office back there and move the secretary to the front office. Northeast Electric have a program to change out the light fixtures to LED which will save money monthly with the electric bill. We received a summons from the accident with the FM vehicle and it was forwarded to the insurance company. Motion to approve the Fire Chief report as read by Chief Barton Charlie Nordell, Kirk Montstream second. All in favor

Correspondence: Charlie Nordell: I wrote to the JI to cover the unfair taxation in the town of East Windsor. He did a story back in 2016, he can't see the JI doing another

story unless some new things are happening. We could invite him when we are going to make some moves and he could report on that.

Public Session: Andy BOS- I would urge the two fire departments to get together, this is not an easy story to tell. Broad Brook really has no incentive to join the district. I have done a bunch of reading from the town council, met with another department, I don't know the write answer. I do believe one budget is easier, and the fire service should be able to tax for the needs they are facing. We need to find a way to tell the story.

Andy H- I want to thank you for continuing to push this. The people in WHP need to make some noise at the BOS office.

Bill Loos- I have been to a lot of the meetings here and nobody comes to the meetings and complain. I don't feel like people are that upset.

Chief- I am complaining, I don't like to pay a double tax. The number will only get bigger when the two departments go paid, BBFD is purchasing a new fire truck. We need to make presentations, we need to sell this. We need to move on this!

Louis- The chief is right, when the department go paid this will be a bigger problem.

Executive Session: NA

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 Charlie Nordell, Kevin Clynch second. All in favor