



Warehouse Point Fire District

Meeting Minutes

Monday July 12, 2021

Station 138, 89 Bridge Street East Windsor

Time: 7pm

Call to order: 7:00

Attendance: Austin Holden, Louis Flynn, Charlie Miller, Kevin Clynch, Charlie Nordell
Absent Rachel Safford

Added Agenda Items: Motion to add discussion and action on the FM fee schedule to the agenda under new business Austin Holden, Charlie Nordell second. All in favor

Discussion and action of acquisition of new Fire Marshal vehicle from Enfield, Louis Flynn

Treasurers Report: The money from the last fiscal year that was not spent will go into the fund balance. We are in the black, we do not have a solid number yet, we should have a number for the next meeting. Motion to approve the treasurer as presented Charlie Miller, Austin Holden second. All in favor

Clerks Report:

June 7: Motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 7, Charlie Nordell, Kevin Clynch second. All in favor

June 8: Motion to approve the meeting minutes from the annual meeting June 8, Charlie Nordell, Charlie Miller second. All in favor

June 9: Motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 9 Charlie Nordell, Kevin Clynch second. All in favor

Chairperson's Report

-Town Communication: NA

Station 1 Building Addition Committee:

-Clerk of the Works Update: electric is done, the garage doors came in the wrong color, we are trying to resolve the issue currently. They should have been the same color as the trim, but they came in white. The issue we are running into is the timing of getting new doors, which could take six months.

Discussion of the payments.

-Firetruck progress report: The new fire truck is in the production line, we are on schedule for Oct, Nov delivery.

-Payment requests: Motion to approve payment for Crocker Builder, \$193,089.97 Charlie Nordell, Austin Holden second. All in favor

New Business:

- Discussion and action of acquisition of new FM vehicle from Enfield: Enfield fire department has a 2008 Ford SUV for sale, \$8000.00. Chief: It is not worth it at this time, without an agreement with BBFD and what we pay for the mileage it does seem like a smart business decision to purchase a newer FM vehicle. The current FM SUV is at Ford being worked on; they are trying to repair the brake issue. The recommendation is that we do not buy the Ford from Enfield. Jim Barton: It is not a secret that I am not a fan of the FM vehicle. If we just pay mileage, it is smarter from a business standpoint. We have not gotten a mileage check since April. We do not have a policy for this type of vehicle. We do not have an agreement with BBFD Commission, and it is currently being used for both job roles. I don't think we need an FM vehicle at all. I have an issue with us giving the Town FM a vehicle. We would not do that with any other town. Motion made by Kevin Clynch to not acquire the vehicle from Enfield, Charlie Nordell second. All in favor

Lou: The FM car needed to be fixed, either way. We do need to address the FM vehicle and our vehicle being used on the other side of town. Kevin: I don't want the FM to think we are penalizing him, if the Town will not pay, we need to shut this off now. Our vehicle should not be used on that side of town at all. Lou: This will be put on the next meeting.

Jim: we are paying for NFPA which is used on both sides, we are paying for training and more.

Kevin: Are we using the same software? Discussion of software sharing. Kevin: I think we should be separate; they have made it clear that they don't want to be part of us. We have been abused by the town for many years, I don't like that they can access our information. Discussion of mileage. Discussion of shared costs. BBFD is stating they only have money for mileage. Lou needs to meet with the BBFD commission. Kevin: We need to stop the use of the FM vehicle for Broad Brook Fire Marshal business. Discussion of the FM vehicle. Kevin: Do you have time to be inspecting both sides?

We don't have a handle on any of this.

Your report should show us what you have to do, and how many inspections are getting done. Rich: Broad Brook does not have that many inspections. With the staff we have, I feel it is possible to get it all done.

Discussion of FM business in Broad Brook. Kevin: You did not come to us with any of this. Rich: I don't like that you are putting me on the hot seat. Kevin: We need to figure this out, it's not the hot seat and you put yourself here. We all know what happened a few years ago, between the fire department and the ambulance. It is hard to share services, equipment, I am not comfortable with this. I don't know if there is a way to keep this separate. Rich: We need to talk to them, they are not afraid to spend money, they pay me more. I don't believe they won't pay.

Charlie N: I don't think we have put enough effort into this. Kevin: Why do we need to chase them; they need to come to us. Jim Barton: You need to make a demand. Send them an itemized bill.

Motion made by Kevin Clynch to not allow the use of the Warehouse Point Fire Marshal vehicle for Town Fire Marshal activity, on the Broad Brook town side of town except a dispatched call, Austin Holden second. All in favor

Chief: We might have to separate at some point, the software.

Chief, have Rich tell them he needs an office, separate equipment, that will make them wake up. Charlie Miller: They hired Rich Austin, not the Warehouse Point Fire Marshal, he needs to ask for what he needs.

- Discussion and action on the FM fee schedule: add to next meeting

Old Business:

-New software update: We might need to separate due to the company we purchased the software from was merged with another company.

- Review and discussion of the draft District Charter: NA

-Update of Hose Company 1: NA

Fire Marshal Report: Kevin: do you have enough hours? Rich: Yes, we have enough hours. Discussion of reports. Charlie: The letter went out that they are limited to the number of cars on the lots. What are we doing about this? Rich: Unfortunately, that is a planning and zoning issue. I am working with her and she is aware of the problems.

Motion to approve the FM report as presented FM Rich Austin, Charlie Nordell, Kevin Clynych second. All in favor

Fire Chief's Report: 55 calls for June.

All the equipment that was purchased is in and working order. There has not been any information on the town-wide radio system. We have talked about the two projects, we separated them, we should put the projects together, back out the lawyer fees, then we are back under the 2 million. We have 52,000 to spend on covid supplies. Kevin: If the engine is responding to a call without water is that smart? Chief: No, we should not be responding to a call with an engine without water. It is still in service because we can use it as a utility vehicle. Should we sell it? Kevin: Are they worth anything?

Could we ask what the market is for it?

So now we wait? Lou: When is the last time we rolled all the equipment? Kevin: With that thinking, we have too much equipment. We have equipment for a reason, we don't know what calls we are going to get and what kind of mutual aid we are going to have. There are some places in town without hydrants. We need to research this, if we spend 30,000 and get back 150,000 back in 8 months when the new truck is here and sell this one, I am ok with that. Kevin: I am uncomfortable with an engine that can't hold water. Lou: How are we going to equip the new truck? We need to deal with that first. Kevin: We need to deal with today, what are we going to do today, not in 8 months.

If we fix the current truck, we might be able to then use it or sell it. Kevin: we don't know what's coming up. Charlie Miller: We need to find out how long it will take to repair it and the cost. It might take 6 months to fix which then would not be worth it. Chief: I will look into it and get you the information. Motion to approve the chief's report as presented by Chief Barton, Charlie Miller, Charlie Nordell second. All in favor

Correspondence: NA

Public Session: Jim Barton: We told the taxpayers that we needed the money to replace that truck, not purchase a new one. Did you say we are going to ask Broad Brook Fire Commission if they would share some of the costs? I think we need to identify the costs, and ask them if they are going to share the costs. Maybe the best solution is the separate everything. I believe the simple solution for the FM car is to get rid of it. Are you going to ask them? Lou: They just took over on July 1 we should give them some time to adjust before we talk to them Jim: The time to talk to them was during their budget process, not now. Lou: Send them a bill or get your own for out there. Kevin: All the commission needs to do is shut the sharing off. Discussion of sharing FM costs. Kevin: I don't want them to own half of any of our stuff. Debbie Austin: I agree with Kevin, I pay taxes. I don't want to share with them either, what if they have a different FM. We should cut them off now. It should be two different jobs. Rich: it should have happened six months ago; we need to talk to them. Lou: We need them and they need us on calls. I don't want to screw up mutual aid. Kevin: the repour of the two departments is better than it's always been. Chief: I don't think it's the commission's job to tell them what the employee needs. Charlie Miller, they hired Richard, not the whpfd FM. Discussion of the Town FM position. Charlie: I think Bowzsa's dream would be one FM for the town. Chief: As long as there is a fire district there will be two FM. Austin Holden: If we want to vote on something tonight, I am open to this, we can put an effective date. The issue is political, I don't want politics to interfere with the fire service. Chief: I don't think there needs to be a

hugging period, they hired him to do a job, they need to provide him with what he needs to do the job. Debbie Austin: I think it needs to be a date for Rich, you have till this day and then no longer able to use our stuff. Motion made by Kevin Clynch to advise Rich Austin that he no longer is permitted to use Warehouse Point Fire District Fire Marshal resources for Broad Brook Fire Marshal business as of Aug 15, 2021, at midnight Austin Holden second. All in favor
Rich Austin: You have just taken 15 steps backwards on uniting the town and fire departments by making this motion.

Executive Session: NA

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 Charlie Nordell, Kevin Clynch second. All in favor

Submitted by Jill Caron