



Warehouse Point Fire District

Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 3, 2022

Station 138, 89 Bridge Street East Windsor

Time: 7 pm

Call to order: 7:01 PM

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

Added Agenda Items: Charlie Nordell made a motion to add, establish budget workshops, Rachel Safford second. All in favor

Treasurers Report: We should be at about 50%, we are at about 54%, which is from some front-loaded bills. The large debt service payment, etc. Discussion of budget, fire apparatus, building maintenance is over budget. FSM hours are down, but we have hired a few more to fill the shifts. Motion to approve the treasurer report as presented, Rachel Safford, Charlie Nordell second. All in favor

Clerks Report:

Motion to approve the meeting minutes from December 1, Rachel Safford, Charlie Nordell second. All in favor, Austin Holden abstained

Motion to approve the meeting minutes from December 6, Rachel Safford, Charlie Miller second. All in favor

Motion to approve the meeting minutes from December 13, Rachel Safford, Charlie Miller second. All in favor, Charlie Nordell abstained

Chairperson's Report:

-Discuss and take action on potential conflicts of interest: There were several conflicts that were not happy with. The board is not happy with the report Charlie wrote and submitted to the Board of Selectman as the liaison. Charlie, I think people number one are not understanding the role of a town liaison. The liaison is assigned by the first selectman. Any taxpayer can voice their opinion. Sometimes people's opinions differ, it is not our job to always meet the needs of the treasurer, chief, we need to make our decisions based on what's best for the district. This was not a conflict of interest; I was not acting for personal gain. Kevin, I would agree, except for we want a liaison to report the facts, I felt like you were using your position on the BOS as your soapbox. I feel like you were more worried about the town losing the tax money, not the department gaining the property. Discussion of selectman reports, public opinion, and the role of the liaison. Rachel, the opinion is where it got me, I don't think you see opinions a lot in these types of reports. Louis, I think there was an effort to sway the voters, this came out before the vote. I don't think you should be our liaison. Austin, I think this is being used as a conflict. I think it needs to be a neutral report. Kevin made a motion to have Carl Landolina look into if there were conflicts of interest, Rachel Safford second. Charlie, now we are going to spend money on this with no, no votes. 4 yes Rachel, Kevin, Austin Charlie Miller, 1 no Charlie Nordell

-Public Session: James Barton: I have a few comments, in terms of the liaison, it's the function in which the person reports back to the BOS, so they still know what's going on, I think we should have a liaison, the opinion part is the problem. As a selectman, their opinion does have more weight. It is probably a better idea to have a liaison that is not on our board. Don Wagner, I think it is the board's responsibility to be a visionary, they need to look into the future. It seems like we are going backward. Chief, it is taking 14,000 off the town side and 700 off the district side for taxes. I don't believe your opinion belongs on a selectman report, we did a good thing for the district by purchasing the land and building.

-Update on 81 Bridge Street: Been in contact with Carl Landolina, the changes went to the lawyers, we are waiting to hear back on the purchase agreement. We need \$20,000.00 which will be sent to the title insurance company for a deposit.

New Business:

-Discuss and take action on unequal taxation: I received a written request from the district treasurer to add this to the agenda.

-Public Session: James Barton: the long and the short of it, the WHPFD pay 100% of the fire service and BBFD taxpayers do not. I have gone through both budgets. It's still the same big items, building costs, audit, tax collection, office work. If the tax office needs to work that much harder to collect 18,000.00 from us and not from BBFD. The

taxpayers are not responsible for any building maintenance. They could just charge the BBFD rent. It's about \$90,000.00 that are shared costs. I don't think we should just let this go. At the last meeting, Charlie Nordell said this would not change and the people need to go to BOF. We need to set up meetings and get this fixed. If the first selectman rejects this then at least it will be on record. Louis, I think we could make a freedom of information request asking for this information. Chief, I think we should write a letter to Jason, he thinks this agreement is between us and the tax collector, which it is not it is between us and the town. I don't think Jason understands the difference is as big as \$100,000.00. James Barton, I don't think we got an answer about pilot money, in our district, there are 15 state buildings. Motion to allow Landolina to take a quick look at the pilot money statues, Kevin Clynch, Charlie Miller second. All in favor
Motion to allow Carl Landolina to look into making a Freedom of Information act for equal taxation. Kevin Clynch, Rachel Safford second. All in favor
Kevin, we have right on our side, we need to do better, we need to push forward, push hard.

Old Business:

Budget workshop: January 24, 2022, 7 pm

Fire Marshal Report: NA

Fire Chief's Report: 61calls December 743 for the 2021 year, we have received most of the covid supplies, Scott pack have been ordered, I am re-looking at the fit test machine. The machine needs to be calibrated. Shipmen will come up and test the guys for 40.00 per firefighter. ESO software is moving along. I got some home test kits from the town for firefighters showing symptoms. We did meet with the tax collector, separate bill, software company, we might need to make an ordinance if we want to give exemptions. They are getting an exemption on our tax currently. This would be straightened out for 2022. We have done a lot this year, thank you all for your support. Motion to approve the report of the chief as presented Charlie Nordell, Austin Holden second. All in favor
- Firetruck progress report: waiting on equipment, we are running in some delays due to supply issues.

Correspondence: NA

Public Session: NA

Executive Session: NA

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 Rachel Safford, Charlie Nordell second. All in favor