# CONWAY VILLAGE FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

Thursday, October 1, 2015 3:30 p.m. Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m.

Commissioners present: Janine Bean, Joseph Quirk, Michael Digregorio

Others present: Gregg Quint- Superintendant, Chief Solomon, and Amy Snow-Municipal Bookkeeper

#### ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Mr. Digregorio made a motion to approve items A and B, Mr. Quirk seconded the motion; motion passed 3-0-0.

- **A.** Ratify A/P Manifests and sign checks dated 10/1/2015
- **B.** Ratify Weekly Payroll for period ending 9/27/2015

Mrs. Bean signed the Superintendant's and Fire Chief's time sheets for week ending 9/27/2015. Mr. Quirk made a motion to approve the minutes of September 10<sup>th</sup> as written, Mrs. Bean seconded the motion; motion passed 2-0-1. Mr. Digregorio abstained due to not attending said meeting.

Mr. Digregorio made a motion to approve the minutes of September  $23^{\rm rd}$ , Mrs. Bean seconded the motion; motion passed 2-0-1. Mr. Quirk abstained due to not attending said meeting.

Amy answered Mr. Digregorio's questions regarding the Retiree Service Agreement with HealthTrust. Basically, HealthTrust will go after the retiree for payment and if they do not pay for the month, they are done and the district will have to pay for that one month. However, there may be some extenuation circumstances that could hold the District liable for more months such as the District not filing paperwork in a timely manner. Amy stated that HealthTrust said any scenario is very rare. Also, this section of the agreement is in bold for emphasis only. Amy also asked about retirees that may have passed and was told that there is no premium due if someone has passed before the premium is due. Mr. Digregorio wanted to clarify the fact that if a retiree on one of our plans leaves for another plan they cannot come back and Amy confirmed this as true. Mr. Digregorio made a motion to sign the Application and Membership Agreement, the Cobra Administrative Services Agreement, and the Retiree Billing Administrative Services Agreement with HealthTrust, Inc., Mr. Quirk seconded the motion; motion passed 3-0-0.

Discussion ensued regarding extension request from Defelice and e-mails from Jon Harries. Underwood Engineers is going to track all additional charges that Defelice will be responsible for. David Mercier will be here on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and more discussion will take place at that time.

It was stated that everyone who needs to see these e-mails is not receiving them; Mrs. Bean will mention this to Dave Mercier.

## FIRE CHIEF'S BUSINESS

The chief recapped the numerous calls over the weekend. He brought up his major concerns regarding the funding of the Fire Department. He asked the commissioners where we are going and what they want him to do regarding equipment purchases. His vehicle maintenance and overtime budgets are eaten up and he is behind in purchasing equipment. He also stated his concern for the Village Taxpayers and their ability to pay for these things on top of the debt that is coming due. He asked for direction from the commissioners. Mrs. Bean stated that we need to start working on the budget and the rates. There is a capital improvement plan but the prices go up faster than the District can replace things. Discussion ensued around how expensive it is to purchase fire equipment due to safety standards. The chief stated that the department is in the hole as far as needs over the next five to ten years and does not know how any of it is going to be paid for. He stated that if the Conway Village Taxpayers turn the Fire Department over to the town, they lose no services and save money. Discussion ensued regarding town wide fire and the result of the meeting with the selectmen earlier this year. Amy brought up the fact that we (CVFD) can, but does not have to, provide fire suppression but the town does. Mr. Digregorio stated that we could hand the department over to the town or increase the contracts so the cost is not on the backs of the CVFD Taxpayers and he feels they (Selectmen) would take it over rather than pay for a huge contract. The Chief explained that Center Conway wants to hire a full-time chief. There are projects in Redstone that are being held up by the Redstone Fire Department due to lack of full-time staff. The chief feels that the town taking over the fire department will save the CVFD taxpayers money, the town will no longer need to contract with a private ambulance service because it will have its own, and there will no longer be non-precinct contracts. The Chief agrees with Mr. Digregorio that the other solution is to charge Conway more money; Albany is tapped out. The Chief wanted to know what the commissioners need from him. He was told to tell them what he needs – everything, not just trucks – for 2016. Something was mentioned about a pile of keys being kept handy.

#### SUPERINTENDANT'S BUSINESS

Mr. Quint asked Amy to relay her conversation with Dave Mercier regarding the RD loan and money owed to North Conway Water Precinct. Amy reviewed the dollar amounts owed and explained that David Mercier would like us to discuss a timeline of payments prior to his coming to the meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. There are three different amounts owed. One is the remainder of the buy- in and there are two bonds that were taken out, one for improvements to accept our effluent and one for sewer system improvements of which our cost is around \$700,000.00. Mr. Digregorio expressed that the remainder of the buy-in is due at "first flow" as stated by the contract. It was discussed that we can attend the meetings at NCWP but we do not have a vote and we need to be diligent in making sure CVFD is charged only for approved expenses as per the contract.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Bean shared a letter from Underwood Engineers pertaining to the catch basins on Washington Street. The letter was addressed to Defelice and instructs them to jet the remainder of the drain lines north of a certain point.

#### **OLD AND PENDING**

\*Sidewalk turnover – Mrs. Bean will send an e-mail to Karen H. at the town asking to meet on the  $8^{th}$  or the  $15^{th}$  at 4:00 p.m.

\*RWN quote for the Pequawket Path – Mr. Quint spoke to Bob Nelson of RWN regarding maintenance of the path by the pond. Bob will maintain it for the rest of the summer at no charge. Next year it will be added into the quote. Chief Solomon relayed that all the extra landscaping was done.

\*Amy was asked to bring in a couple non-public minutes for review next week.

# **FUTURE DATES**

Next Commissioner's meeting – 10/8/2015 3:30 p.m. Conway Village Enhancement Committee – 10/7/2015

The meeting was adjourned without objection at 4:40

Respectfully Submitted, Amy Snow, Municipal Bookkeeper