

**CONWAY VILLAGE FIRE DISTRICT  
COMMISSIONER'S MEETING  
Thursday September 08, 2016  
Minutes**

Meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Commissioners present: Janine Bean, Michael Digregorio, Steve Bamsey

Others present: Gregg Quint- Superintendent, Chief Solomon, and Amy Snow-Municipal Bookkeeper, Earl Sires and Tom Holmes.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

**Mr. Digregorio made a motion to approve items A through E, motion seconded by Mr. Bamsey; motion passed 3-0-0.**

Mrs. Bean signed the Superintendent's and Fire Chief's time sheets for week ending 9/4/2016  
**Mr. Digregorio made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes dated 8/31/2016, Mr. Bamsey seconded the motion; motion passed 3-0-0.**

**Mr. Digregorio made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes dated 9/1/ 2016 as amended showing Mr. Bamsey not present, Ms. Bean seconded the motion; motion passed 2-0-1 with Mr. Bamsey abstaining due to not being at the meeting of 9/1/2016.**

Ms. Bean explained that she invited Mr. Holmes and Mr. Sires to explain formulas, and taxes. Earl gave the Commissioner's a hand out (see attached) to start the discussion. Numbers were reviewed and discussed. Non-precinct area was discussed and the cost of covering it or how to charge the area. Mr. Sires said that the logic to begin with was that we would charge these various areas throughout the town the average cost of fire service. State law states we can only charge one rate for everyone. Discussion ensued around formulas and numbers. Mr. Digregorio asked the question as to why is it beneficial to add the budgets of all the fire departments as oppose to just ours. Ms. Bean said this is based on the Town offering fire service. Mr. Sires explained because our budget is so much higher relatively to everyone else relative to our assessed value, the non-precinct area would be paying 65%-70% of our budget. Discussion ensued. Ms. Bean reiterated we are talking about town fire protection for the non-precinct not a village protection for the non-precinct area and the only way to do it is equalize it.

Mr. Sires pointed out our problem is the relation of our budget to our tax base is out of whack. He also went on to say this formula presented distributes the pain as much as possible across the town.

Mr. Bamsey asked how long are we looking at with this contract. Mr. Sire's responded five years. Ms. Bean asked are we looking at individual contracts not three way contracts, she went on to state we want an individual contract not a three way with North Conway. Chief Solomon said his recommendation is to accept their proposal; they have taken Eaton out which helps us a little bit. He then said there are a couple of other points we need to work out in the non-precinct fire agreement including the fact we want our own contract with the Town of Conway and spell out the split between fire and ambulance so there in no question. He then said it's not what we

would like to get but it is more than we are getting. Discussion ensued. Mr. Digregorio said he was the stick in the mud he wondered if we decided to liquidate and you put it out to bid between Center Conway and North Conway or whoever you want, where do the numbers fall and how does that affect the tax rate of the Conway Village people. Mr. Sires responded he did not know. Mr. Holmes stated that could be a several year process. Discussion ensued.

**Mr. Bamsey made a motion to except the formula as presented by the town. He then rescinded the motion and made a new motion.**

**Mr. Bamsey made a motion to except the formula as presented by the town for the non-precinct Fire Contract, Ms. Bean seconded the motion. Discussion ensued.**

Mr. DiGregorio was not prepared to discuss the contract; he did not want to discuss our strategy or our plans with the opposition present.

Ms. Snow stated she circulated an e-mail from our lawyer from the NH Municipal Association stating you have to discuss it in an open meeting anyone can be there; you can have a meeting with no public comment and discuss amongst yourselves. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Bean asked if there is any more discussion on the motion to except the proposal of status quo. Mr. Bamsey said no. Ms. Bean said there is no other offer on the table. Ms. Snow questioned the motion is just for the formula. Mr. Digregorio said we just wasted a year; we could have done this last year if we were going to except it as status quo he thinks it's wrong. He went on to say the Board has had conversations on trying to reduce the tax rate with in the village now we are done. Discussion ensued.

**Ms. Bean called for the vote on the Motion to except the Formula as presented by the Town for the non-precinct Fire Contract, Motion passed 2-1-0.**

### BOC INFORMATION

### FIRE CHIEF'S BUSINESS

Chief Solomon asked permission from the Commissioner's to continue the discussion with Mr. Sires and Mr. Holmes regarding other portions of the contract he would like to tweak regarding the break between fire and ambulance. He went on to say he needs the Commissioner's to weigh in on the ambulance RFP because he has three weeks to put it together. And there is one piece that he would like Mr. Sires and Mr. Holms to explain to the Commissioner's.

The town has requested a proposal for ambulance coverage; they broke the town into two service areas. Service area one makes up Center Conway, B9, C9, D9 non-precinct area. Service area two makes up all the area North Conway and Care Plus currently cover (North Conway, East Conway, Red Stone, E9, M9 and A9.) In the new RFP CVFD is left out of the mix to work with the double taxation thing and that is what Mr. Sires and Mr. Holms will try to explain.

Mr. Sires explained that it is agreed that CVFD is being double taxed for ambulance service is true, but it only applies to the area inside of Conway Village because we are not double taxed for the non-precinct area because everyone pays for that. It is the opinion at the staff level

Conway Village get credit. Currently we are being charged .11 or .12 plus paying for our own fire department. Mr. Sires and Mr. Holmes explained numbers discussion ensued.

Mr. Sires and Mr. Holmes left the meeting at 5:37 and there was a short recess.

Chief Solomon reiterated he has a very short time frame to put this RFP together. Chief needs two pieces from the Commissioner's (1) what price range are you're looking at to continue covering what we are covering right now. (2) Is there interest in bidding the entire town?

Mr. Digregorio stated he is not interested in the rest of the town; but he is interested in bidding on it at whatever number Chief Solomon comes up with that would benefit us. Ms. Snow asked if we bid the whole town and lose would we lose the coverage area we cover now. Chief Solomon responded no, we would submit two bids, one for area two and one for the entire town.

Chief Solomon was looking for direction on what they want the dollar amount to be to cover the area that we are currently covering. Mr. Bamsey asked if the tax rebate is set in stone, Chief Solomon responded it is not. Mr. Bamsey said you know the numbers better than us. Discussion ensued around the logistics of covering the entire town.

It was decided that Chief Solomon would come up with the numbers and report back to the Commissioner's with the full report.

It was decided Ms. Snow would give her presentation next week.

#### OLD AND PENDING

#### FUTURE DATES

September 15, 2016 Commissioner's meeting

Meeting adjourned without objection at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Stacy Bolduc Receptionist