

MINUTES
Litchfield Board of Fire Commissioners & EMS
October 13, 2022 – 5:00 PM
Litchfield Fire Department
258 West St, Litchfield Ct.

Members Present: John Campbell, Michael Castelli, Sean Fogarty, Jack Hodges, Jon Tarrant, Fire Marshal C. Wilcox.

Members Absent: None

1. Call Meeting to Order

J. Campbell opened the meeting at 5:01 pm. LFD currently does not have a rep.

2. Public Requests/Comments

G. McQueen of Camp Dutton Road questioned town's use of sirens during emergency calls.

3. Commission Requests

None.

4. Approval of Minutes – September 8, 2022 and September 13, 2022

Motion for approval of minutes for 09/08/22 regular meeting was made by J. Hodges, seconded by J. Tarrant, vote was unanimous. Motion for approval of minutes for 09/13/22 special meeting was made by J. Hodges, seconded by J. Tarrant, vote was unanimous.

5. Budgets – Department, Capital & Operating Budgets, Insurance

Capital Budget - Five year priorities:

1. Litchfield's Fire Apparatus Ramp rebuild pushed from last year
2. Bantam pipes - risk of damage to building and equipment
3. Northfield Engine 1
4. FM Fire Ponds
5. E. Litchfield Fire Exhaust system for ARPA funds
6. Northfield ARPA funds for hose replacements

Ten year priorities– SCBA and radio upgrade. Currently have a \$90,000 request in ARPA funds and capital expenditures of \$1,350,250.00 includes request for Bantam. Northfield 1995 Spartan Gladiator Cab truck - can't justify the expense for a refurb that may give truck another 10 years. It is cheaper to downgrade to a new Spartan Metro Star 5. Will be a presentation on in Dec. Litchfield parking lot needs repaving and asphalt is \$90 a ton.

Operating Budget - Due in Dec. Price of fuel oil is going to be bad this year.

Insurance - CIRMA asked to have a rep at today's meeting but they declined. Possibly, someone will attend next month. S. Fogarty reported CIRMA answered some questions and gave partial answers for others. Some things are clearly not covered. Next step is to meet with E. Callahan and BOS to address all and unanswered questions. J. Campbell stated, if there is no coverage due to bylaws, bylaws will be rewritten. Insurance must always go thru FC Budget and not BOS to insure it's never cut or cancelled as it was previously. With Dec. deadline, need E. Callahan and CIRMA rep at Nov. meeting.

6. Committee Reports

None.

7. Fire Marshal Report

For Sept., D. Rogers is handling the only fire investigation, a minor car fire. C. Wilcox is working with schools to correct outstanding violations. New fire prevention codes went into effect Oct. 1. New code books won't be printed until Dec. and they're not available as PDF. Twenty-eight inspections done in Sept. Oct. will probably be light on inspections as he attempts to learn new codes. Fire prevention is this weekend at Community Field. C. Wilcox and R. Litwin are doing WZBG 8:20 am interview to promote. For month, was one car fire, nine burn permits, no blasting permits and no equipment report. Three email siren complaints were received and will be forwarded to D. Rogers.

8. Update on Department Physicals - Review updated department rosters

- a) Bantam FD due in April
- b) E. Litchfield FD due in May
- c) Northfield FD due in June
- d) Litchfield FD due in November
- e) LVA due in November

J. Campbell had meeting today regarding physicals. With loss of vendor and FM office, most departments are behind. Once caught up, anyone over ninety days will be pulled or it will effect WC insurance. FM office is doing spreadsheets and they will be ready in two weeks. Your next physical will be based off of date you went last. Physicals done at AFC in Torrington do not need an appointment and hours are Mon-Fri 8 am - 8 pm and 8 am - 5 pm on weekends. FM office needs current rosters from chiefs. E. Callahan needs physical info for pensions and WC. J. Campbell is going to locate everyone's previous medical records from Jeanine. C. Wilcox has submitted a grant for identification tags.

9. Any EMS Business that needs to be discussed

None.

10. Old Business

None.

11. New Business

Effective as of Sept. 8, 2022, G. Shuhi's resignation letter was read into the record. J. Hodges agreed to accept with regret, J. Torrant seconded and vote was unanimous. The commission would like to thank G. Shuhi for his many years on the committee and for looking out for the town.

Northfield FD will be installing a cistern on DOT property on the corner of Campville and Marsh Road. D. Carroll is getting easement. R. Alexe agreed for public works to sink tank if fire department provides all the materials. J. Campbell will contact S. Dionne regarding writing a grant. Online, a 10,000 gallon tank with shipping is \$23,000.00. They would like 20,000 gallon but tank is \$40,000 and 58 feet long. They are looking into if space or funding is available for two 10,000 gallon tanks. R. Alexe is researching regulations for sinking a tank. Northfield will get copy of easement map. There will be a title search to verify ownership of land. S. Fogarty moved to explore sinking a cistern on DOT land at the corner of Campville Road and Marsh Road with support from the FC to seek grants and acquire an easement. R. Alexe has already given his blessing. J. Torrant seconded and vote to approve was unanimous.

12. Adjournment

J. Hodges moved to adjourn at 5:52 pm, J. Torrant seconded and vote was unanimous.



John Campbell, Chairman
Board of Fire Commissioners & EMS

11-18-2022

Date