

Dunn's Corners Fire District

1 Langworthy Road

Westerly, RI 02891

Minutes

Operating Committee Meeting

May 14, 2012

The Dunn's Corners Fire District Operating Committee (OC) convened on Monday May 14, 2012 at 7:00 PM, in Fire Station #2.

Attendees were comprised of OC members Jonathan Schreier, Matt Thomsen, Chief Mike Frink, and Bob Delaney. Tom Algieri and Ken Martin were excused. A quorum was present.

Additional attendees included District Clerk Steve White.

Actions of the OC (all votes unanimous unless otherwise noted):

Agenda Items

Previous Meeting Minutes - *A motion was made seconded and so voted to approve the March 12, 2012 meeting minutes.*

Next Operating Committee Meeting - The next meeting of the Operating Committee meeting will be held at Station 1 on June 11, 2012 at 7:00 pm.

Financial Statements – The Committee reviewed the financial statements for the period of June 2011 through April 2012. An analysis of the restricted funds showed the following;

- Truck Fund Balance - \$43,179.95
- Equipment Fund Balance - \$47,534.00
- Building and Grounds Fund Balance – (\$26,099.63) Due to the emergency replacement of a back-up generator at Station 1
- Grange Repairs - \$17,345.80

A motion was made seconded and so voted to accept the April 2012 financial statements.

Treasurer's Report & Delinquent Account Review – The Treasurer informed the committee that the tax sale went smoothly with 10 of 15 property tax liens sold generating \$23,062.19 in proceeds. The unsold liens consisted of private roads with a combined tax delinquency of \$3,887.46.

The Treasurer informed the committee that he and the clerk met with the administrative assistant on developing a task list. The Treasurer will also be reviewing the monthly cash

requirements of the District with the bookkeeper, and would report back the amounts at the next meeting. He informed the committee that the district's CPA stated that typically fire districts keep a minimum of 2 months operating cash on hand at all times. The Treasurer also advised the committee that 3 tax payers who were experiencing financial hardship and allowed to go on a payment plan to clear up their arrearage were making their scheduled periodic payments.

It was suggested that the District approach Ken Swain about providing assistance with calculating the 2012 – 2013 District tax rates.

Chief's Report – Chief Frink provided an update on the following items.

- Charlestown Police Department Letter – The Chief provided the committee with a letter sent to the Charlestown Police Department in an effort to clarify some dispatch issues.
- Fire Inspection of DCFD Facilities – The Chief provided the committee with the Fire Inspection report compiled by John Mackay ADSFM which revealed several deficiencies that will need mitigation. The Chief provided the committee with electrical quotes primarily focused on resolving the emergency lighting issues.
- Budget 2012 – 2013 – The Chief advised the committee that he and the Board of Engineers are close to completing a budget which includes preliminary work on developing redesign plans for Station 1 and forming a committee to replace Engine 4.
- Grants – A grant for an extinguishing system has been filed.
- Disposal Contract – A three year contract for rubbish disposal has been executed with EZ Waste.
- Gas Grill – The Chief is looking into the potential purchase of a commercial gas grill to be used for department and community events. Typically these units sell from between \$5000 to \$6500 dollars brand new.
- Basic Life Support Services will be provided by the Dunn's Corners Fire Department by the end of May.
- The Chief requested that the District donate \$200.00 to a fundraiser to help defray medical expenses for the daughter of Chief Lloyd.
- The Chief is looking into the humidity issues being experienced in the bay at Station 2.

A motion was made seconded and so voted to accept the Chief's report and to donate \$200.00 to the fundraiser to support Chief Lloyd's family.

Moderator's Report - Moderator Thomsen informed the committee that he will be working with the District's legal counsel on proposing a Charter revision to allow district property owners not just residents the right to vote at annual and special meetings.

Charlestown Land Sale – The committee discussed reaching out to a local realtor and obtaining a best use opinion on the Charlestown land owned by the District through a tax sale.

Other Business

Grange Building – The Chief advised the committee that a slop sink has been installed at the Grange and that someone maybe interested in the old ranges located in the building's basement.

The committee discussed approaching the town of Charlestown about exempting the Grange from property taxes given that the facility primarily supports local non-profit community groups.

Nominating Process – The District Clerk informed the committee that he would be publicizing the District's nominating process on both the District's website and in the Westerly Sun prior to month end. Committee members Jonathan Schreier and Bob Delaney stated that they both intend to run for another term.

Public Comments

New RV Park – The subject of accessing a fire tax on RV Units at newly proposed RV park was discussed. The committee stated that it had reviewed the matter and found that it would be impractical and require the taxation of all vehicles in the District. The Committee did state that it would look into per incident charges.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm
Respectfully Submitted,

Steve White
District Clerk