

# **Dunn's Corners Fire District**

1 Langworthy Road

Westerly, RI 02891

**Minutes**

**Operating Committee Meeting**

**April 8, 2013**

The Dunn's Corners Fire District Operating Committee (OC) convened on Monday April 8, 2013 at 5:30 PM, in Fire Station #1.

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

Additional attendees included District Solicitor Vin Naccarato, and 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 11, 2013 meeting minutes.*

**Next Operating Committee Meeting** - The next meeting of the Operating Committee is scheduled for Monday May 13, 2013 at 7:00 PM in Station 1.

**Financial Statements** – The committee received, reviewed and accepted the financial statements for the reporting period June 2012 through March 2013.

**Chief's Report** –The Chief's report provided the committee with an update on the following items;

- A review of all pending legislation pertaining to fire districts in the State of Rhode Island.
- A discussion of the potential replacement of Engine 4 and potential future sale of Engine 2.
- Grange fire code and handicap access upgrades – the Chief informed the committee that he has reviewed bids and will be awarding the work for the voter approved upgrades to the Grange.

The Chief provided the committee with a proposed revised schedule of fees for services which is based on the Chief's research for what is usual and customary in the State of RI.

*A motion was made seconded and so voted to move forward with the revised fee schedule.*

**Dept. of Defense Fire Fighter Program (FFP)** - *A motion was made and seconded to authorize chief Michael J. Frink, to enter into an agreement with the state of Rhode Island, Dept. of Environmental Management, Division of Forest Environment for the purpose of acquiring excess federal property under the Dept. of Defense Fire Fighter Program (FFP) and to provide such additional information needed and required to execute such an agreement.*

**Treasurer** – The Treasurer reviewed the work to date by the Administrative Assistant documenting the District’s accounting procedures as recommended in the 2012 CPA audit.

**Solicitor’s Review of Minimum Tax** – The Solicitor provided the committee with the opinion that because the District’s Charter does not specifically allow for a minimum tax amount that the District cannot assess one. The District would need to submit a change to its charter allowing for a minimum tax to the legislature for approval in order to implement this type of assessment. The Treasurer disagreed with the opinion and believes the Districts Electors can set a minimum tax amount.

*A motion was made seconded and so voted by a vote of 5 to 1 with the Treasurer voting against to provide a credit to all tax payers who had paid a minimum tax in 2012-2013 for the amount greater than their normal assessment as well as provide a check rebate for tax payers who request that option.*

**Review of Tax Exempt Status Dunn’s Corners Fire Department** – The Chief located the original Charter form 1942 and will continue to work with the moderator to move this item forward.

**2012 Tax Sale** – The moderator informed the committee that only three of tax sales items have not been redeemed and that letters will be going out to those bidders explaining the late filing issue. Approximately \$3,000.00 in rebates will need to be processed.

**2013 Tax Sale** – The 2013 tax sale process is proceeding on schedule with the new title company.

**Audit Work RFP** – The current audit contract has expired and the committee has sent out RFPs to three firms for a three audit contract starting in June 2013.

### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments at this meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm  
Respectfully Submitted,

Steve White

District Clerk