

# **Dunn's Corners Fire District**

1 Langworthy Rd  
Westerly, RI 02891

## **Minutes Operating Committee Meeting May 12, 2015**

The Dunn's Corners Fire District Operating Committee (OC) convened on Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at Station #1.

Attendees were comprised of the OC members Moderator Matt Thomsen, Jon Schreier, Ken Martin, Chief Mike Frink, Treasurer Bob Delaney and Tom Algiere. A quorum was present.

Additional Attendees: Bookkeeper Kerry Schreier and District Clerk Steve White

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

### **Agenda Items:**

**Pledge of Allegiance** - The meeting started at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Previous meeting minutes** – *A motion was made seconded and so voted to approve the April 14, 2015 Operating Committee meeting minutes.*

**Next OC Meeting** – The next OC meeting will take place at Station #1 on Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

**Grange Building** – Ron Meneo of East Beach Rd spoke on behalf of the volunteer citizens committee working to ensure that the facility remains a viable community building. He stated the committee was still working on its structure and was looking for a commitment from the DCFD Operating Committee to work with the volunteers. Additionally, Mr. Meneo stated the volunteer committee was looking for a commitment from the DCFD Operating Committee to keep the Grange financed, supported and open until at least July 1, 2016 in order to allow the citizens group time to organize and develop a plan for the future management and maintenance of the facility.

Moderator Thomsen welcomed the participation from the volunteers and stated he understood it would take time for all the details to be worked out.

Committee Member Martin voiced a concern about an article appearing in the Westerly Sun discussing the future of the Grange Building which contained statements from the volunteers regarding the current process. Committee Member Martin would prefer that the DCFD taxpayers receive their information about what is happening with the Grange Building from the OC and that all official comments come from that body.

**Financial Statements** – The Committee reviewed the financial statements provided by the new District Bookkeeper Kerry Schreier. The Committee discussed the continued movement to an accrual-based system; changes to loan balance accounting; and the reporting of interest income on delinquent tax accounts.

*A motion was made seconded and so voted to accept the financial statements through April 2015.*

**Treasurer's Report** - The Treasurer reported that the tax sale went well with all tax liens sold generating \$16,000 in collection revenue. Additionally the Treasurer stated that the \$55,000 additional principal payment on the Station 2 loan was made during the month.

**Chief's Report** – The Chief reported on the following;

The sprinkler system at the Grange is repaired and it does not appear that it was an underground water pipe issue; the Chief is applying for a \$30,000 grant to install a new repeater system in the Bradford area; the Board of Engineers is working on the budget and is hoping to keep any increase to a minimum.

The Chief also discussed rolling \$5,000 from this year's training budget into next year's so the Department can send firefighters to FDIC training school during the next fiscal year.

Additionally, the Chief informed the Committee that the Department received an AED from a grant Chief Peacock of the Watch Hill Fire District obtained through the Roberts Foundations.

The Department responded to 60 calls during the month of April

- 39 Medicals – 8 had no response
- 21 Fire

The Fire Marshalls Conducted 18 inspections & Plan reviews

- 2 Plan reviews
- 13 Residential inspections
- 3 Commercial inspections

**Contracting Districts** – Moderator Thomsen stated that he would have new draft contracts produced for the Committee's review for both the Shady Harbor and Shelter Harbor Fire Districts by the June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Bradford Industrial Park (BIP)** – The Moderator updated the Committee that he the Chief and the Treasurer would be meeting with Attorney McKinney to go over the case and legal action to be pursued. The Moderator also stated that the retainer check for \$5,000 would be sent and used to cover the \$250.00/hr research cost and \$350.00/hr court costs charged by counsel.

**New Business** – The Moderator informed the Committee that attorney Mike Cozzolino was willing to accept the position as the District's solicitor.

**Correspondence** – The Committee discussed correspondence received by taxpayer J. Angelo in regards to where the District gets the authority to tax land and foundations at the same rate as structures. The Committee stated that it follows the taxing process as all the other fire districts in the state.

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session to review a personnel matter.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50.

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Steve White District Clerk