

Dunn's Corners Fire District

1 Langworthy Rd
Westerly, RI 02891

Minutes Operating Committee Meeting November 10, 2015

The Dunn's Corners Fire District Operating Committee (OC) convened on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at Station #1.

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

Additional Attendees: District Clerk-Steve White; from Friends of the Grange Ron Meneo and Tom Doyle; from Quonochontaug Central Beach Fire District Bill Heep, Jim Mara, Randy Thornton and Charles Freedgood

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 – The minutes of the October meeting will be approved at the December meeting.

Next OC Meeting – The next OC meeting will take place at Station #1 on Tuesday December 8, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

Contracting Districts – The Committee discussed the proposed contracts being offered to all the contracting districts which in effect have them paying a rate equivalent to that paid by the District's tax payers discounted by 3.5% to 4.0 % to account for non-fire protection related administrative and collection expenses.

The Committee met with representatives of the Quonochontaug Central Beach Fire District (QCBFD) to discuss a framework for a future contract. The Operating Committee stated it's intent to keep all the District's contracts on the same terms and conditions. The representatives of the QCBFD were concerned about the valuations in their District moving up more quickly than that of the DCFD and recommend that we use Dunn's Corners year over year percentage change in the aggregate of property tax assessment (i.e., the Grand List) as of 12/31 each year (be it increase or decrease) as a multiplier against the QCB Grand List fixed as of December 31, 2014.

Both sides agreed to continue negotiations at a future date.

Friends of the Grange – Ron Meneo reviewed a proposed lease for the organization Friends of the Quonochontaug Grange, Inc with the District to help formalize the relationship. There was conversation regarding how much and for how long the District would provide ongoing monetary support for the facility. The Committee wanted to review the financial support component in more detail and took the proposed lease under advisement.

Mr. Meneo updated the Committee as to progress to date which included refreshed signage, a proposal for bathroom renovations of \$2500 and a schedule of work the group is hoping to complete over time.

Additionally, Mr. Meneo provided documentation showing that the Grange Facility is viewed as having historical significance by the State of Rhode Island.

Treasurer's Report - The Treasurer noted that tax collections are on track and the District is on budget. He also noted that the auditors have started their work and suggested that at future District Annual Meetings a full detail of restricted fund activity be provided.

The Treasurer recommended to the committee, invoicing the contracting districts for 50% of the estimated contractual amount due while the final details of the new contracts are worked out.

The committee agreed with the recommendation and accepted the District's financial statements through October 2015.

Chief's Report – The Chief provided the committee with the following update;

- Repeater Site
 - Equipment is in and will start installation on Friday
- Boat motor has been mounted and lettering is completed
 - Have a few items that will need to be fixed and will go back to dealer in December
 - Have more work to be done on it but will be ready for service in spring
- Bay doors are pretty much done
 - Contractor has to come back and fix some bowing in boards and calk seams, He is also going to repair missing board from vent above doors
 - Electrician will be back to install LED lights over each apparatus & outside at each Station
 - Fagan will be back to change out damaged panels on rear doors
- Radio Boxes:
 - equipment is on order should be in middle of next week
 - Have no install date as of right now
 - Did have to apply for FCC license, application is in and waiting for them
 - My plan is to have our infrastructure in place by beginning of spring and businesses on board by end of DCFD fiscal year.
- Working on audit
- Responded to 58 Calls in October
 - 34 Medicals
 - 24 Fire

- Conducted 52 inspections & Plan reviews
 - 10 Plan reviews
 - 18 Residential
 - 24 Commercial

Town wide

- Ordinances for Medical Marijuana
- Ordinance for House numbering
- Accountability System
- Westerly EOP
- Grant for SCBA's

State wide

- PR For fire service
 - Fire Prevention – Turkey Frying – The Road Show
 - Recruitment & retention – TV Adds playing
 - Many other thing to shine a better light on fire service.

Bradford Industrial Park – The Moderator provided the committee with a copy of the petition drafted by Patrick McKinney, Esquire on behalf of the district looking for relief from being the first department on call to respond to BIP fire alarm situations. The Moderator and committee member K. Martin will review on more time before having the action filed.

Open Meetings Act – The Treasurer gave an overview of the Open Meetings seminar he attended. The main points had to do with the handling of Executive Sessions and minutes and the need for at least one representative of the Committee to attend the program each year.

Charter Review Committee – Moderator Thomsen appointed a charter review committee consisting of himself, committee member Ken Martin, and taxpayer James Angelo. Additionally he noted that he would ask former district Tax Assessor Ken Swain if he would be interested in joining the committee.

Correspondence –

1. Grange Facility Lease
2. Grange Bathroom Upgrades Proposal

Public Comments – none

Meeting adjourned at 8:25.

Steve White District Clerk