

Dunn's Corners Fire District

Tele-Remote Minutes

Operating Committee Meeting

June 9, 2020

The Dunn's Corners Fire District Operating Committee (OC) convened on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 at 6:30 PM tele-remotely.

Attendees were comprised of OC members Interim Chief Keith Kenyon, Deputy Chief Chris DeGrave, Bob Delaney, Rich Thomsen, Ken Martin, John Merkel and Matthew Thomsen. A quorum was present.

Other Attendees: Representative of the Friends of the Quonchontaug Grange (FOTQG).

Matthew Thomsen coordinated the meeting through the Zoom application.

Actions of OC (all votes unanimous unless otherwise noted).

Agenda Items:

Pledge of Allegiance – The meeting started at 6:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Next Meeting – The next meeting of the Operating Committee will be scheduled for Tuesday, July 7, 2020 at 6:30 PM tele-remotely.

Previous Meeting Minutes – *A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2020 Operating Committee meeting correcting the spelling of Bobola.*

Friends of the Quonchontaug Grange (FOTQG) –

Impact of COVID19 on rentals

- a. Plan for resumption of rentals underway based on RI Government mandates and guidelines – Notice posted on website and emailed to all past and present renters.
- b. Addendum added to Rental Agreements.

Work at the Grange

- Repairs to interior stairs to lower level delayed until sometime in June.
- HC Accessible sink being installed in Left (East) bathroom
- Work bench being installed in Storage Room
- Three remaining electrical repairs, Modine Electrical cleanup, Fan overstage area (FOTQG) and Safety Lighting at doorway at bottom of interior stairs.

- Exterior painting four quotes provided, Scarboro Pain (\$4900.00) recommended by FOTQG as Best value.
- Installation of Wall board in back (south) entry way room underway, already framed and prepped.
- Repaired and regraded crushed asphalt portion of parking area related to street drainage safety issue
- ADA Walkways- Charlestown Town Grant requested, awaiting outcome of Budget for grant funding, two quotes received, expecting third quote this week.
- Investigating what needed alterations are needed to make the west door ADA compliant, reviewing requirements.
- Butler/Caterer's kitchen status – planning underway
- Working on bids for Ultraviolet (UV) system

Any questions/comments

Motion made and seconded to use John McClain for exterior painting of grange, four bids were obtained and it was agreed with Chief DeGrave to approve this contractor.

Treasurer's Report – Bob Delaney reported that expense tracking against budget is going extremely well. Bob indicated the budget is \$20,000.00 to the good after paying off Note. The budget was followed.

There is no need for tax increase during this troubled time.

Mary Rathbun thinks as of July 1st to make a recommendation to use another vendor system.

Motion made, seconded and so voted to accept Treasurer's Report.

Chief's Report – Interim Chief Keith Kenyon reported that the District Properties are all in good shape. Sign lighting parts are on order and will be done in the next couple of weeks. The seal coating has been done.

Training began again on the 27th, more drivers qualified; there were 119 hours total in training, all apparatus are working.

There were 18 F.C.; 15 ESC; 14 Smoke Cert., 5 Plan Review and 10 Inspections;

Station 2 – starting residency program, 2 people living there as a trial run until September, 2020; they have requirements to stay; no compensation paid; Matt Thomsen concerned about this program and the liability; Bob Delaney indicated that Chief DeGrave had looked into it, and its not a W2 item, contracts have been written and we should see policies; Chief Kenyon states the guys were hand picked and now the station is getting used.

Chief Peacock from Watch Hill would like to obtain from us the old radios if we aren't using them. Matt Thomsen agreed to give them to him.

Motion made, seconded and approved to give old radios to Watch Hill Fire District.

Motion was made, seconded and so voted to accept Chief's Report.

Moderator's Report – Matt Thomsen indicated that he wants to start a new Chief Search Committee. He states that we need to know requirements. Matt states that we need an Operating Committee Administrator. Ken Martins says it's a mistake. Chief Kenyon was not for this either. Bob Delaney did not think it would be a paid employee but a stipend position.

Chief DeGrave indicated the time requirement weekly by the Chief is great and that dividing the tasks among others to make operation run smoothly may work. Bob Delaney will forward list to everyone that Chief DeGrave put together regarding the job duties.

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to accept Moderator's Report.

Other Business –

Budget Matters – There was no correspondence regarding the budget. The budget is ready for presentation.

Capital Items – Discussion regarding S.C. breathing apparatus total cost around \$290,000.00, there is a slight maintenance cost, looking at two vendors that will fully warranty.

Discussion regarding battery operated tools around \$35,000.00 for extraction tools, etc. instead of hydraulics, they are self-sufficient pieces of equipment. This equipment will help firefighters do their jobs.

Motion made and seconded to add these Capital Items to the budget.

Bob Delaney stated that Charter & Bylaws need to be worked on. Attorney Cozzolino can help. Ken feels we need recommendations from the Chief as what is needed in the By-laws.

Public Comments –

None

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM

Motion made and seconded to go into Executive Session for personnel matters.

Meeting reconvened at 8:34 PM

Motion made, seconded and approved regarding Chief DeGrave to deny reimbursement of life insurance policy premiums from May 1st to June 1st.

Motion, made, seconded and approved to increase stipend level for Interim Chief from \$600.00 per week, retroactive to May 1st through end of July and increase August 1st to \$800.00.

Motion made to close meeting at 8:40 PM.

Linda F Garabedian, District Clerk