

Dunn's Corners Fire District
Operating Committee Meeting
March 8, 2022

The Dunn's Corners Fire District Operating Committee (OC) convened on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 6:30 PM at Station One, One Langworthy Road, Westerly, RI ;

Attendees were comprised of OC members - Richard Thomsen, Robert Delaney, John Merkel, Ken Martin, William Balcezak, Chief Keith Kenyon, A quorum was present.

Other Attendees: Friends of the Quonochontaug Grange and Attorney Michael Cozzolino.

John Merkel coordinated the meeting.

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 and a Moment of Silence.

Previous Meeting Minutes – There were to minor adjustments to the minutes of February 8, 2022 Operating Committee Minutes by John Merkel, then the minutes were filed.

FOTQG Report –

Rental Updates: Bookings are picking up

Maintenance Contracts –

Ann asked if there were any updates. Chief is still working on the HVAC maintenance update.

Chief indicates staying with vendors now using there are warranties. Valley Heating did annual maintenance and Boss is serving Both Station 1 and 2.

Upcoming/Ongoing Maintenance Items:

Shingle East and North side.

Who is the OC manager of this project.

Main Floor and Stage Floor refinishing – scheduled for May 2 through May 8. No upstairs using during that time for any reasons. Some rentals have moved downstairs.

Bob Delaney is point person to contact on the Shingle Project. Bob, Bill and Rich were the original members working on this. Mr. York states he can begin the project in May, 2022.

Long Range Planning
Hotwater Heater/Lower Level Auxiliary Heater

Ann distributed a draft long term capital plan for the grange.

Treasurer's Report – Bob Delaney reported as follows:

The financials are in good shape.

Expenses are tracking against budget.

Fuel is higher than budgeted but everything else is good.

Tax Assessors/Collector's Report – Rosalind Choquette, Tax Assessor reported the following:

The office has been working on outstanding monies due the district.

Work continues regarding the recap of the tax sale results.

There is currently a collection rate of 100.76501%. The Operating Committee was given a spreadsheet with the breakdowns.

Processing delinquent payments is still ongoing.

The office has made every effort to respond to calls and emails in a timely fashion.

Chief's Report – Chief Kenyon reported as follows:

Fire Calls Jan.- 23; EMS Calls Jan.- 10; for a total of 33 calls; fire Marshall – 6 final; 10 residential inspections; 7 residential plan review and 1 Com. plan

Training hours – Jan. 547 hours.

Department has been working on the Hum-V project. Members are doing work trying to keep the cost down and enjoying the challenge.

March 14th Moxibous Text is coming to work on cloud files and the ability to access the files

Doors on the bay area are being looked at for an estimate.

CARE/ARPA Act –

Chief indicates that he and Bob Delaney are working on this. There are items that can be put into this. Some items are IT & Cloud update fall into this act.

Sprinklers Station 1 is another item that falls under this Act.

Leasing Bradford Fire Truck and replacement tanker truck at Station 2

Bob indicates they will get a list together now and present to State for its approval.

Bob is getting more prices of items to be funded for grange. Ann will get him estimates.

Chief states medical items not in the budget are good items to be included in this plan.

Moderator's Comments – John Merkel states the following:

He is working on the contract for Central Beach with Attorney Cozzolino.

Mary Rathbun was able to get a new sales tax exemption certificate last week.

Moderator Succession Planning –

It has been posted on the website. John is out of ideas.

Chief is going to post on the Department's Facebook page.

5 Year Capital Acquisition Plan – Chief and Bob Delaney stated that if we do not get funds from the CARE/ARPA ACT we will have to go into this plan. There was discussion regarding purchase of a new engine six and the items that will need to be replaced and upgraded during the five-year plan.

Budget Proposal – John Merkel indicates that this should begin and the Chief indicated he will have a draft for April meeting.

Document Shredding Day – Mary Rathbun has received confirmation of a Shredding Day on April 30, 2022 from 8:30 – 11:30 AM at Station 1. The charge is \$250.00 and hour for a total of \$750.00.

The budget for this event had been approved at a previous meeting for the amount of \$1,200.00.

Westerly Community Credit Unit has offered to pay one-half of the cost (\$600.00) and Seaside Pharmacy has also offered to be make a sponsor donation of \$100.00. There will also be the cost of advertising, posters and food and drinks for the volunteers the day of the event. These things will be paid for from the budgeted funds.

Mary asked that a can good be brought by each participant the day of shredding. All cans will be donated locally. Flyers will be made and available for distribution. Ann asked for one.

Next Meeting – The next meeting of the Operating Committee will be Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 6:30 PM at Station 1.

Public Comments – NONE

A motion was made, seconded and approved to convene Executive Session to discuss the Bradford Fire District Truck at 7:26 PM

A Motion was made, seconded and approved to re-convene in Open Session.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to seal the Executive Session Minutes.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to authorize John Merkel to negotiate on behalf of Dunns Corners Fire District with Bradford Fire District regarding the leasing of the fire truck.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30PM

Linda F Garabedian, District Clerk