**Dunn’s Corners Fire District**

**Operating Committee Meeting**

March 18, 2025

The Dunn’s Corners Fire District Operating Committee (OC) convened on Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 6:30 PM at Station One, Dunns Corners, Westerly, Rhode Island.

Attendees were comprised of OC members – Chief Keith Kenyon, Robert Delaney, Rich Thomsen, Dan Roy, Ken Martin, and Paul Gencarella, A quorum was present.

Other Attendees: Attorney Michael Cozzolino

 Office Manager Mary Rathbun

 Tax Collector/Assessor Rosalind Choquette

 Friends of Quonochontaug Grange

Paul Gencarella, Moderator 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 – Motion was made and seconded to approve and file the Minutes of the February 11, 2025 Operating Committee Meeting.

FOTQG Report – Ann Bettinger reported as follows:

Updates

* Continue to manage expenses closely
* Maintaining active rental schedule
* Plan for late winter/spring work party to include attic cleanup
* Landscaping work party in late spring –

Chief states there are no training sessions in the area of the Grange Property scheduled at this time

Maintenance items:

Discussion regarding camera access

Ann asked about update on drainage correction – nothing from the State at this time.

Long Term plan –

Attic window replacement – has been approved and scheduled

Bid request for door closure replacement is being worked on

Moderator spoke to Heather Paliotta regarding Charlestown 250 year anniversary event to take place in 2026 – this could be good exposure for the grange at this event

Bob Delaney suggested to have management of the yoga class at Wilcox Tavern to come and view the space available in case they needed additional space for the future.

Treasurer’s Report – Bob Delaney gave the following report:

The expenses are tracking well against the budget and the rates are good.

There are budget items to be looked at relative to work done on Tower Truck

and personal protective equipment

Tax Assessors/Collector’s Report – Rosalind Choquette, Tax Assessor

The activities related to the Tax Sale have been completed. Things are progressing with only five remaining properties being put forth to the Tax Sale.

Bob Delaney asked about the five properties, Rosalind indicated that all should be bid on.

Collection percentage to 100.43%.

Chief’s Report – Chief stated as follows:

For the month of February Fire 13 and EMS calls 16 for a total of 29.

RI Blood Center gave recognition to the station for blood drive being held here.

Town of Charlestown has a new EMA Director as of today.

Will be traveling with family from April 6, 2025 through April 17, 2025.

*A motion was made and seconded to approve all reports that were given.*

Budget Review 2025/2026 – Chief indicated that maintenance and repairs will be bumped up some to adjust for PPE and training.

Tanker pricing is still being worked on, $800,000 - $875,000 will be about the price for build spect with body and paint warranties.

Payroll has a little increase

Moderator asked if any other members had any input.

Chief will get budget out before April Meeting.

Fieldstone Development Cistern Matter – Chief is trying to get more information regarding maintenance for this. There should be a homeowners association. Town has taken over the roads.

Chief is trying to get information if the Town is handling this matter. Dunn’s Corners Fire District has made repairs in the past.

Bob Delaney thinks correspondence should be sent to Bradford regarding this cistern matter and to the homeowner’s association that Fieldstone Development Cisterns are not being maintained.

Chief will speak to them.

Mike Dirobbio states it should be written in the original development plans any matters regarding cisterns.

Proposed Roundabouts – the State is asking for input regarding installing roundabouts at McGowan Corners and Church Street Bradford. Committee took a vote and there were 4 yes, 1 no and 1 not enough information for McGowan Corners; the vote was unanimous no for Church Street, Bradford.

Mary will draft letter regarding this matter to be sent to the State for April’s meeting.

*Motion was made that any roundabout at Church Street Bradford be declined and a roundabout to be placed at McGowan’s Corners to be accepted with further investigation.*

Next Meeting – The next meeting of the Operating Committee will be Tuesday, April 8, 2025 meeting will be held at the Station One.

Old Business –

By Laws – tabled to next month

Website – tabled to next month

Public Comments - Ernie Rathbun says stoplights should be installed not roundabouts.

*Motion was made, second and approved to adjourn meeting at approximately 7:47PM.*

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Linda F Garabedian, District Clerk