

Dunn's Corners Fire District
Operating Committee Meeting
January 12, 2021

The Dunn's Corners Fire District Operating Committee (OC) convened on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 6:30 PM tele-remotely.

Attendees were comprised of OC members Chief Keith Kenyon, Bob Delaney, Ken Martin, Rich Thomsen, Michael Cozzolino, Esq., and John Merkel. A quorum was present.

Other Attendees: Friends of the Quonochontaug Grange

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.

Next Meeting – The next meeting of the Operating Committee will be Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 6:30 PM

Previous Meeting Minutes – *A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2020 of the Operating Committee meeting.*

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2020 of the Operating Committee Meeting.

FOTQG Report – Impact of Covid 19 continues on rentals, resuming rentals within RI government mandates and guidelines; notices are posted on website; new monthly rentals starting mid January; currently running through May 31, 2021, will revising for extension; shortfall on forecasted rentals due to Covid 19 impacts; plan is to send next payment as soon as the next threshold is met, anticipating February if no further pause is required.

FOTQG Lease extension – discussion regarding renewal; discussion underway for the Quonochontaug Historical Society sub lease extension.

Work at the Grange: is being done – continue to monitor runoff issue in crushed asphalt portion of parking area related to street drainage; butler/caterer's kitchen work underway to repaint existing cabinets, replace sinks and repair flooring, completion anticipated mid-February.

Bob Delaney asked if the group would share their most recent financial statements with the District? Ann replied that she would check with her Board and advise back.

Rich Thomsen and Ken Martin commented that there is a good relationship between the Grange and DCFD.

Treasurer's Report – Bob Delaney reported that the finances are in good shape and tracking well against the budget. There was a good report given by the auditors. We are in accordance with all regulations. There is still ongoing discussion with the auditors.

Bob indicates that the grange is doing well.

Bob noted that there is \$175,000.00 to use from Equipment Reserve for SCBA purchase and the balance will be a short-term loan. If additional taxes are received maybe no loan will be needed.

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Tax Assessors/Collector's Report – there is no Tax Collector at this time, and Mary Rathbun has been doing the work. Mary indicated that Diane Nardone came into the office to assist Mary and she is coming in again.

Mary indicated all taxes have been deposited and that all credit cards had been paid. The West Beach taxpayers are all set, and that there are approximately \$92,000.00 outstanding taxes for 2019-2020.

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve the Tax Collector's Report.

Chief's Report – Chief Kenyon reported the following for December

There were 23 F.C.; 3 EMS; Fire Marshall 10 residential and 2 commercial and 5 plan review ;

Chief spoke to Bradford Moderator – they went another way with the phone system.

Stats were sent to Tom Lloyd as requested.

The matter regarding Brookside Electric has been addressed and the balance due now should be paid by DCFD.

A final decision was made on purchase SCBAs and they have been ordered. It is a new product with great safety features.

Dry hydrants in Quonnie are being investigated to be back in service.

A new snowblower for Station 1 will cost approximately \$1,800.00 – a cub cadet at Tractor Supply Store. The old snow blower will be put up for sale.

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to spend \$1,800.00 on a new snowblower for Station 1.

Westerly Dispatch Agreement was discussed regarding the rate for the year.

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve Agreement with Westerly dispatch for another year at rates agreed upon.

There has been no progress on the fence matter with Dunns' Corners Market. Chief will discuss further with Tony Spino once spring arrives.

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve the Chief's Report.

Moderator's Comments – John Merkel discussed the loss of Tax Assessor/Collector. Diane Nardone declined the position, however she will help Mary for the time being. Ken Swain was offered the job but there has been no response from him.

John is working with Shelter Harbor regarding contract. It should be the same contract.

Told Chief Kenyon that the Operating Committee is here to help, so ask for anything he needs.

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

Other Business

Bradford Fire District Contract Renewal – Moderator thinks we do not have to do anything. Frank Manfredi wants to extend for another year and Attorney Cozzolino agrees.

Will be on the agenda of the next meeting for a vote.

DCFD does not have a contract for Keith Kenyon, but Bob Delaney and John Merkel will work on this.

Public Comments – Jim Angelo wished everyone a Happy New. He had wanted to discuss the update to the charter, was anything done about it. The moderator states not yet, waiting for more support. He will bring it up at Annual Meeting.

Jim wanted to discuss the Comprehensive Plan being proposed by the Town, and had anyone looked at it. Bob Delaney had looked at it and there is not enough information yet. The moderator indicates he will look into it.

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM

Linda F Garabedian, District Clerk