

# Nichols Fire District Monthly Meeting

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**February 17, 2015**

## **Attendees**

Commissioner Doug Doyle  
Commissioner Rick Perachio  
Commissioner Ron Butz, Sr.  
Tax Collector Hank Owen  
Treasurer Barbara Plofkin  
Secretary Curt M Robinson

Chief J. Brian McGovern – Arrived at 20:02

Meeting called to order at 19:41

## **1. January 2015 Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Doyle asked if there were any questions about the report that was presented.

Motion made by Commissioner Butz, seconded by Commissioner Perachio. Passed unanimously.

Commissioner Doyle mentioned that the minutes are available online on the Town of Trumbull web site.

## **2. Tax Collector Report**

Mr. Owen presented his written report. Collections for the month of January were just over \$7,192. They are running ahead of what they normally are for this time of year.

Motion to accept by Commissioner Butz and seconded by Commissioner Perachio as published. Unanimously approved.

## **3. Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Barbara Plofkin presented her written report.

- There was approximately \$30,000 in bonded debt payments and \$19,000 in insurance payments.
- It was noted that the amount collected on the 110/112 Shelton Rd is currently showing as negative, as the year progresses, this line increases. The budget should be adjusted to have a budgeted expense line, i.e. "23 – Rental Properties", going forward.
- Commissioner Butz asked about the expenditures for the "Training Kick-Off Dinner". Discussion ensued about the nature of the expense.

Motion to accept by Commissioner Perachio and seconded by Commissioner Butz. Unanimously approved.

Tax Collector Owen asked about replenishing the District Stationary. Commissioner Butz reported that it should be in within the week.

#### **4. Introductory Interviews**

None

#### **5. Chief's Remarks/Comments/Issues –**

All items were being addressed in other agenda items.

#### **6. Correspondence and Invoices**

- An invoice from Hoffman Fuel was received for “Bleeding and Re-starting the System”. The question was raised whether we had a service contract. Commissioner Perachio will address.
- Correspondence from Travelers Insurance about a “Risk Control Webinar”. This information was to be passed to Chief McGovern by Secretary Robinson.
- Commissioner Doyle had the insurance policies from The Insurance Exchange, along with CD to be filed.

#### **7. Old Business**

- Status, Rescue/Engine New Truck Committee – Dave Gillis, Chairman.  
Commissioner Doyle said no report was received.
- Status, Station 1 Projects – Marc Hilinski, Chairman  
Commissioner Doyle presented the report from the Chairman. The anticipated start date is April 1. A proposed payment schedule from Mike Ray Construction was presented which represents a rough outline for the project. Commissioner Doyle responded that a contract needed to be drawn and signed by a Commissioner. Language needs to be “Upon completion of” rather than “At the start of” for items in the contract. Sub-contractor language and agreements needs to ensure they will be paid properly. It was advised to allow for a 15-20% “contingency”.
- Status of the Past Chief Plofkin and Pastor Joseph Piccirillo recognition dinner. It was a positive event. Commissioner Butz asked about some correspondence that was directed towards Pastor Piccirillo. Chief McGovern reported that the correspondence was given to him privately, but was not read publically.
- Administrative Assistant Position – Commissioner Doyle asked about the formation of a committee to address the selection of this personnel. The position will be announced at the March meeting. A 2-person committee is desired.
- Insurance of the Command Vehicles – The policies were switched from “ACV” to an “Agreed Amount” Value. Each valued at \$65,000 for the vehicles with enhancement, not including movable equipment. The new policy would have a refunded policy value, plus the new value, totaling \$1,250 increase.

## 8. New Business

- Commissioner Perachio presented options regarding fuel oil for heating and electrical generation options.
  - 9-month fixed \$0.0855 kw/hr option is available, which could save about \$108/month. Current amount is \$0.1035 kw/hr. A cancellation fee of \$50 was noted. Discussion about a 12-month contract, but options are limited. The plan was agreed to, with Con-Ed Solutions.
  - Hoffman Fuel contacted Commissioner Perachio and stated our contract was expiring on March 1. We were presented with options. He contacted Petro. New rates were presented, ceiling was \$2.74/gal. or fixed \$2.69/gal. Service Contract pricing was obtained, but it was confirmed that Hoffman Fuel would still deliver.  
Current fee is \$2.67/gal, bur range has been \$2.20-\$2.47. Service contract, fulfilled by Edgerton, was a discounted amount for the Fire Department of \$175.  
There was discussion about other delivery options.  
There are separate contracts for 100 Shelton Road and the 110/112 Shelton Road property.  
Approximate usage 2,200 gallons/year.

Decision to stay with Hoffman Fuel, lock in a rate and have a good service contract.

- Chief McGovern mentioned that Secretary Robinson was investigating the possible bundling of phone, TV and Internet services.
- Commissioner Doyle reminded everyone that there's a 3-Commission meeting on February 25 at NFD Station #1. Schedule is 7pm-9:30pm. Agenda is mostly around CMED, TRDC close-out discussion, and possible business interaction between the Districts and other items. Also, the possibility of radio systems changes.
- Capital need budget discussion
  - Service Truck 304 replacement
  - SCBA Fleet Replacement
  - Radio Communication System

Commissioner Doyle asked to start looking at the 2015-2016 budget and the possibility of looking at another apparatus lease payment. Chief McGovern reported that his staff has started looking at the budget and coming up with a plan. Discussion about long-term projects. Chief McGovern noted that "building improvement" items are the largest unknown expenses.

- Reminder that in May, the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the month will be the Annual District Meeting at 7:30pm, the regular monthly District Meeting will still be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday.
- Chief McGovern presented the Town of Monroe's SOP regarding an "Exterior Firefighter" position.

- He mentioned that the one item open to discussion surrounded the “driver” requirement specification.
- Chief McGovern also reported that the Board of Governors has developed a “Probationary Firefighter Guideline” document, which outlines the entire process, including requirements and goals.

## **9. Remarks/Comments**

None

Meeting adjourned 21:27

Respectfully Submitted,

Capt. Curt Robinson  
Secretary  
Nichols Fire District