

Board of Fire Commissioners
Regular Meeting
March 17, 2021
Filed subject to approval

Attendance: D. Buchanan, R. Cable, J. D. Katz, Miranda, J. Yeotas
Also in attendance: S. Waugh, P. Neary, R. Klem, Janelle Erickson

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 7:31 pm. Commissioner Buchanan moved to approve the January minutes. Commissioner Yeotas made a correction that will be submitted to Commissioner Cable. It will be in the revised February minutes and distributed to the Commission.

Chief Waugh said there were no changes to the status of old engine 4. The budget presentation went well. The Chief said the Department will be called back regarding capital expenditures and personnel. He will review the incident report at the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Buchanan reviewed the memo he sent to the Commissioners regarding the rural water supply. He discussed the proposal which asked for \$75,000 (and a grant of \$4,500 which the town will receive upon completion of the project) for the dry hydrant project to maintain the water supply in the north end and not put its residents at risk. The original proposal was discussed at the last board meeting. Commissioner Buchanan stressed that it is critical to preserve the dry hydrant system to support fire protection. He suggested the town should determine how to fund the project. Commissioner Cable and Commissioner Yeotas asked about future maintenance recommendations relating to the dry hydrants. Commissioner Katz asked who was doing the maintenance. Chief Waugh said routine maintenance has been done, but there have been significant problems due to large storms. It is important to fund this project to catch up and solve some of big problems, so we don't have to overhaul the system. After some discussion, Commissioner Buchanan proposed that the Commission move to fund the Rural Water Supply project for the amount of \$75,000. Commissioner Katz seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Marshal Neary discussed his report. There were no Easton fires. Skylar has done a walking inspection of the golf course. The Fire Marshal cautioned against burning until May.

Commissioner Buchanan asked Chief Waugh about the current budget and post COVID activities. The Chief said the Department is good with the budget. They are back to live training. Firefighters will continue to wear masks on calls. Commissioner Buchanan thanked the Chief and Assistant Chief for their budget presentations as well as the BOF.

The Commission went into executive session at 8:22 pm. The Commission came out of executive session at 8:35 pm. Commissioner Buchanan stated that they completed the interview process of six top candidates. The top candidate agreed to accept the position to start in April.

All candidates are aware of where they were ranked and may be asked to fill a future vacancy. Chief Waugh announced future town meeting dates, 3/22 and 3/23, as well as voting on 3/30.

Commissioner Katz moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 pm. Commissioner Cable seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Commissioner Roberta Cable, Secretary

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