

# Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS Commissioners' Meeting

Meeting called by:	Commissioners	Date, Time:	February 10, 2009 at 18:02 to 21:30
Note taker:	Kathy Tobine	Place:	TNFD Station, 12 Center Street, Tilton

Attendees: Commissioner Commissioner Waldron Waldron, Commissioner Commissioner Auger Auger. Commissioner Bob Watson absent due to personal reason.

Commissioner Waldron called special meeting to order at 6:02 PM. Meeting is being held to discuss the warrant and fire department study.

## Warrant Articles

The meeting was called as result of the legal opinion received from Attorney Chandler. The warrant was sent to DRA by Commissioner Waldron for review. DRA requested Article 15 be removed. It was adopted in 2007 and is good until we rescind that article. It does not need to be done every year.

The legal opinion from Attorney Chandler stated he felt Article 11 is more administrative in nature. If necessary there is no problem with language. He recommends that this Article adopted by the Commissioners with a public hearing. Articles 12 and 13 regarding the fire prevention and the fire alarm system should be moved to the beginning of the meeting. Article 14 is to accept reports. He feels this should be moved to the beginning of the meeting as well. Given pre-review by DRA, Article 15 should be removed. The other recommendation made was that the signature lines should all have date lines as well. Motion made by Commissioner Auger to make changes as recommended by Attorney Chandler and seconded by Commissioner Waldron. All were in favor to follow attorney's advice.

For the record, this is first time Commissioner Waldron has ever heard of DRA recommending the warrant being shown to attorney as well.

Other things on warrant: The article that deals with formation of committee to create by-laws is Article 5. Before by-laws go to voters in 2010, it should be reviewed by the commissioners. Article 5 now to read: To see if the District will vote to form a committee for the purpose of creating by-laws for the district. The committee will prepare a draft for commissioner approval which would then be presented to the voters at the 2010 annual meeting. The committee would be made up of two Tilton residents, two Northfield residents and one fire commissioner.

Commissioner Waldron: Article 12 and 13. He has additional feelings on these he wants to share. What bugs him about 12 is to adopt additional provisions thereto. He doesn't feel we should be leading the parade. If we have more ordinances to enforce and rules on the books, at some point that is going to end up demanding more personnel. We already have 1-1/2 fire prevention people and we are not caught up on the fire prevention we have on the books. He's not as against the alarm system ordinance. Either one or both can be done the same way as article 11. Commissioner Auger: It's very vague in article. Commissioner Waldron: He would like to remove it from warrant for 2009 and let it happen as it's going to happen anyway. He sees value of having the voters decide if they want the ordinance but he sees greater harm in putting it forward than pulling from warrant. Commissioner Waldron: He does not like Article 12 or 13. Commissioner Auger: He has no problem removing them. Commissioner Waldron made a motion to reconsider placement of Articles 12 and 13. Commissioner Auger seconded. Any discussion? None. Vote was taken on reconsideration. All in favor. Commissioner Waldron made motion to remove Articles 12 and 13 from the warrant and allow them to come into effect as state law demands or by public notice and vote of commissioners at a later date. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Auger. All in favor. Articles 12 and 13 were removed.

Articles 1, 2, 3, 4 will not change. Article 14 now changes to Article 5 per legal recommendation. Article 6 is the by-laws. Article 7 is \$64,000 to pay off Engine 3. Article 8 is the command vehicle for the Chief.

Articled 9 will be \$81,821 for fire, rescue and ems equipment. Article 10 is \$115,033 for hydrants. Article 11 will be the budget committee recommendation of \$1,346,884. Article 12 will be to authorize the Commissioners to borrow money in anticipation of taxes. Article 13 will be to transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting. Originally we had 17 warrant articles. One was removed on the recommendation of DRA, one on the recommendation of legal council and two on their own volition leaving 13 warrant articles.

### Other Business

The bills were reviewed. The Commissioners would like to continue to see Comstar bills. This is first time they have seen one.

Chief Carrier has written an explanation for the Grainger bill that the commissioners had refused to pay at the last meeting pending further information. Commissioner Waldron then talked with Lieutenant Ames about the bill. Lt. Ames explained that it was more cost effective to purchase the kit rather than just the batteries. The kit only cost \$10 more than the batteries. Commissioner Waldron asked what tools the batteries go to. Lt. Ames: sawzall, drill, circular saw, flashlight, etc. Lt. Ames explained that we were having a problem with the batteries lasting. Dewalt told him that lithium batteries would do the trick. To replace the kit batteries with lithium batteries was \$\$419 while to purchase the kit was only \$429. Commissioner Waldron asked if new batteries fit in old kit. Lt. Ames: Yes. We are hoping to get four years out of the batteries now rather than two.

Commissioner Waldron: Is Body Covers part of the uniform allowance. Kathy: Yes. Commissioner Waldron: Are sweatshirts part of the uniform? Kathy: Yes.

Commissioner Waldron: Was the Concord Monitor and Geo Foster bill charged to elections? Kathy: If not, they will be.

Commissioner Waldron: Engraving bill. What was that for? Kathy: I believe it was an award.  
Commissioner Waldron: He would like to know what it was for.

Commissioner Waldron: Town of Northfield has gone to Vonage for their phone system. They kept one FairPoint line for when Metrocast goes down. It is saving them a lot on their phone bills.

Commissioner Waldron: Aren't parts from Harbor are to be tracked a different way. Commissioner Auger: Yes. Parts are to be ordered from Sanel and charged to the truck. This way we can keep track of what vehicle the part is used on.

Commissioner Waldron: The bill for Scott McGuffin should be charged to other professional services.

Commissioner Auger: He's concerned about the amount. Is that for just the one meeting?

Commissioner Waldron: Yes. Commissioner Auger: Is he going to moderate the joint meeting at the high school? Commissioner Waldron: Yes and there will be a bill for that. Commissioner Auger: What bothers him is that we did not ask for the meeting and we have to pay for.

Commissioner Waldron: Do we have a maintenance agreement with Twin Rivers Office Machines?  
Kathy: Yes. All they charged for on the bill was the developer. Maintenance was no charge.

Commissioner Waldron: Winnisquam Regional High School bill for diesel. Shouldn't 12/08 usage go against 2008 money? Is there money left? Kathy told Commissioner Waldron she did not know but would check 12/18/08 minutes to see if the money had been encumbered.

Commissioner Waldron: When faxes go out, the top of the fax says Tilton Fire Dept. It should say Tilton-Northfield Fire Dept.

Commissioner Waldron: When the Town of Tilton took election results to court he went to court on the day of the hearing. One of Tilton's issues was the District did not have separate ballot boxes in each

location. Commissioner Waldron told the judge that there would be separate ballot boxes at each location. Glenn Smith of Northfield gave the District two ballot boxes that have been recycled. They are a bit beat up and need to be marked Tilton-Northfield Fire District. He is willing to see that they are made presentable and marked with the Department seal. Commissioner Auger told Commissioner Waldron to keep track of expenses and the District will reimburse him. Kathy is to see where our lettering is done and where to get a seal.

Moderator Kent Finemore should come to the meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> to go over the District meeting information.

Barry Cox wants to meet with the Commissioners about the Pay & Classification Study. Commissioner Waldron will see if he is available for meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

A motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Auger and seconded by Commissioner Waldron. Vote was to adjourn was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 21:13.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Tobine, Administrative Assistant

**Next Meeting Date, Time,  
Place:**

February 16, 2009 at 18:30 at Tilton School, new Academic Building, 1<sup>st</sup>  
Floor Lecture Hall, School Street, Tilton