



Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS

Stephen M. Carrier, Chief
Michael Robinson, Deputy Chief

By-Laws Committee Meeting January 19, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 6:42 P.M. by Pat Clark.

Members Present: Pat Clark, Kevin Waldron, Phil Cain and Scott Davis
Absent: Leif Martinson

Agenda

Pat passed out the agenda for the meeting.

1. Minutes
2. Revision 4 Review
3. Discuss Commissioners Meeting, Public Hearing & Follow Up Meeting

Minutes

November 24, 2009: The minutes were approved on December 1, 2009.

December 1, 2009: The minutes of were approved on December 29, 2009.

January 12, 2010: Kevin made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Scott Davis seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. All in favor.

Revision 4 Review

Revision 4 had been sent to the members of the By-Laws Committee as well as Commissioners Tom Gallant and Paul Auger. Tom Gallant found three minor things and would get back to the committee when they met with the Commissioners. It was decided to go through them page by page.

Cover Page. Everyone was ok with that.

Table of Contents. Article 8 was struck. Addendum was page 9 and footnoted RSAs to follow. Everyone was ok with that.

Page 1, Article I. Pat explained that the RSAs were footnoted. They were numbered on the Addendum page in order. As they show up in the body of the By-Laws the footnotes were referenced. Discussion ensued about why RSA 52:1-I(a), RSA 52:1-I(n) and RSA 154:1-I(d) were still in the first paragraph and the rest were stricken. Kevin made a motion to remove the reference to RSA in the first paragraph and add the word emergency between of and ambulance in the second sentence of Article I. Motion failed for lack of a second. Pat made a motion to accept page 1 as written. Phil seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed three to one.

Page 2, Article II. Discussion ensued about term of office. The Commissioners have to be a three year term and the Moderator a two year term per RSA. The Treasurer and Clerk have an option of either one or three year term. The term should be left up to the body. The term will be a ballot question. If the ballot question doesn't pass, the article will be amended at the District meeting. Pat made a motion to change it to read the position of Commissioner shall have a three year term, the position of the Moderator shall have a two year term and the Clerk and Treasurer shall have either one or three year terms based on the ballot vote. Scott seconded the motion. Discussion: Kevin said he doesn't see any point in changing it. We should leave it as it is. In the RSA that pertains to this we are allowed to pick one or three. Discussion ensued. Vote was taken. Motion failed three to one.

In the third sentence on the right it says District's Meetings. Those should be capitalized. They are capitalized everywhere else. Discussion ensued. It was decided that all should be capitalized. Pat made a motion to leave Page 2 as is with the exception of capitalizing District's Meetings. Scott seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. All were in favor.

Pages 3 & 4, Article III. Kevin asked if they wanted him to speak to Tom's concerns or not. They decided he should. Under Treasurer Duties it says consult with the Fire Chief and Commissioners in preparing the next year's budget. The Treasurer doesn't have anything to do with the budget. The course of the budget is Fire Chief, Commissioners, Budget Committee. In the budget making process he is not involved. Discussion ensued. Kevin brought up it states that the Treasurer's records shall be reviewed annually. He wanted to know if that will allow for an audit. After required office it should say At a minimum the Treasurer's records shall be reviewed annually by an outside firm. Pat suggested that they change the sentence consult with the Fire Chief and Commissioners to consult with the Fire Chief and Commissioners as needed.

Again from Tom the last sentence in the first paragraph on page 4 says The Chair may move, second and vote on any proposal before the Commissioners. His problem with that is Roberts Rules do not allow that. Kevin sees no harm in it. Discussion ensued. The consensus was they wanted to keep both in there.

Pat made a motion that Article III be changed as follows: Under Section 2 they include consult as needed with the Fire Chief and Commissioners in preparing the next year's budget. At a minimum, the Treasurer's records shall be reviewed annually by an outside firm. Everywhere the word meeting needs to be capitalized and at the bottom special meetings both words need to be capitalized. On page 4 he will check with Leif on the second sentence, first paragraph. Kevin seconded the motion. Discussion: Kevin stated that the words as needed shall go after the word Commissioners. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. All were in favor.

Page 5, Article IV. The only change that was done was the RSA taken out. Public hearings were discussed. Kevin made a motion to remove Section 5. Scott seconded the motion. Discussion: Scott asked how any dispute within the meeting would be resolved if they didn't have any vehicle to use. Kevin asked what level of dispute there would be. Further discussion ensued. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. 2 abstained, 1 for, 1 against. Motion doesn't carry.

Page 6, Article V. District needs to be capitalized in section 2, 4th sentence. Kevin stated he still does not like the District approved budget and with the policies of the Commissioners. Discussion ensued. Kevin made a motion to remove District approved budget and. So it will read selection of District supplies in keeping with either District policies or the policies of the Commission. Motion was seconded by Phil. Discussion: Scott asked if this came from RSA 154:5. Pat felt the downside of taking that out is they want to have the Fire Chief to be limited by what is the approved budget. Discussion ensued. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. 2 abstained, 1 for, 1 against. Motion doesn't carry.

Page 7, Article VI. Kevin made a motion to accept Article VI as printed. Scott seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. All were in favor.

Page 8, Article VII. Kevin made a motion to accept Article VI as printed. Scott seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. All were in favor.

Pat will check with Leif on Article IV Section 5.

Scott made a motion to adjourn. Kevin seconded the motion. Discussion: Pat wanted to keep meeting open to vote down or table the rest of agenda. It was decided to finish the agenda.

Discuss Commissioners Meeting, Public Hearing & Follow-Up Meeting

Kevin told Pat that he was to ask that question at the Commissioners meeting Thursday night. Pat stated they needed to be cognizant of posting the follow-up meeting. There was nothing to discuss for Fire District Meeting. It is to be a ballot question as to whether the change of terms for the Treasurer and Clerk. Discussion ensued.

Scott made a motion to adjourn. Kevin seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM.

Minutes transcribed by: Kathy Tobine

Next Meeting Date, Time, Place: February 8, 2010 immediately following the Public Hearings beginning at 7:00 PM. Meeting to be held at Tilton School, new Academic Building, School Street, Lecture Hall, Tilton.

Approved: February 8, 2010