

Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS Commissioners' Meeting

Meeting Called By:	Commissioners	Date, Time:	April 30, 2012 at 17:30
Transcribed By:	Kathy Tobine	Place:	WRHS Media Center, 435 West Main Street, Tilton

Commissioner Clark called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Present: Commissioner Patrick Clark, Commissioner Thomas Gallant, Commissioner Paul Auger, Chief Brad Ober, Treasurer Roland Seymour, Deputy Chief Mike Robinson, and Administrative Assistant Kathy Tobine.

Present from the Tilton Board of Selectmen: Katherine Dawson and Patricia Constantino.

Budget Committee Present: Jane Alden

Firefighters Present: Captains Tim Joubert, Tim Ames, Greg Michaud and David Hall; Firefighters Ian Mercaldi, Derik Farrell, Derek Ogg, Steve Smith, Dan Leathers and Travis Gosine.

Public Present: Gretchen Wilder and Lisa Swancott.

Reporters Present: Donna Rhodes.

Minutes

January 24th

Discussion ensued about the changes requested by Commissioner Clark. Commissioner Clark stated he wanted to go on record as not knowing about Commissioner Gallants comment about his talking to the Chief and Chief Ober stating he would love to apply for it but could not meet the residency requirement. He asked Commission Auger if he knew about that. Commissioner Auger stated he didn't remember that. He asked Deputy Robinson if he knew that when they were doing the interview. Deputy Robinson stated he didn't remember.

March 28th

Commissioner Gallant made a motion to accept the minutes as printed. Commissioner Clark seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously to accept the minutes as printed.

January 24th

Commissioner Clark made a motion to accept the minutes as changed. Commissioner Auger seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously to accept the minutes a changed.

April 11th

Commissioner Gallant made a motion to accept the minutes as printed. Commissioner Auger seconded the motion. Discussion: Commissioner Clark stated he talked with Chief Ober and he said it is okay to release the information. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously to accept the minutes as printed.

Correspondence

LGC

A copy of *Knowing the Territory – A Survey of Municipal Law for New Hampshire Local Officials, 2012 Edition* was received. It is in the office at Center Street.

91-A Request

A 91-A request was received from Brendan Berube the Winnisquam Echo editor. After discussion, it was determined that Kathy would provide the information.

Public Comment

Gretchen Wilder

Gretchen stated she has been following the information in the Echo. She presented a 91-A request for information on the double standard for information under the right to know. She stated she has to wait a month for information that is on the computer. That is not acceptable. If there is a double standard she would like a copy of that. She wants to know why she has to wait a month and everyone else gets their information right away. She is irritated by that. She sees in the paper that people get their information right away but she doesn't. Commissioner Gallant asked what she was talking about. Commissioner Clark stated that she was asking for a lot of information that is on the computer. He would like to talk with the Chief and Kathy and get back to her on that.

Pat Consentino asked they enlighten them about Gretchen's request where she had to wait for information. Commissioner Gallant asked where the one month came up.

Commissioner Clark stated that a right to know e-mail was sent out to him, Tom and Brad.

Paul gets hard copied from the office. It said "*Under RSA 91-A, **Right to Know** I would like to request career employee salary and benefits data for the calendar (budget) years of 2009, 2010 & 2011. Separating the data by year, I would like all data to include any monies paid by the TNFD including the following categories:*

- *Employee name, job title and date of hire*
 - *Please note the date if the employee has left the employment of TNFD*
- *Hourly rate of pay (at the start and end of each year – if changes have occurred)*
- *Amounts of pay by category of pay, i.e.: straight time, overtime, holiday, sick pay, etc.*
- *Benefits – any and all benefits including insurance premiums, educational/training, retirement compensations, professional affiliations, deductible reimbursed, etc.*
- *Any and all monies paid to each employee in a clear and concise manner."*

Commissioner Gallant asked where the one month came in. She can come in anytime and that would be made available to her. As to putting it in that format, that is another matter. The Right to Know law doesn't require us to do that. Commissioner Clark stated Kathy responded and said it would take a month to do that. Commissioner Gallant asked what she said.

Commissioner Clark read "*Commissioner Auger requested that I get back to you regarding your request for information under RSA 91-A, **Right to Know** for the years 2009, 2010 & 2011. It will take at least a month to compile the data you requested. A lot of the information you requested we do not have a report for but we have records that contain the information. We will make the information available to you. You may come to the Center Street Station between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM Monday through Friday to view this information. If you wish to make copies, the price will be fifty cents (\$0.50) per copy."* That was sent by Kathy Tobine.

Commissioner Gallant stated that is in accordance with 91-A. Commissioner Clark stated in terms of the month he will be happy to sit down with them and talk about why it should take that long. Some of the other requests had to do with us pulling together meeting minutes and records that were easily accessible. Commissioner Clark stated he will get back to Gretchen.

TNFD Commissioner's Meeting
April 30, 2012

Lisa Swancott asked if she went down to the office could she have access to the computer for the information. Commissioner Clark stated we have to review it ahead of time to make sure everything is okay. We will be as accommodating as we can depending on what is happening in the office at that particular time and will get the information to them as quickly as possible. You cannot go down and have access to the computer as there might be personal stuff that might have to be redacted. We will be as accommodating as we can and get it to you as quickly as we can.

Treasurer's Report

Roland stated they have a packet in front of them. The Account Balance report is as of today. Roland read the balances.

Apparatus & Equipment Fund	\$616,457.23
Debit Card Account	4,736.56
Operating Budget Account	325,227.96
Payroll Account	500.00
Land & Building Fund	217,497.51
The total of the five accounts is	\$1,164,419.26

The Apparatus & Equipment Fund collections from the ambulance are \$84,379.03 for the three months of January, February and March. Then about \$1,700 that has been posted so far for April. Disbursements in that account to date are \$13,715.73. The net revenue for the three full months and partial of April is \$71,317.14.

The Operating Account total revenue for the period is \$475,809.51. The major part of that is revenue from the Town of Northfield and Town of Tilton. The other accounts are miscellaneous revenue of \$2,233.51. The total expenses for the period are \$496,087.56. There is negative revenue over expenses of \$20,278.05.

There is no activity in the Land & Building Fund. Just interest is being posted each month.

Commissioner Gallant made a motion to accept the Treasurers Report as printed. Commissioner Auger seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Fire Prevention Report

Captain Joubert reported everyone has copy of the activity reports for March. It was a busy month for them in Fire Prevention. There are a few things going on. There is new ownership at the Winnisquam Trading Post. A lot of work has been done on the inside.

He and the Chief had the opportunity to attend a class on oil and gas inspections. They will be discussing changing some of their inspection process for some of that.

Firefighter Powell has been very busy with pre-planning as well as continuing to work with Tanger Outlets.

Commissioner Gallant reported there has been a change of ownership in Adams Marine. Winnisquam Marine purchased it and they are putting an addition on there right now. Captain Joubert reported he has not received plans on that. Commissioner Clark asked how it works. Captain Joubert explained plans need to be submitted to the building inspector as well as the department. He explained in detail.

Commissioner Gallant asked what is being done on the complex owned by bank where Pauli's is. Captain Joubert stated he has a Certificate of Occupancy inspection for tomorrow for the

units that are not rented. He is working with the new general contractor. As far as the unit where Granite State Karate is, life safety has been updated. Commissioner Clark asked about the apartments upstairs. Captain Joubert explained two of the apartments have been inspected and the Certificate of Occupancy has been issued. Commissioner Clark asked about the Good News Café. Captain Joubert stated that may be something he is looking at tomorrow.

Deputy Robinson stated the report looks more refined on the hours. Captain Joubert stated he has been working on it. He explained his system of logging hours.

Commissioner Auger asked what on duty is. Captain Joubert stated that is his normal shift. Commissioner Clark asked if the hours at the end are the total hours whether he is covering shift or whatever. Captain Joubert responded yes.

Commissioner Auger made a motion to accept the Fire Prevention report as written. Commissioner Gallant seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Chief's Report

Chief Ober reported they have his packet. There is nothing outstanding. He spent lot of time preparing for District Meeting in March. The second page is a summary of department activity from January 1st through March 31st. The next report is the type comparison comparing 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012. Even though it seems like we had a slow early spring, we really are not that far off from other years.

We have been lucky with grass fires, brush fires. The rain yesterday has helped. We could use a whole week of it.

The Fire Academy was awarded a grant from Homeland Security for training. It targeted specialty rescue, technical rescue items. They have opened up a series of courses. The beauty part of this grant is that covers backfill and tuition. A lot people have been filling out applications. Some have been accepted into the classes. Commissioner Clark asked if it will impact our budget. Chief Ober said no. Commissioner Auger asked if this is just for full time employees. Chief Ober replied no, anyone can take them. Commissioner Clark asked how many have signed up for them. Chief Ober stated a lot have signed up for them but he isn't sure how many actually got in. There are courses throughout the entire summer. Some aren't even open yet for the enrollment period.

Commissioner Gallant made a motion to accept the Chief's report as written. Commissioner Auger seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Purchasing Request

Chief Ober presented a purchasing request for a hose tester. He explained we are required to annually test all our hand and supply hose lines to ensure it will still function as it was originally manufactured. It was included in the budget. Chief Ober explained the test. He is recommending they purchase the Rice Hydro Model FH-3. It comes with an attachment that it can become a pressure washer as well. Commissioner Clark asked if what the budgeted amount was. Chief Ober replied we had budgeted \$4,200. Commissioner Auger asked if it was a company from around here so they could service it if something went wrong. Chief Ober replied we are purchasing it through Fire Tech & Safety. They will handle any warranty

work. Commissioner Gallant made a motion to authorize the purchase of the Rice Hydro model FH-3 hose tester from Fire Tech & Safety for \$3,194 plus shipping. Commissioner Clark seconded the motion. Discussion: Commissioner Auger asked what the shipping charges are. Chief Ober it is estimated between \$100 and \$200. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Computer Network Update.

Chief Ober stated we are going to start moving items such as the web site, file back up, and e-mail to an offsite service. Mainstay is recommending we implement this to come in line with current network best practices. One item not in the budget is the labor to do it all. We will find the money. We are being preventative. We will make do with what we have and make it the best we can do it. Commissioner Clark asked what the time line is for all of it to be done. Chief Ober replied it should be done before the next meeting.

Tilton-Northfield Professional Firefighters Union

Commissioner Clark asked the Union if they wanted to go into non-public session for this. Tim Joubert replied public is fine. They prepared a statement they would like to share with the Commission regarding the hot topic of residency regarding the Chief. Tim read the statement.

"Dear Commissioners,

On February 15, 2012 a decision was made to require Chief Bradley Ober to reside within 5.5 miles of the Center Street Station. This decision has become a significant controversy for the district resulting in constant public debate. The members of Tilton-Northfield Professional Fire Fighters Association feel that this attention has had a negative effect on the district and its employees. We pride ourselves on being a highly trained professional department that provides the best possible service to our customers. It has become apparent that this decision has had an impact on how the public views our department. On a daily basis we are questioned by patients, residents, and our colleagues on the status of our Chief and why this decision has not been changed. The reoccurring question is "why". Why require residency if everyone agrees that Chief Ober's performance has been outstanding? This, along with the uncertainty of our Chief's future has left our members very concerned.

Chief Ober is our leader and has earned the upmost respect and support among his staff by the example he sets. This decision could potentially cause our leader to leave and it has caused significant concern among all of us. The transition between Chief Carrier and Chief Ober was seamless and the department is operating at its' highest level due to Chief Ober's management style. Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS currently has an outstanding, progressive staff that works very well together. With several positions opening up in the Lakes Region, members have been discussing the possibility of leaving due to the uncertainty of the districts future.

The members of the Tilton-Northfield Professional Fire Fighters Association respectfully ask the commissioners to reconsider their decision on residency. The district has a professionally trained staff and residency does not have an impact on our performance. In any department, the outcomes of incidents are dictated by the training and decision making of the first due company officer. Even during normal business hours this still holds true. One of Chief Ober's greatest strengths is that he allows us to do our job and provides guidance when needed. The residency requirement of 5.5 miles would not change this.

The members of the department take pride in the districts Vision Statement and attempt to follow it each and every day by focusing on safety, professionalism and customer service. We pride ourselves on answering the public's requests with compassion and professionalism.

It is evident that the districts customers have voiced their opinion on this subject and we hope that the commissioners will rescind the residency requirement.

Respectfully Submitted

The Members of the Tilton-Northfield Professional Fire Fighters Association"

Commissioner Auger stated that in there it states that it affects you guys personally so that means it affects your job personally. So we are not getting the best qualifications out of you guys because of this. Tim stated they didn't want to debate or talk about their decision; they just wanted to share their opinion and how they felt. Commissioner Auger stated he hoped it didn't impact what they do everyday. It really isn't about you guys. It is about the Chief. Tim stated do their job as professionally as possible each and every day.

Commissioner Clark stated he appreciates them putting the letter together. A lot of thought went into it and it is well written. He knows there has been a lot of heat and controversy out there. Their statement that "*It is evident that the districts customers have voiced their opinion on this subject and we hope that the commissioners will rescind the residency requirement.*" His take on that is that they did speak. They had a chance to vote on whether or not they should pass the petitioned warrant article. He thinks 70% of the voters voted to table that. He takes that as feedback that the Commissioners need to deal with it. It is not something that should be handled through a petitioned warrant article. Feedback that he has gotten on the street is that it is a tough issue. Most people that he has talked to have said they would like it to go away. He is willing himself, as he cannot speak for the other Commissioners, to extend the time that the Chief has himself a little bit. He was willing at District Meeting to extend it quite a bit but he doesn't know if that will do any good. He does have on the agenda clarification of the 18 month residency period and the current definition of residency that he will be talking about a little bit later that he hopes will clarify a couple of things for them. It is a tough issue. He feels very good about the Chief that they have right now. Back in August of 2010 all three Commissioners were going in the direction of residency and at that time they were all for it. They hired LGC to advertise as such that residency was required in 12 to 18 months. That is what they did. That in and of itself impacts the people that might want to apply for the job. If we didn't have that residency requirement on there the might have had a lot more diversity in terms of the number of applicants that may have applied. It was on there. It was very clear. They did vote, as Commissioners, to have Brad as our Chief. He signed a letter of conditional employment that stated he would be willing to be resident. He has spent a lot of time talking to people at LGC Legal Department. The motion for the 5½ mile radius is something that cannot be taken as it is unilateral. Once the Chief signed that letter of conditional employment the definition of what was on that contract, the wording on that contract is all you can do. That is to become a resident of the District and that means within the boundaries of Tilton and Northfield. The lawyers he has talked to so far say the radius will not hold up. Other lawyers might feel differently. The bottom line is that right now the residency is the confines of the Tilton Northfield boundaries. That is just in conversation. At the beginning of the process for hiring they went out and searched for candidates willing to meet the requirements they and to become a resident. That was going to be the kick off to hopefully developing a program where they could move forward and work into residency across the board. They haven't talked about anything beyond the Chief. All they have talked about was hiring a Chief that would be willing to move. He still feels that is beneficial. It has been a feeling and decision that rests on his shoulders very hard. He has a great deal of respect for Chief Ober and what he has done. He feels very strongly that residency does a lot in terms of improving public safety. It is still something he is grappling with. They will certainly

talk more later in the meeting. He thanked them for pulling the letter together. It means a lot in terms of their thoughts moving forward.

Commissioner Gallant had no comments on the matter.

Deputy Robinson stated the majority of the call firefighters mirror what is in the letter. They are hoping for a rapid resolution to this issue. They are spending a lot of time dealing with it. They would rather be focusing the time on new training ideas, new firefighting techniques rather than having to deal with this ongoing. Amongst the call forces the feelings are the same. Everybody is hoping for a rapid resolution and get back to normal as quick as they can.

Gretchen asked to speak. It is good that the staff is behind their leader. First and foremost this is the professional firefighters union. Unions work everyday to standardize and make sure that there are fair and equitable benefits and protocol across the board for all their employees. Talking about the conditional letter of employment, that is the very first document that Chief Ober signed for us. Now, 15 16 months later, he doesn't feel like he should have to move. It was spelled out in the letter. It was spelled out in advertising. It has nothing to do with popularity. If you cannot fulfill the duties and you have a time schedule set on that legal document, if you cannot meet those guidelines, they move on. I know you spent time training but that is irrelevant. That is the very first document he signed. People came out to the District Meeting. The petitioned warrant article was discussed briefly and tabled. The vast majority of the people voted on it. She understands it has impact on the guys. She hasn't been to any meeting, whether it's fire or police, where they haven't stood behind their leader. You have to respect that. No employer is going to specialize the benefits and requirements for every individual employees needs. You don't do it. It's a management nightmare. The document is signed and it speaks for itself. Do we go back to square one? It is problem for her having the union come here. They are how many people short of having a collective bargaining agreement. Once they have a collective bargaining agreement they are not going to have this variance. If you make that variance it comes up to grievance. We have a contract, if he can't meet the contract...

Lisa Swancott stated everybody wants a quick resolution to this. The quick resolution is to abide by what you signed and move into the District.

Pat Consentino doesn't think that the reference to the unions is entirely true coming from background of unions and negotiator. If this was police, every one of those men would be behind their chief whether in a collective bargaining unit or not. What the men are saying is they would love resolution one way or the other. They go out and are being asked questions over and over. It puts them in precarious position. Her point of view, as a resident and selectman, is she does not have issue with residency. She believes very strongly in looking at a job, the performance, what they have as to what they could get. It's what we have. Do you want to hold on to what we have or let it go? Is the performance as outstanding as you say it is? Do you want to keep that in Tilton-Northfield? If the Chief leaves and there are more that follow him, her concern is the safety of the residents of Tilton-Northfield. If it takes you three to four months to fill that position of chief and it takes you three to four months to fill those other positions. What happens if those other three to four positions are all EMTs? Now she is very concerned about the safety of the residents of Tilton and Northfield. Do we put them in jeopardy? Come up with a plan; who, where, when. Come up with a study. Implement it. Set a date and implement it. You have some solid background. The men are prepared, the Chief is prepared. Everybody is prepared. The impact it is going to have is here concern. To get to where they are at right now to say they are out on calls and getting asked, please don't put us in that position.

Commissioner Clark thanked everyone and stated this will all go into decision making.

Training at Tilton School

Commissioner Clark asked about the training that was held at Tilton School last weekend. Chief Ober stated it was a training program sponsored by Lakes Region Mutual Aid Training Division that was hosted here. The school was gracious enough to allow a classroom use for Thursday and Friday nights. The house they have acquired on Pillsbury was used for one of the practical days and there was a house in Franklin that was used for practical evolutions. It was Rapid Intervention Team training. Classes were full. They had great practical days on both Saturday and Sunday.

Gilford Fire Department

Commissioner Clark stated he called the Chief after seeing the article in paper about the engine. He talked with the Chief about the possibility of our being able to help out. Chief Ober stated he had a conversation with Chief Carrier today. He is reaching out to all of the Mutual Aid communities to see if anyone has an engine to borrow, rent, lease. They are looking into a loaner engine from a vendor as well. They are petitioning the court to have another Town Meeting to purchase an engine. If the Board gives us some direction he and the Deputy will put heads together. They won't be taking a truck out of service until this time next year. Commissioner Clark asked if it made sense to him to make it available. Chief Ober responded his initial reaction is one of the reasons we were comfortable of taking that truck out of the fleet is the quint is going to be able to act in that capacity if need be. We wouldn't have that until we get the quint in service which is about a year from now. He hasn't had the opportunity to talk to the Deputy about it yet. Commissioner Gallant stated let Chief Carrier formulate his plans and reach out to us. Let the Chief and Deputy put their head together and come to the Board. That is how that should be handled.

Jim Clements

Commissioner Clark stated he talked to Chief Ober about getting a plaque made for Jim Clements. He thought it would be a nice idea. Chief Ober took it upon himself to get the plaque ordered. We talked about the former Lawrence home on Pillsbury that we use for training. He has been very accommodating to us. We used to hold all our meetings at Tilton School. He has been great. Commissioner Gallant agreed.

Old Business

National Grid

Chief Ober reported we are on the construction schedule. We are three to four weeks out.

Commissioner Auger asked if this was just for Center Street. Chief Ober replied National Grid recommended we hold off on Park Street until the sale is finalized.

Commissioner Gallant asked of the heating system at Center Street. Chief Ober replied he is waiting for information from National Grid about the incentive program they have to convert over. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Clark asked about the oil tank. Chief Ober replied he is looking into that.

Commissioner Clark asked Chief Ober if he had looked into the difference in cost between oil and natural gas. Chief Ober replied he hasn't talked to him about that. It all depends on what option you go with for the appliance.

Quint Update

Chief Ober reported the committee finished the draft of the specification for that. They are reviewing that. He has a copy and will start to review it once the committee is finished reviewing it. When everybody says this is what they would like to see they will send out for the bid process. Commissioner Clark asked if a demo is still being considered. Chief Ober replied they are watching for a demo. One of the companies that they have received a lot of feedback from has a couple available but they don't meet our specs. They are watching. If you buy a demo you need to pay for it in a one shot deal. They are watching.

Franklin Savings Bank Payroll Paperwork

Commissioner Clark stated the first piece of paperwork he signed was the authorization paperwork to give Franklin Savings Bank the okay to transfer funds. He asked Kathy to explain. Kathy explained that every week she transfers money from the operating account to the payroll account to cover payroll. The only time we might run into an issue is when the call company payroll is done and we have a huge call volume in a quarter. So far it hasn't been an issue because the regular payroll and call payroll have not totaled more than \$25,000. Four times a year there is the potential for the transfer to be more than \$25,000. That is why we upped it to \$28,000.

Commissioner Clark stated the only other thing in talking to the Chief was the COMSTAR Request for Write-Off Report. Chief Ober explained this is the same report that Paul reviewed and signed off on.

Treasurers Pay

Commissioner Clark stated they reduced the Treasurers pay during the budget process from \$2,500 to \$2,000. It was discussed at the budget hearing. They got some input from Pat Consentino that it would probably be better to deal with it after the annual meeting. That is what they are doing tonight. He did get a phone call from Roland that he does do work for Paul for taxes. For transparency sake and full disclosure, he wanted Commissioner Clark to make that known to people here in case people felt it was a conflict. Commissioner Clark stated he did check with a lawyer to see if that was a conflict. The attorney stated he didn't think it would be but he said it would a good idea to err on the side of caution and to have Paul will recuse himself. Paul recused himself. Commissioner Clark made a motion to consider increasing Roland's pay from \$2,000 to what he had been paid, \$2,500. The motion failed for lack of a second. Roland stated did not want to discuss it. Commissioner Clark states he personally feels he deserves it but it is not up to him.

Clarification

Commissioner Clark stated his interpretation from talking to legal counsel at LGC on the 18 month period will come from the effective date of the Chief being chief. That was made in December 13th commissioners meeting. The 18 months would be June 13th.

Commissioner Clark stated the other thing was the definition of residency. The only thing they can go by is what was in the conditional letter and was that "*It is the expectation of this board that within 18 months of accepting this position you will reside within the Fire District.*" So the Fire District is Tilton and Northfield. His making a motion to do a 5½ mile radius was felt not to be something they could do because it was unilateral made by the Commissioners and not including the Chief. The definition of residency is the Fire District. Commissioner Gallant made a motion to strike the 5½ mile definition of residency for the Chief. Commissioner Auger seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Policy on Copy Charges

Commissioner Clark asked what we have on record for copy charges. Chief Ober stated Ordinance 2, which established the Fire Prevention Fee Schedule which took effect in June 2006, for Fire Department/EMS Reports up to 10 pages is \$25 and each additional page is \$1 per page after that. Photographs are the same. It does not address electronic copies. Commissioner Clark asked if that applied to everything. Chief Ober stated the paragraph reads "*Fees for Records, Photographs, and Documents: The fees listed below shall be paid for fire department records, photographs, and documents, except for records subpoenaed. Consideration will be given to any laws regulating the release of public records and nothing in this ordinance is meant to conflict with State of NH Law.*" This does not address electronic copies. The ordinance should be amended for electronic copies.

Commissioner Clark asked if anyone has been charged recently in the last few months for copies of anything. Kathy explained nothing for electronic copies as that is all that has been requested. Copies for fire reports and medical records are always done in paper and they are charged whatever the ordinance says for those which is \$25 for fire reports and \$15 for medical records as the State of NH has a limit on what you can charge for medical records. Commissioner Clark asked about the requests we have. Kathy stated that when Gretchen came in with her memory stick she received the information for no charge. Jane Alden brought in a memory stick and received the information for no charge. We don't have a policy for electronic copies. Commissioner Clark asked if they want to deal with it. Commissioner Gallant stated he doesn't know what other departments do. Chief Ober stated he will make phone calls to see what other departments are doing for electronic copies. We should amend that ordinance to include electronic copies. That will take notice of a public hearing and then you can amend it. Commissioner Gallant stated we should take no action and Come back next month after we see what other departments are doing relative to electronic copies. All agreed to continue as we have been until we find out what other departments are doing. Pat Consentino stated the Town of Tilton charges \$10 for a cd.

Other Business

Commissioner Clark stated he wanted to go on record that he has been searching, without spending District money, for legal counsel to make sure they tiptoe through the morass they have before them right now as carefully as possible to make sure everybody's interest is taken care of. Commissioner Gallant had a question with that. He does not feel he is out of line as long as he is just gathering information and trying to get good legal counsel. At this point in time he does not have any to bring forward. They had two opportunities. Dan Crean was one. Bernie Wall was other that was highly recommended to him. Both of them were told by Tilton Selectmen that they felt it was a conflict of interest for the Fire District to use them as they were using them on an occasional basis by the Town of Tilton. He has gotten feedback from Dan Crean and Bernie both that they would not represent them. Dan Crean said technically it is not a conflict of interest at this time but on a long shot it could be. To avoid any appearance of conflict he would not be willing to represent us. He is disappointed the Tilton Selectmen took the position they did.

Commissioner Clark stated it was brought up that the Commissioners should have a separate file drawer that can be locked that is just for them. Lawyer information would be some information that would go into a file drawer like that. The feedback he got is that it would be locked and the key maintained by the Clerk of the District as she is the guardian of the records. He will research the cost of a small, lockable file drawer for the next meeting.

TNFD Commissioner's Meeting
April 30, 2012

Pat Consentino asked if the Highway Department is unable to put up the sign at the Senior Center if TNFD would be able to help with that. Commissioner Gallant stated he agreed that his men would do that. Chief Ober stated the ladder truck is out of service but if they need help with ground ladders we will help. Commissioner Clark asked as a policy if that was something people feel comfortable with. Chief Ober stated we do community events like that all the time. Commissioner Gallant stated that as far as he is concerned as it relates to that he leaves that up to the discretion of the Fire Chief.

Non-Public Minutes

March 28th

Commissioner Gallant stated they should strike the February 15th notation. The non-public strictly deals with January 18th. Commissioner Gallant made a motion to accept the minutes of March 28th as corrected and that they remain sealed. Commissioner Auger seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Commissioner Gallant made a motion adjourn at 19:15. Commissioner Auger seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 19:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Tobine
Administrative Assistant

Next Meeting Date, Time, Place: May 16, 2012 at 17:30. Meeting to be held at Winnisquam Regional High School, Media Center, 435 West Main Street, Tilton.