

Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS Commissioners' Meeting

Meeting Called By: Commissioners

Date, Time: 08/02/2022, 5:30 PM

Transcribed By: Beth Joslin

Location: Tilton Town Hall
Downstairs Meeting Room
257 Main Street
Tilton NH

Call to Order

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

Attendance

Commissioners Paul Auger, Jon Cilley, Eric Pyra; Chief Michael Sitar, Deputy Chief Michael Robinson and Administrative Manager Kathy Tobine

Public: Ed Perregaux, Paul Blaisdell

Public Comment

Ed Perregaux asked the status of the Water District. Chief Sitar explained that at two years ago at District Meeting the line item for the pressurized water hydrants was voted down. Since the hydrant bill was connected to the Park Street Station, the Water District shut the water off to the Park Street Station and the hydrants. Deputy Robinson commented that the body voted down the warrant article the Board of Commissioners supported the article. Further discussion ensued.

Chief's Report

Budget:

- The 2022 Unassigned Fund Balance is: \$271,159 after District Meeting action. (Estimated pending final report.)
- The Operating Budget is expended at 56.5%. We are at 58% of the Fiscal Year.
 - Waiting on reimbursement for Radio Reprogramming and EMS Equipment totaling about \$73,000.
- Total Apparatus and Equipment Fund Balance through July: \$391,391.99.
- 2022 Ambulance Revenue through July: \$315,896.39.
- 2022 Ambulance Revenue is up \$53,723.39 compared to last year during the same period.

Fire Prevention Report for July 2022

- Report Included in handout.
- For the Month of July, there were 35 Fire Prevention inspections.

Run Report for July 2022

- Run report included in handout.
- For the Month of July, we had 186 incidents.
- 140 of the incidents were EMS in nature and that equates to 75% of our total incident volume for the month.
- The engine responded with the ambulance to 42 EMS & MVA incidents last month.

Overlapping/Simultaneous Incidents for July 2022

- Report included in handout.

- We had 98 overlapping/simultaneous incidents for the month.
- Overlapping/simultaneous incidents accounted for 52% of all incidents for the Month of July.
- We received 11 mutual aid Ambulance responses, 5 transported.
- We responded to 5 mutual aid Ambulance requests, 5 transported.
- We received 0 mutual aid Engine response.
- We responded to 3 mutual aid Engine requests.

Apparatus

- PM on all vehicles complete.
- A1: New tires and front-end work completed.
- F1: New battery installed
- New C3: Should be ready by end of next week.

Grants

- GOFFER has approved the COVID Equipment Grant that was applied for in collaboration with Tilton and Northfield for two ventilators and two UV disinfectant lights. The UV lights and ventilators have been delivered and are in service. Last case of supplies have been received and we will be submitting for reimbursement.
- SAFER Grant is up to date on reimbursements.
- Homeland Security Grant has prospectively awarded \$53,853.00 for radio infrastructure upgrades.

Center Street

- Nothing to report.

Park Street

- Bathroom project underway and is 85% complete.
- Training Facility to be painted by the Department of Corrections this fall.

Fire Department Radio System

- Park Street
 - Tower construction is up and driveway construction has been started. Waiting for new pole to be installed by Eversource for commercial power. This may take several months.

Commissioner Cilley asked how many antennas were on the pole. Chief Sitar replied that there are 2 at the moment also commenting on AT&T looking to run gas line for their generators. Discussion ensued regarding new utilities not impeding future building plans on the property.

SAFER Effect

- Average Response time to second or greater calls: 07:58 from 22:30.
- Average monthly Mutual Aid Transport: 1.2 from 6.5.
- SAFER Committee is continuing to meet. Next meeting is in September.
- The cost of a SAFER Firefighter in 2021 would have been \$0.09/\$1,000 on the tax rate.
- Warrant article to amend the purpose of the Apparatus & Equipment Replacement Fund proposed.

Personnel

- No Call Company applications pending.

Currently Working On

- New Dry Hydrant & Water Cistern Location
 - 299 Sanborn Road, Tilton
 - 15 Silver Lane, Northfield
- SAFER Grant implementation.

- Second quarter reimbursement has been paid.
- 2021 AFG (Assistance to Firefighters Grant) requesting all new LDH (large diameter hose). Submitted.
- Implementation of new Records Management System.
 - Reports have a new look.
 - Still a work in progress.
- 2023 Budgets

The 2022 expenditures were discussed including vehicle repairs and fuel costs. The reports regarding simultaneous calls were discussed.

Reports of Committees

Report of SAFER Grant Committee

Paul Blaisdell reported they have done all they can do right now. They have made recommendations.

2021 Fire Station Building Committee

Paul Blaisdell commented they have focused on Park Street. They have put together a RFQ and scorecard for finding and deciding on contractors. Next meeting will be August 29th. The RFQ document has been reviewed by Commissioners and Primex. Chief Sitar stated that it is currently with Attorney Fitzgerald and it should be back shortly. Also noting that some recommendations have been made.

New Business

Sanborn Road

Commissioner Cilley reported that the selectmen and commissioners sat down to discuss the usability of Sanborn Road. Paul B commented that Tilton residents are unlikely to want to pay for the property twice and asked if there would be any sort of land swap. The commissioners commented that it is strictly exploratory right now. Paul B asked if it is the intention of the Commissioners right now to proceed with Park Street as the only viable option for a station. Commissioner Auger commented that there are some restrictions on the Sanborn Road property. Some sort of promise of a park or football field. Paul B commented that there are too many questions and they need a definitive decision as to which way they are going. Commissioner Pyra commented that the only restriction is that the property is to be used for municipal purposes. The Town needs to figure out if a football field will fit there. Commissioner Auger thinks they should stick with Park Street. Commissioner Cilley in favor of going with Park Street and a substation in the future. Commissioner Pyra commented that people in Tilton have told him that they will not support a plan that does not include Tilton. He also feels they need to close center street as it is unsafe, does not want to be forced into a decision because of that. Further discussion ensued.

Commissioner Cilley asked if there were plans to give the fire district's website a facelift. Chief Sitar replied that it would be proposed in the next budget. Commissioner Cilley stated that he would like to see a place on the site for public input and surveys. Discussion ensued regarding public comment forms for committees, social media, and live feed for meetings.

Old Business

District Clerk

Kathy reported there has still been no interest in the District Clerk position. If there isn't a clerk appointed prior to District Meeting, the body can vote on a person to act as Clerk for that meeting.

