

Selectmen's minutes of meeting December 16, 2019

Members present: Mark Newman, Brian O'Rourke, George Riley, Joanne Grybosh
Dolores Harasyko, Admin. Asst.

Called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Reviewed and signed purchase orders

Motion by Brian, second by Mark, passed unanimously to sign the letter of intent to join Franklin Regional Purchasing Group.

Motion by Mark, second by Brian, passed unanimously to accept the letter of resignation from Megan Smigel from the Recreation Committee.

Fire Chief Ralph Morrison in to discuss his proposal for a new fire truck for FY2021. Ralph and Mike Johnson applied for and received grants for \$2,949 for turnout gear and \$5,000 for a washer extractor. Ralph presented a check from the nursing home for \$7,500 for ambulance services. He then presented a letter requesting and explaining a need for a new fire truck.

Brian asked about current ISO rating. Ralph responded that on a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being bad, the current rating is 9.

Ralphs biggest concern is that there is not a fire truck on top of the hill.

Per Ralph the life expectancy on a fire truck is 25 years.

Ralph has been asking for a couple years for a new truck but that there has always been other needs.

Per Ralph even if we put \$200,000 in repairs the equipment on the truck is old and will not pass. The bottom line cost with all new equipment is \$550,000. A new truck without new equipment is approx. \$400,000.

Brian asked about the NFPA, National Fire Protection Assoc. Ralph responded that it is a national standard of operations.

Brian asked about the Fire Dept. Inc. Ralph responded that it is a non profit organization raising funds to help offset the costs of the fire dept.

Brian asked is there is documentation regarding repairs needed for the current truck, Ralph responded that as the owner of A & M Auto all repairs are needed. There are approx. 36,000 miles on the current fire truck.

Brian stated that if Ralph goes forward with the repairs that documentation has to come from another company than A & M Auto regarding all repairs that are needed. Ralph responded that he is going to Florida and cannot get it done by the end of January. Brian asked if another fire department member could drive the truck to another company, Ralph responded that he likes to be in charge.

Brian wants all information in place before it goes to the Finance Committee or the voters.

Ralph is going to put 6 new tires on it now as the 6 tires are dry rotted.

Brian requested that Ralph get written quotes for any and all repairs.

Ralph reviewed a leasing option for a new truck. If we do a 10 year lease we are still responsible for maintenance and repairs. The cost would be \$63,000 per year.

Brian asked how many trucks do we currently have that transport water to a fire. Ralph responded that we have four with a total of 6,000 gallons of water. Mark confirmed that we have more trucks than drivers licensed to drive the four trucks. We currently have 2 drivers certified to drive the trucks with water. The drivers have to be certified fire fighters.

Brian reviewed the requirements of the Capitol Expense Policy.

Brian asked Ralph to get all information to the board before it goes to the Finance Committee.

Ralph presented a document showing the value of the 1980 Peterbilt at \$2,600.

Joanne and Ralph worked on a contract for ambulance service with the Town of Tolland.

George reviewed the agreed amount per year.

Mark brought up that Tolland has not had a special town meeting to appropriate the funding for this agreement. Ralph responded that we have to start somewhere. Tolland is expecting us to create an enterprise account before they give us payment. Tolland has been benefiting for years with free ambulance service. Brian would like town counsel to review the contract. Option A, pay for the service, option B, no more ambulance service.

George looked into creating an enterprise account, it can only be created at the start of the fiscal year, not 6 months into the year.

Selectmen's updates:

All are working on budgets and attending multiple work sessions.

Town Manager updates:

Joanne has been working on budgets.

The compactor is at the transfer station

Mail reviewed

Warrants reviewed and signed

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Mark Newman

Brian O'Rourke

George Riley