

Selectmen's minutes of meeting February 26, 2018

Members present: John Skrip, Mark Newman, Fred Ventresco, Dolores Harasyko, Admin. Asst. Ralph Morrison, John Burrows

Called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Ralph and John presented the budgets for the Fire/Ambulance Accounts.

John Skrip explained that the total budget for the current fiscal year is \$110,000, they are asking for \$132,000 for FY19 which is an 18% increase.

Ralph explained each article.

Fire/EMS compensation, no change

ALSS Intercept, Ralph explained that this needs it's own line item of \$10,000.

Discussed rates for Fire/EMS compensation. They have included a 9% increase in hourly rates. Discussed paying on call plus collecting an hourly rate. Ralph explained that this is common in the surrounding town's. John feels it is double dipping. He wants the on call stipend taken off if they are getting paid hourly. Ralph said it is hard to keep the volunteers. Mark is firm on all employees getting the agreed upon 2% increase only.

John Burrows reviewed the PCR reporting that he does.

Ralph explained that the Memorial Day Parade is not a Fire Dept. Budget.

Discussed the rentals of the fire houses. John asked why the town pays rent. Ralph explained that the Fire Dept. Inc. owns the buildings and rents them to the town. The members of the Fire Dept, Inc. are Ralph Morrison, John Burrows, Eric and Matt Pachulski and Barbara and Michael Morrison. John asked why we pay rent. Ralph said the towns pays for the heat and electricity. Ralph will not supply the insurance cost. The selectmen want a lease on both buildings. Ralph will look into a 5 year lease.

Fire/Ambulance Equipment budget. John Burrows explained that Alice Boyd aloud them to purchase a container which they did last year. John B. explained that they cannot predict what will happen to equipment and vehicles in the future. Discussed the difference between purchases of services and repairs and maintenance. Ralph explained that the 2% increase is due to the increase in utilities.

Discussed Ralph's Fire Chief salary. John is not willing to give Ralph a raise on an hourly rate plus a raise on his annual pay. John wants Ralph to cut \$2,000.

Discussed the ambulance. Mark asked about our coverage for the town of Tolland, he wants to know what dollar amount Tolland puts into the ambulance. Ralph responded that Tolland pays nothing, we get revenues from the ambulance calls. The selectmen feel that the town of Tolland

should pay of portion of all the costs incurred for operating an ambulance. Discussed mutual aid agreements.

Mark is ok with all the budgets as submitted except the salaries and hourly rates, they should only be increased by the agreed upon 2%.

John wants the total budget to come in somewhere between \$110,000 and \$115,000 max.

John directed them to do their best to level fund.

Ralph agreed to 2% increases in budgets and salaries.

Discussed A & M auto service bills. Mark explained that we will be going out to bid for a service contract for the maintenance of vehicles.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

John Skrip

Mark Newman