**Dunn’s Corners Fire District**

**Operating Committee Meeting**

November 12, 2024

The Dunn’s Corners Fire District Operating Committee (OC) convened on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 6:30 PM at Station One, Dunns Corners, Westerly, Rhode Island.

Attendees were comprised of OC members – Robert Delaney, Rich Thomsen, Chief Keith Kenyon, Dan Roy, Ken Martin, and Paul Gencarella, A quorum was present.

Other Attendees: Attorney Michael Cozzolino

Friends of Quonochontaug Grange

Paul Gencarella, Moderator coordinated the meeting.

Actions of OC (all votes unanimous unless otherwise noted).

Agenda Items:

Pledge of Allegiance – The meeting started at 6:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

Previous Meeting Minutes – a Motion was made and seconded to approve and file the Minutes of October 8, 2024 Operating Committee Meeting with a minor addition.

The Moderator introduced Cesar to the Operating Committee Members/

FOTQG Report – Ann Bettinger gave a monthly report.

Updates

* Continue to manage expenses closely
* Maintaining active rental schedule
* Discussion relative to use of grange for election purposes
* Chimney Cap project has started

Chief states there may be one upcoming training, he will check and get back to her.

Maintenance items

* Thank you for the assistance in replacing the flag pole line and adjusting flag lights
* Discussion regarding exterior winter maintenance. Chief has spoken to company that salts- they are all set.
* Camera access to assist in parking review during larger events. Chief says everything runs into one unit.
* Road markings in front of Station 2 and Grange – Chief indicates that he did the markings for DOT to see what the concerns were.

Bob Delaney asked about the capital improvements – Ann hopes to have to committee at the January meeting.

Treasurer’s Report – Bob Delaney gave the following report:

The expenses are tracking well against the budget and the rates are good.

Three CDs came due and were renewed. Dan Roy asked about the terms of the CDs and the Treasurer explained the same.

Truck should be ready May or June 2026.

Tax Assessors/Collector’s Report – Rosalind Choquette, Tax Assessor

At the beginning of October, the office had 40 properties that were to be put forward for Tax Sale. After sending notices, back taxes have been paid and this has left 18 properties being left as of this date.

Rosalind would like approval to write off small balances totaling -72.17.

*A motion was made and seconded to write off small balances totaling -$72.17.*

Chief’s Report – for the month of October there were 36 fire calls and 5 EMS calls for a total of 41 calls. There was a total of 402 training hours.

DOT markings have been placed on Route 1 for drainage near Station 2.

All apparatus have been inspected.

AFG grant process has begun.

A reimbursement from Exeter Fire District for mutual aid was received this week for last April, 2023.

New water tank covers will be completely shortly and locked

Ann Bettinger asked about signs for crossing Route 1 from grange and Station 2, Chief is working with the DOT.

*A motion was made and seconded to approve all reports that were given.*

Website – Chief indicated that there is nothing to report. Bradford contract information still needs to be updated.

401K Ascensus Wording - the question was asked about rewording for new employee. It is being worked on and should be ready for next meeting

Audit Update- Bob Delaney indicated this was in good shape. He thanked Mary and Rosalind for all their help. Dan asked where audit information is located. Bob stated it is on the website.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the Audit as presented for the 2024/2025 year.*

Next Meeting – The next meeting of the Operating Committee will be Tuesday, December 10, 2024 meeting will be held at the Station One.

Old Business – Rosalind is working on tax sale matters. She is working on this month

With regard to the Residential Program at Station 2 – no one is there now. Flyers are being produced to look for candidates. The intent is to maintain at least two residents which helps greatly with response time.

With regard to the BDA Property – the Business next door indicates that the Town is taking over the property and this is trying to be confirmed. At this time it is not in any Fire District.

Public Comments - Ernie asked about the money received from Exeter Fire District was it for mutual aid, Chief states that it was.

Dan asked what is the process for burn permits – Chief states call station for day of burn. No permits are being granted at this time because there is an extreme fire danger due to the drought in this area.

*Motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn meeting and move to Executive Session at 7:40 PM.*

*Motion was made, seconded and approved to seal the Executive Session Minutes and return to Public Meeting at 8:20PM.*

*Motion was made, second and approved to adjourn meeting at approximately 8:21PM.*

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Linda F Garabedian, District Clerk