

TOWN OF WEARE, NH
WEARE BOARD OF FIRE WARDS
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, December 12, 2011
Draft Copy

PRESENT: Jon Osborne, Chairman; Frederick Hippler, Bob Vezina, Tim Maskiell, Dave Hewey
Steve Roberts, Sheila Savaria, Recording Secretary

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Jon Osborne called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm at the Safety Complex.

II. NON-PUBLIC SESSION:

Steve Roberts moved to go in to a non-public session at 6:40 pm per RSA 91-A:3, IIa; Dave Hewey seconded, all voted in favor.

Tim Maskiell moved to come out of the non-public session at 6:53 pm; Frederick Hippler seconded, all voted in favor.

III. OTHER BUSINESS:

Lot Line Adjustment: Jon Osborne moved to request that lot line adjustments are not longer sent to the Board of Fire Wards; Dave Hewey seconded, all voted in favor.

Minutes: Dave Hewey moved to accept the minutes from the November 14, 2011 meeting as printed; Frederick Hippler seconded. Dave Hewey, Frederick Hippler, Jon Osborne, Tim Maskiell, and Bob Vezina voted in favor; Steve Roberts abstained.

Chief Bob Vezina: Chief Vezina passed out driveway regulations from another town for the Board to consider. The Board discussed the need to have definitions of driveways, driveway lengths, turnarounds, performance standards, etc., and Chief agreed to type them up and distribute for the Board to review.

Chief Vezina told the Board he would be meeting with the finance committee Thursday to talk about the fire truck request and to discuss future budget concerns with replacing other old fire trucks and where the money would come from. He will also discuss incentive pay for nights and weekends for EMS coverage and the unfairness of the pay scale.

Dave Hewey: Mr. Hewey asked Chief Vezina how the transition is going from Ray Eaton doing the inspections to him. Chief said they are still working together, he is taking classes on inspections and will eventually take them over from Mr. Eaton.

Jon Osborne: Mr. Osborne brought up the future of the Board and if they should consider having less meetings.

Steve Roberts moved to change the Weare Fire Department organization as allowed in RSA134:1, III, by dissolving the Board of Fire Wards and placing the administration of the Fire Department under the direction of the Weare Board of Selectmen, with the Fire Chief as the Department Head, to be consistent with other departments in the Town of Weare; Jon Osborne seconded the motion.

Discussion: Mr. Roberts said he has been on different departments and have seen issues that don't work well at this board, such as budgetary control. Mr. Roberts questioned what the BOFW is in control of. The Chief is in charge of operations, the Town Administrator can deal with personnel issues, and the BOS are in charge of everything else. It seems like the BOFW are another layer of administration to the department. Tim Maskiell feels there are issues that should not be dumped on the Chief or the BOS, and

does not feel the Board should be dissolved completely, but would like to regroup and decide the Boards responsibility, and maybe meet less often. Dave Hewey said there has been a Board of Fire Wards for many years and would hate to see it dissolve completely. Also, Mr. Hewey feel the BOS is busy enough and the BOFW should deal with the department issues.

Dave Hewey moved to table Steve Roberts' motion until next month's meeting; Frederick Hippler seconded, all voted in favor. The Board will continue to define what the BOFW is.

IV: ADJOURNMENT: As there were no further matters to discuss before the board, Frederick Hippler moved to adjourn at 7:55 pm; Tim Maskiell seconded, all voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheila Savaria
Recording Secretary