



Town of Weare Board of Firewards

Weare Safety Complex
144 North Stark Highway
Weare, NH 03281
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Website: www.weare.nh.gov

Board of Firewards

Jon Osborne, Chairman
Frederick Hippler, Vice Chair
Dave Hewey, Sr., Member
Scott Dinsmore, Member
Tim Maskiell, Non-Member
Steve Roberts, Non-Member
Robert Vezina, Fire Chief

WEARE BOARD OF FIRE WARDS MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 3, 2014

**** Draft Copy ****

PRESENT: Frederick Hippler, Vice Chair, Dave Hewey Sr., Member, Scott Dinsmore, Member, Tim Maskiell, Non-Member, Robert Vezina, Fire Chief, and Wendy Stevens, Recording Secretary

GUESTS: None.

I: CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Hippler opened the meeting at the Safety Complex at 6:31 pm.

II: PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

III: OTHER BUSINESS:

The October 13th minutes were reviewed. Vice Chair Hippler made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Mr. Maskiell seconded. The vote passed with Mr. Maskiell abstaining due to absence.

IV: DRIVEWAY PERMIT APPLICATION, ELDON TOWNES, 746 RIVER RD. MAP AND LOT 409-90.

Chief Vezina stated the driveway is 160 feet in length and there is a good area for vehicles. He added the reason the driveway needs to be moved is due to the title company's discovery which is why they have to install a new driveway. He added the curb cut is probably the best place for the driveway, that it is steep, and the transition from River Rd. to the driveway is abrupt. They would need to change the angle of approach. The middle of the driveway has a 20% grade and there is no room for a turning radius, or a switchback. Mr. Maskiell asked if the former driveway had those slopes and Chief Vezina replied no. Mr. Dinsmore expressed concern about winter and ambulance access, noting the steep downward grade from River Rd. Chief Vezina stated there is roughly 80 feet of an approximate 20% grade. The board agreed they would like to see some fill to bring it to at least 15%, at the most 18% and 20% is not feasible in that 80-100 foot section. Mr. Dinsmore made a motion to see grading to at least 15% to 18%. Vice Chair Hippler seconded. The vote passed unanimously.

V: MONTHLY REPORT

Chief Vezina presented a policy on vehicle weekly inspections and binders were circulated with instructions. Chief Vezina stated they will utilize the binders and evaluate effectiveness at the end of the year. Chief Vezina presented a tuition reimbursement plan that is aligned with the town's policies and percentages. Chief Vezina presented ambulance reports and stated they are showing it is no surprise they don't have enough coverage. The report shows that they are as busy on Saturday and Sunday as any other day of the week although there is no staff here in the firehouse on weekends. He also showed the most number of calls are between 7pm and 8pm. He finalized that a trip to the hospital is generally a two hour task.

Mr. Hewey asked if the billing was straightened out. Chief Vezina said yes, final approval was obtained two weeks ago and residual funds are beginning to come in and he thinks the dept. will be fine.

Chief Vezina summarized from the reports that there are roughly 50 calls per month. Vice Chair Hippler noted the dept. is very busy all the time.

VI: PAY SCALES

Chief Vezina compared pay scales to that of New London, Pittsfield, and other towns of the same size and provided those numbers. Chief Vezina added that he needs to present the budget to the town next week. Vice Chair Hippler asked about line items and retirement. Chief Vezina stated he never works more than 32 hours per week including any calls. Mr. Dinsmore stated he is only paid for 25 of those hours. Mr. Dinsmore made a motion to recommend an increase to 32 hours per week at \$30 per hour. Mr. Hewey seconded the motion. Mr. Maskiell asked if it is salary or hourly? Chief Vezina stated salary. Chief Vezina added he does a tremendous amount of inspections. Mr. Maskiell clarified that this is more in line with what the Chief is actually doing. Vice Chair Hippler recommended that Chief Vezina look into obtaining his CDL license. Chief Vezina stated he would. The motion passed 4-0-1 with Chief Vezina abstaining.

Mr. Dinsmore asked about attempting to obtain weekend stipends for next year's budget. Chief Vezina stated the town tax rate is increasing and he wants to keep his budget more in line or less than last year's, plus there are some equipment repair needs. Chief Vezina thought putting weekend stipends out to the voters may be a good idea. Chief Vezina finalized that the dept. gives 24/7 coverage without benefits or health coverage

VII: EQUIPMENT REVIEW

Chief Vezina stated mechanically everything is good. He would like to do a transfer switch in East Weare and install the donated generator. He also intends to move the compressor next year and also has plans for the washer/dryer. Vice Chair Hippler stated Engine 2 is overheating and it is probably the thermostat. He will look into warranty information. He also mentioned software updates are available and he thinks it needs some..

VII: ADJOURNMENT: As there was no further business to come before the Board, Vice Chair Hippler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40pm. Mr. Hewey seconded. The vote was unanimous.

A true record.

Wendy Stevens,
Recording Secretary

<p>The next Board of Firewards meeting is Monday, December 8th at 6:30 pm at the Safety Complex.</p>
