



WEARE BOARD OF FIRE WARDS
MEETING MINUTES
October 17, 2023

PRESENT: STEVE ROBERTS- CHAIRMAN, WAYNE MEATTEY- VICE CHAIR, DAVID HEWEY SR.-MEMBER, LOUISA ERF- MEMBER, KILLIAN DONNELLY - NON-MEMBER, MARK ROARICK-ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF, LEAH CUSHMAN- NON-MEMBER.

ABSENT: None

Chair Steve Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Old Business Personnel: Chief Roarick corrected the last meeting that Lieutenant Meattey, Lieutenant Charest, and Captain Hood were pinned the proper way. A couple of them had never had a pinning ceremony. Chief Roarick said flyers went out for the per diem program to fill in spots. Chief Olsen has completed his work.

Old Business Open House: Fire Fighter Noah Brent oversaw the open house and did a great job. The turnout was a little sparse. The employees did a great job. They did live demonstrations on what to do and what not to do in the kitchen and they also had a smoke house. Chief Roarick is looking forward to doing it next year. The Police would like to try and collaborate for next year.

Old Business Fire Extinguisher Training and Seat Belt Training: Chief Roarick said the fire extinguisher and seat belt training were held at the bus company. They conducted training on how to cut seat belts and things in buses. The training went well.

Old Business Apparatus: Chief Roarick said ambulance two is at DPW for an ABS light that was on. They are currently still awaiting Utility One body. The new ambulance is 190 days out and they are still waiting for the bill from Hillsborough Ford.

Old Business Fire Station: Chief Roarick said that 10 Scott Air pack bottles are to be ordered. The emergency management plan went to the Selectmen for approval. The ISO rating is 9.

Old Business CIP: Chief Roarick said the new engine was proposed to go up to 1 million versus the \$800,000. They had talked about removing the \$95,000 for portable in the CIP for next year if the budget passes for this year.

New Business Personnel: Chief Roarick said most of the members will be finishing their training in November and December. Lieutenant Charest started Paramedic class through New England EMS Institute in Manchester part of Elliot Hospital. The program is sixteen months, and 1,200 hours, and then will have to do roughly 350 hours of hospital time and 300 hours' worth of ride time. Chief Roarick went to the New England Association Chiefs Expo and attended a couple of classes. There was one on lithium battery charging stations. He chose that one because the bus company advised him that they are getting eight

47 electric buses that are coming into the Town. They will be installing a charging station and will be next to
48 their diesel tank. He also attended a class on Solar panels and how to effectively work with them. Chief
49 Roarick said in the future he is looking to send two people to the State of New Hampshire Fire Academy
50 to be instructors. Chief Roarick said that Lieutenant Meattey brought it up that the State is allowing you to
51 hold your own Fire Fighter One & Two classes at the station if you have instructors. That would help with
52 getting people into classes and being flexible to draw in people. Chair Roarick asked if he could send the
53 Selectman an application for the Forest Fire Warden. Chair Roberts said it is important for that position to
54 be in the Fire Department and rest with the Fire Chief. Chief Roarick said the officers of the department
55 are deputy wardens and that would stay the same. Vice Chair Meattey asked how many hours would this
56 impact Chief Roarick. Chief Roarick said meetings are coming up and he is not sure but he could not
57 imagine more than eight hours a month.

58
59 **Donnelly motioned to have Mark Roarick put in his application to the Selectmen for Fire Warden**
60 **for the Town of Weare. Seconded by Vice Chair Meattey. Motion passed 6-0-1. Abstention by Chief**
61 **Roarick.**

62
63 **New Business Apparatus:** Ambulance two went to the Highway Department to get the ABS sensor
64 replaced in the rear axle. Chief Roarick said all the apparatus' have been inspected and are good for another
65 year. The on-spot chains have been removed through the process of when the vehicles are being inspected.
66 They are going to start going through them soon so they are ready for winter. The budget-dependent
67 vehicles are still being undercoated. In the past there was a gentleman who came down and did the entire
68 fleet and they paid by the foot. They are bringing the vehicles down to Mullen as the budget allows them
69 to. They do not have a bill through Hillsborough Ford for Ambulance One. Chief Roarick said he would
70 continue to keep calling and asking about the bill. He is concerned about it not getting paid within the year.
71 Chief Roarick said he contacted Life Line and Al Hooper and the new chase has not arrived at the facility
72 and he asked when it is supposed to arrive. The Chasse is slated to be delivered in February and probably
73 will not get the chase until November 2024. Chair Roarick said he went to the Life Lines website and
74 called around to see when people were getting their ambulances and the responses were the same it will
75 take about two years to get the chase and then another 210 days to get the build time. The new utility body
76 is still supposed to be delivered in December and will hopefully fully be outfitted by January.

77
78 **New Business Fire Stations:** Chief Roarick is going to be looking into getting the vents cleaned. To his
79 knowledge, they have never been cleaned. The furnaces are going to be serviced. The nonserviceable
80 equipment has been sent to White Farm for auction on the 21st of October. DPW Director Fiske took what
81 he wanted for DPW before it went to auction. After the auction is completed whatever was sold the money
82 will go to the General Fund. Engine One at South Sugar Hill Fire House will start to be decommissioned
83 and winterized. He is not sure if it will stay inside or ask DPW Director if there is a spot, they could store
84 it to have space for other in-service equipment. Hewey asked what Chief Roarick plans on putting in the
85 station. Chief Roarick said possibly the forestry. The forestry will be winterized after the first good snowfall
86 and will still be in service. The lieutenant will be cleaning the hot water heater. The Selectman quasi-
87 approved the Emergency Operations plan. They wanted three quotes and Chief Roarick contacted Captain
88 Hood who stated she did reach out to three companies and two of them said no. Chief Roarick said he has
89 reached out to the companies who said they could not do it again.

90
91 **Chief's Report:** Chief Roarick said that all spending has been stopped at the Fire House and all spending
92 must go through his office for approval. He said it has been super tight this year and there has been a lot of
93 overtime with everyone in class. It will put them in a great spot at the beginning of the year once classes
94 are over. Finance Director Rouse did a forecasted budget for the Fire Department for the rest of the year.
95 Under vehicle costs in September there was work done on the vehicles and there were items that came up
96 to pass inspection. \$11,000 for the SCBA bottles is coming out of the capital reserves. Chief Roarick asked
97 for feedback on the proposed 2024 budget. He said the overall increase is 4.22% which equates to a little
98 over \$50,000 over the default budget. Chief Roarick said he is trying to build into the budget items that

99 they need to replace as they go. Chair Roberts said they can put it on next month's agenda to discuss the
100 proposed budget.

101
102 **Other Business:** Donnelly said the Highway Department is down staff for the winter which may affect
103 response time and overtime. Chief Roarick said they do have the new utility and will be coming into service
104 sometime in January but still have the old Utility vehicle. They will need to have the facility plowed out
105 and have hired extra people during the winter in the past. Chief Roarick said he is not sure if the Town will
106 take the plow truck and if not, it may go to White Farm in the spring. It would be a benefit for the two
107 trucks for the winter before they are gone.

108
109 **Manifest:** Chair Roberts motioned to accept the Fire Department accounts payable for a check dated
110 October 19th, 2023 in the amount of \$7,537. Seconded by Vice Chair Meattley. Motion passed 7-0-0.

111
112 **Motion to adjourn made by Donnel at 6:50 p.m. Seconded by Hewey. Motion passes 7-0-0.**

113
114 **ADJOURNMENT**

115 A True Record.

116 *Kearsten O'Brien*

117 Kearsten O'Brien, Minute Taker