

1. Call to order

- a) A meeting of Board of Fire Wards was held on March 8, 2021, beginning at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.
- b) Roll call of attendees included Fire Chief Robert Vezina, David Hewey, Mark Bluteau, and Leah Cushman. Members not in attendance included Steve Colburn, Chairman, Derek Chouinard.
- c) Scott Dinsmore joined the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

- a) February 8, 2021 - Motion by Bluteau/Hewey to accept the minutes as written. Passed 4-0-0.

3. A/P Manifest

- a) Fire Rescue's account payable manifest for checks dated 3/11/2021 in the amount of \$6,998.91 is available for review and signature.

4. Old Business

- a) Election of Officers – No action taken
- b) Discussion concerning BOFW by-laws – No action taken

5. New Business

- a) Life Saving Commendations awarded to Lt. Wayne Meattley, Trevor Anderson, Louisa Erf for successful resuscitation of a woman in cardiac arrest.
- b) March 5, 2021, Chief Vezina, AC Richards, and Chief of Capital Area Mutual Aid conducted radio test throughout the town. Communication to and from Concord Fire Alarm was very good using the vehicle radio, very good using the vehicle repeater, mixed using hand held radio, and mixed receiving the personal pagers.
- c) Effective February 17, 2021, James Sylvain resigned to pursue other employment opportunities.

6. Chief's Report

- a) No financial report
- b) Incidents 58 for March - 130 for year
- c) Voting day is Tuesday, March 9, 2021. Both WFR warrants remain unchanged from Deliberative Session.

7. Announcements

Board of Selectmen conducting a virtual Q & A at their meeting tonight.

8. General Discussion

Leah Cushman spoke on the matter of being forced to wear a face covering at the Board of Fire Wards meetings at the station. Ms. Cushman talked about Emergency Order 74, issued by the Governor, dictating that face coverings are required where social distancing of 6 feet cannot be maintained. She feels that that there is enough room to social distance therefore, she should not be forced to wear mask. Ms. Cushman also stated that she felt harassed by members of the Board of Fire Wards and staff of the Fire Department to coerce her to wear masks. Chief Vezina stated that there is no intent to harass Ms. Cushman or others; he is only trying to protect his workforce by following Board of Selectmen and CDC guidelines.

Discussed was whether the Board of Fire Wards had voted on the policy to close the stations to the public or only the Board of Selectmen.

- a) Motion by Chief Vezina/Bluteau to close the fire stations to the public and require screening and masks to enter until further notice. Passed 4-1-0.
- b) Motion by Chief Vezina/Bluteau that Board of Fire Ward meeting be conducted via the Zoom app until further notice. Passed 4-0-1

9. Adjournment

- a) Motion by Bluteau/Hewey to adjourn at 6:29 p.m. Passed 5-0-0.

Submitted by: R. Vezina