

TOWN OF WEARE, NH
Weare Board of Fire Wards
Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 11, 2011
Final Copy

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

GUESTS: Donna Osborne

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Jon Osborne called the meeting to order at 6:30 at the Safety Complex.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jon Osborne showed the Board an invitation to an open house for Evelyn Connor being held on Saturday, July 30, 2011. Ms. Connor is retiring from her position as Town Clerk.

III. OTHER BUSINESS:

Minutes:

Steve Roberts moved to approve the June 13, 2011 minutes as written; Scott Dinsmore seconded, all voted in favor. Chief Bob Vezina abstained.

Scott Dinsmore moved to approve the June 20, 2011 minutes as written; Frederick Hippler seconded, 5 members voted in favor. Steve Roberts and Chief Vezina abstained.

Chief Bob Vezina notes:

Chief Vezina discussed the stats from January through June with the Board. He said they are very similar and EMS calls are up slightly from last year. The budget is also on track with the exception of the Fire Equipment line. Chief Vezina said he had spoken with a few Department members and one of their concerns was that he SOGs need to be updated and feels they should coordinate with surrounding towns. This is a project he would like to begin in the next 30 days. Jon Osborne said the Chief could write the SOGs, but they need to be brought to the BOFW for approval. Steve Roberts suggested having a review period from the time the Board first gets the proposed SOG until the time they approve it.

Chief Vezina commended the Department for the way a recent fire on Holly Hill Road was handled, and asked how non-members would like information about those incidents. Steve Roberts asked that the information be emailed to non-members. Mr. Roberts also inquired about per diem issues; Chief Vezina said he should have more information on that for next meeting.

Frederick Hippler asked if there had been any progress made regarding the ambulance billing. Chief Vezina discussed increasing the rates as Medicare does and adding 10-25%. He is going to check with Naomi Bolton to see who can make these billing changes. Steve Roberts said he knows a billing consultant who offered to come in and discuss billing options. This service would be free at first, but if they moved forward, there would be a charge. Chief Vezina said it was fine to bring him in for a discussion. Mr. Roberts also suggested setting up a hardship committee or fund for those who cannot afford the bills.

IV. ADJOURNMENT: As there were no further matters to discuss before the board, Scott Dinsmore moved to adjourn at 7:13 pm; Tim Maskiell seconded, all voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheila Savaria
Recording Secretary