

## Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting

December 23, 2016

Regular Members in Attendance: Eric Meth, John Lachappelle, Bernardette Costa

Appt. with: Fire Chief Rick Gaudette,

Others present: Assistant Fire Chief Roger O'Dell, Fireman Tyler Gaudette, Dawn Steele, Peter Grote

Meeting was called to order at approx. 4:30 p.m. at the Public Safety Building.

### Rescue Truck/Ladder Truck

Rick Gaudette explained that he was waiting for the insurance company to make a decision on the best way to repair the rear section of the Rescue truck. He planned to take it to North Country Ford to fix the chassis and that part should take about a week. Total repairs will take at least 5-6 weeks if the insurance company decides to repair the truck with a "Poly" body. The Chief felt this was a better solution: quicker turnaround time (5-6weeks) versus months if the body is custom built. He also thinks that the poly body is more durable.

At the moment, as the Board observed, all the rescue equipment is lined up along the side of the Fire Dept. bay. The Chief reported that the plan, though not the most desirable, is that if there is a rescue call, firemen with pickup trucks will report to the Public Safety Building and load the necessary equipment into their own trucks and proceed to the incident. This solution is more time consuming, creates the potential for problems of having private vehicles at the scene, and there is still the problem of how to transport all firemen to the scene.

He also explained that January to March is the busiest time for needing the Rescue truck.

He was asked to explore the possibility of the insurance company paying to rent a Rescue truck, if one was available.

He suggested that since we have a perfectly able ladder truck, if the Board would allow him to spend the funds of approximately \$11,000 to finish outfitting the truck with mandated ladder, adapters, etc., that the Ladder Truck could be road ready in 2-3 weeks. This truck has ample room for the equipment and firemen.

The Board discussed the options:

1. Do nothing and wait to get the Rescue Truck fixed.
2. Use 2016 money budgeted in the Fire Dept. budget to pay for the expenditure.
3. Wait until January 1 and use 2017 funds to pay for the expenditure.

The Board decided that it would like to use the money in the 2016 Fire Dept. budget if it had not yet been allocated. Bernie will contact Sally to determine the exact balance as of the day she reports it. She will contact the Board and Rick as soon as that information is known and they can formalize the decision.

Gift

Eric made a motion that the Town gives Sally a \$100 gift certificate in recognition of her long years of service to the Town. Bernie seconded it. There was discussion. A roll call vote was taken with Eric and Bernie voting Yes and John voting No. John wanted to add that he had asked where the money was coming from. The money is coming from the admin budget. He is all for recognizing Sally but John would have liked for this to come in from donations.

Bernie will pick up the gift certificate.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernardette Costa