

**Board of Firewards
Minutes of Meeting
Monday, September 12, 2016**

The meeting took place at the Fire House. The minutes of the July meeting were accepted. In attendance were: Steve Ensign, John Ryan, Pete Lauridsen, and Karen Hoglund, Doug Lyon, Chief: Jason Lyon, and Clerk: Amy Lyon.

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Items for Discussion: July and August have been very busy months for the NLFD, with the exception of our Open House during Hospital Days which had fewer children this year. During the triathlon we had volunteers to help with traffic and the swimming portion, but we also had a fire department team enter the race. There was a discussion regarding the general decline in attendance during Hospital Days. The annual bar-b-q transitioned into a potluck picnic at Gena's house. The Patriot Day Ceremony took place last Friday and was a big success. The fifth graders once again, did a great job. The Doheneys, Marcoffs, and other townspeople hosted the 9-11 dinner for first responders at the firehouse, which was also well attended. October is Fire Prevention month, so all New London elementary students will be attending classes at the station. NLFD members also make visits to places such as Lyon Brook and Bittersweet. This year's focus is on changing out smoke detectors that are older than ten years.

The August Dispatch meeting focused on the engineering study, phase three of the project, and gaining permission to put the last repeater up on top of Mount Sunapee. Training of dispatchers continues to be an ongoing process. A new formula was discussed which could lower New London's contribution, but which could be problematic for some of the user towns. No changes will be made to this year's formula, but there is a plan to visit with the other towns to let them know of updates.

Firefighter Yari McKeon has made great progress in settling into his new job expectations and he has now made a move to George's Mills, which fulfills the residency requirement.

Jay has met with the Budget Committee (BC) and will keep the Board up to date. The BC has requested there be no increases to regular operating budgets because of the wage adjustments. This is a concern because we do have some facility maintenance items that should be addressed and that will be put in the building maintenance line item section of the budget proposal. Pete asked for clarification concerning building repairs as far as what needs updating. Trim, some siding, a couple doors, and the new roof all need replacing within the next five years. Jay obtained bids for some building repairs and replacements from two local builders which is where the building improvement numbers came from. October 17th will be the first FD and Public Safety budget meeting when our specific budget will be discussed with the Selectmen.

The Selectmen have decided to revise the previous labor grade recommendations (low, medium, and high) to quartiles. Jay was placed in the second quartile. He has asked what he needs to do to get to a higher pay grade whether it be more training, education, etc. Karen asked about Yari's compensation, and it was noted that he will get an increase of \$0.50 after his six-month probationary period and is in "labor grade 12." Steve felt he should speak with Kim so that he can make the recommendation for Jay to be placed in the medium range. Doug reiterated that it isn't clear what the criteria would be for moving through the steps. It was felt that Steve should also speak with the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen.

The truck committee has met with four different companies who could build the new engine/tanker. Jay reviewed the capital reserve schedule that was revised in 2013, and at this point, we will most likely be \$50,000 short. The specifications for the apparatus will be completed this year, submitted for bidding, and, we could probably take delivery next summer.

Mobile radio replacement is also on the docket. The first phase of radio replacements will take place next year. Because the mobile radios in all the apparatus are no longer able to be serviced, they will be replaced first.

A motion was made and seconded for the Board to go into non-public session.

A motion was made and seconded for the minutes to be sealed. Roll call took place.

There was then a motion which passed to exit non-public session.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, November 7th, 2016, 4:30 at the Fire House.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Lyon, Clerk