

**Gilford Fire-Rescue
Board of Fire Engineers
17 February 2009**

The Board of Fire Engineers met in regular session on Tuesday, 17 February 2009 at 39 Cherry Valley Road, Gilford, New Hampshire.

Present: Chairman William Akerley, Engineer Philip Brouillard, Engineer Don Spear, Chief James Hayes, Deputy John Beland, Capt. Michael Balcom, FF. Scott Mooney, FF. Dominic DeCarli, FF. Nicholas Proulx and Executive Secretary Catherine M. Reitz.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 0819 hours.

I. Salute to the Flag: All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Adoption of Minutes: Minutes of 20 January 2009 meeting were reviewed, motion to accept and were approved. Motion carried. The minutes of the Special Meeting of 27 January 2009 were reviewed, motion to accept and were approved. Motion carried.

III. Budget Review:

2009 Budget: The budget report will show the amount allocated to each line item after the Town vote in March. Purchases are being held until then. There was no opposition to our budget requests during the Deliberative Session of 4 February. However, the Capital Reserve for Truck and Ambulance Replacement was reduced to \$50,000 on a motion to amend. The Selectmen, Town Administrator and Finance Director supported \$200,000 in the Apparatus Replacement Fund. Warrant article funds must be spent on the specific items voted on. If the Town votes for a default budget, contractual items such as the labor unions must be honored. After that all other items will be allocated as the Selectmen see fit.

IV. Personnel:

Call Company Status: Upon the recommendation of Chief Hayes, Engineer Brouillard moved to increase the Call Company roster to 30 members. The goal is to add more to the firefighting side of the roster. Two former members have applied as Driver Operators. Six candidates will be interviewed in March. According to FF. DeCarli, four can be outfitted with gear in inventory. The financial impact to the Call Company budget is minimal since the students are not paid and the three paid positions would be at entry level. Engineer Spear made the second. Vote was unanimous.

V. Apparatus & Equipment:

A. General Repairs: State inspections are due. Winnepesaukee Truck will determine repair work and depending on the nature, either they or DPW will make the repairs.

B. Engine 2: 8E2 is currently at Lakes Region Fire Apparatus for repairs.

C. New Ambulance Update: The New Ambulance will arrive Friday, February 27th. Two service technicians will remove the radio from old A1 and reinstall in the new Ambulance. Since they warranty the electrical system, they prefer to do the install themselves. They will prepare the outlet for the new Setcom. Lily Pond Communications will install the Setcom.

Sugarloaf Ambulance is marketing old A1; however the trade-in value we are guaranteed is \$2500. FF. DeCarli ordered a special type exhaust tailpipe that will keep the pipe cool so the Plymovent is not damaged by overheating. This does not negate the warranty.

D. Forestry Truck Project: This Forestry is in the process of getting reassembled. The goal is to have it in service by mid March.

VI. Training:

Deputy Beland informed the Board that he has received verbal permission to train for search & rescue drills at the vacant units at the Airport Plaza. We will provide support to those teams training for Heights Rescue and Technical Rope Rescues.

The sales rep from Scott's Airpaks has agreed to loan us 4 SCBA's to use for 4 – 6 weeks. He will train and Fit Test personnel. This will be an invaluable tool to getting hands on experience with different types of air paks.

The Deputy is currently working on evaluation books to test basic fire skills for every member. Each firefighter will have one year to complete it.

The Bailout System, a firefighter self rescue system of harness and ropes was presented.

Purchasing the device, hook, harness and bags for the majority of the fire staff is being considered. Firefighters volunteered to purchase the ropes for themselves. The device is externally attached to the bunker gear.

Firefighters Blanchette and Madon will attend Aircraft Rescue Training in May.

VII. Fire Prevention:

One Budget Committee rep expressed disapproval of adopting the Fire Code the Deliberative Session. Residential sprinkler systems will be mandatory in the 2011 International Building Code. There was some confusion as to which department was responsible for filing the Fire Code with the Town Clerk's office. The Town Administrator is researching whether the late filing negates the votes garnered. This should not be confused with the Building Code which is not under the Fire Inspector's jurisdiction.

Inspector Pendergast is working with Paugus Bay Plaza to bring them into compliance with the Life Safety Code. Unfortunately, it has been delayed due to mixed ownership. Some items have been corrected including installation of a new fire panel. The sprinklers need repair. The Planning Director will not approve any tenancy applications until all issues have been corrected. The Assembly Permit for CoCoMo's aka King's Grant Inn expired last year. Inspector Pendergast forwarded a letter to the owner reminding him of the requirements to open. The owner has the option of appealing to the State Fire Marshal's office. If the State conducts the inspection and provides written approval, this Department will issue the Assembly Permit.

VIII. Other Business:

A. Assistance to Fire Fighter's Grant: The washer/extractor, flow meter, hose & adapters and gear drying racks have been ordered. A biodegradable soap system that meters out the appropriate amount of chemical cleaner along with neutralizer will be installed also.

B. Comstar: A recommendation for a new procedure to collect outstanding ambulance fees will be introduced at the March meeting.

C. Station Improvements: The kitchen renovation project will begin this weekend. The Professional Firefighters and the Relief Association pooled funds to purchase materials from Lowe's. Donations were also received from Student Skafas' Father.

D. Appreciation: Thanks to FF. Proulx for the purchase of two desk chairs for the Shift Office._
E. Spring Awards Night: The Spring Awards Pot Luck Supper Night will be held on 17 April at the United Methodist Church.

F. Vacations: Chief Hayes and Deputy Beland will both be unavailable from March 6 – 15th. Capt. Balcom will assume responsibility of the department.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 0938 hours.

Respectfully submitted:

Catherine M. Reitz
Executive Secretary

Preliminary
Subject to Board Approval