

**Gilford Fire-Rescue
Board of Fire Engineers
20 January 2010**

The Board of Fire Engineers met in regular session on Tuesday, 20 December 2010 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. Dominic DeCarli, Selectman Kevin Hayes and Executive Secretary Catherine M. Reitz.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 0830 hours.

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

II Adoption of Minutes: Minutes of 15 December 2009 meeting were reviewed, motion to accept and were approved. Motion carried.

III. Budget Review:

A. 2009 Budget: The Board applauded Administration for managing the budget so effectively. The year end total was + \$204.47.

B. 2010 Budget:

A. 2010 Operating Budget: The Public Hearing was held 12 January 2010 with no Fire-Rescue related issues brought forth. The Deliberative Session is scheduled for 3 February 2010.

IV. Personnel:

A. Call Company Status: Three members of the Call Company are on probation for not meeting performance requirements. There are seven new applicants to the Call Company. Hiring will be postponed until the physical ability test can be administered in the spring.

B. Chief Hayes – Retirement: Chief Hayes read his letter to the Board announcing his retirement effective 30 April 2010. (see attached) The Board expressed their appreciation to Chief Hayes for his exceptional performance of leading this Department and for his 30 years of service to The Town of Gilford.

C. Personnel Policy Adoption – update of amendments: Chief Hayes distributed amendments to the Personnel Policy that was effective 1/1/10 as it relates to Fire Department only issues as well as a change in page numbers. (see attached).

V. Apparatus & Equipment:

A. Boat 1: The Fire Boat has been winterized by Dave’s Motorboat Shoppe. FF. Blanchette made some repairs and equipment installation. It has been shrink wrapped and is now in cold storage for the winter.

B. Radios for Cars 1 & 2: The emergency call signal radios have been installed in Cars 1 & 2. These, when activated, notify of a “man down” situation with both an audible and visual signal. An interior yellow strobe has been added in case fire ground command is taking place at the front of the vehicles instead of the rear. This adds another level of safety for our staff.

C. Rescue Rehab: If the budget passes Town Meeting in March, needed repairs will be made to the Rescue.

D. Utility 1: A broken spring was repaired yesterday. The Utility must be kept in the Station to ensure it will start in the winter months. The light bar also contributes to the battery draw. Engineer Spear continues his search for a bed replacement. If one cannot be found, restorative repairs will be

made in the spring.

E. Car 3: If the radios in the Inspector's car are not manually turned off, the battery runs down. Chief Hayes will have this changed so that when the ignition is turned off the radios will automatically turn off also.

VI. Training:

A. Deputy's Report:

Firefighters Michael Benoit, Daniel Skafas, Brian Akerley and William Beaupre are currently enrolled in EMT-Intermediate course(s). FF. Beaupre and Akerley have started their ambulance ride time component and can initiate IV's with supervision. All students have been given good reviews by their instructors.

The previous Lieutenant's Exam results expires in May. A new exam will be held May 10, 11, 12th. This exam process provides a promotion list as well as a 'working out of rank' list for when necessary.

The 4th Annual Awards Night Potluck Dinner will be held at the Gilford Community Church Fellowship Hall on 23 of April at 6:30 PM.

Future training classes are on hold until after Town Meeting. FF. Madon is a certified Ice Rescue Technician who will update and recertify our staff during a 6-hour course to be held in February. He will also conduct a water supply drill at Lakeshore Park with a rural water supply component. FF. Blanchette and Akerley are registered to also become Certified Ice Rescue Techs.

VII. Fire Prevention:

According to Selectman Hayes, the Planning Board approved the change of use for the former Victorian House as a multiple apartment complex. In order to satisfy fire safety issues, significant rehabilitation will need to occur to bring the building up to the current fire code with the possibility of installing a sprinkler system. The Planning Board supported the Fire Code Warrant Article.

VIII. Other Business:

A. Decon Room Project Status: What began as a minor project to reconstruct the pitch to the center drain for adequate drainage has escalated into a major effort necessitating the removal of the floor in the Decon Room as well as the walls of abutting rooms due to a significant and varied mold issue. Testing was conducted by All-Bright Cleaning Co. Deputy Beland has met with Town Administrator Dunn and Director Morgan throughout this process and they were most supportive of the necessary repairs due to the mold danger involved. The next step is to determine the best option for sealing the floor to prevent this from occurring again and to contain the exposure from the decontamination process. One-piece vinyl and a Linex type floor are being discussed. Director Morgan will contract a third party to test for mold exposure after the effective areas are removed. Deputy Beland requested that All-Bright also test the top floor which houses residential quarters. They discovered high moisture in the floor around the showers which will need to be addressed.

B. Fund Raising for Training Facility: Engineer Spear's idea of holding a Yard & Bake Sale in the spring is scheduled for May 22 & 23rd. The Board of Selectmen did approve the placement of the first of the trailers to be acquired for the Training Facility to be used for storing donated items for the Yard Sale. A 50/50 raffle was discussed. Patrick's Pub & Eatery has agreed to host an auction to continue fund raising for the Training Facility. FF. Archibald will research the possibility of staff working as parking attendants at one of the NASCAR events in Loudon which could raise a significant amount of money. Chief Hayes has received a \$5K pledge from Meredith Village Savings Bank and he continues his letter writing campaign to acquire more funding.

IX. Non Public Session Per RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Section (b). Engineer Brouillard moved to go into Non Public Session at 0952 hours. Engineer Spear made the second. Vote was unanimous. Engineer Brouillard moved to exit Non Public Session at 10:35 hours. Engineer Spear made the

second. No action was taken in Non Public Session.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1035 hours.

Respectfully submitted:

Catherine M. Reitz

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Executive Secretary

Preliminary Subject to Board Approval