

# **Royalton Fire District #1 Prudential Committee**

## **Meeting Minutes**

August 24, 2016

Members attending: **Bill Ballou** – Chair, **Seth Stoddard** – Vice Chair, **David Whitney** – Member, **Don Lovejoy** – Member  
Officers attending: **Paul Brock** – Fire Chief/Chief Engineer, **David Palmer** – Rescue Administrator/Town Health Officer, **Heidi Vogt** – Assistant Clerk/Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 7:10pm by **Bill**.

There were no walk-ins.

**Don** motioned to accept minutes from August 10<sup>th</sup> with the following amendment: Change the date of meeting to 10<sup>th</sup> from the 11<sup>th</sup>.as submitted, **Seth** seconded, and the minutes passed 3-1. **David** abstained due to his absence from the meeting. The Agenda was reviewed. **Don** motioned to accept the agenda as submitted, **Seth** seconded, and the agenda passed 4-0.

RESCUE: Update: Calls as of 8/23/16 year to date comparisons were as follows: 2016 – 261, 2015 – 202, 2014 – 209, 2013 – 193. House renovations are progressing well. New time clock is in place; the next payroll will be the last with paper back up. Resiliency festival coming up- Fire participating as well – this Sunday. **David P** requests the Board consider a pay level for a on staff paramedic besides himself. He has had one apply for a job and would like to make an offer, recommends \$14/hr. Payroll expenses would increase by roughly \$4,000/year. No monetary gain, however community will gain significantly. **Seth** motioned to institute a paramedic level pay grade of \$14/hr, **Don** seconded, and the motion carried 4-0. The direction of the hierarchy of the Squad was discussed between **David P.** and the Advisory Board. He feels that the proposal made by the Advisory would be a disaster for the Squad, and suggests a second in command position. This person would have all the working knowledge of the Squad as **David P.** Shifts for this person and **David P.** would be 4, 10 hour days per week each, with one where they would both be on shift. This position would be offered out to the Squad members who would then have to apply for the position similar to our hiring process. **David P's** administrative hours were discussed. The Board agreed that, at this time, this subject will remain in the hands of the Advisory Board until they are ready to make an office presentation. **David P.** also stated that he met in Brattleboro with State advisors with regard to mobile integrated healthcare/ community paramedicine. This will eventually mean funding for home visits minimizing the transport of patients to Hospitals. **David P.** suspects this is a long ways away.

FIRE: Fire House: There was a busy, windy weekend in July but luckily there were no injuries. The Firemen are hoping to receive Town funding to purchase the Journey Church building. As of today, they are waiting to hear back about the conditions of a draft contract in review with the Town lawyer. Said contract stipulates that any deposit put forth will be returned if, during the time needed to allocate funding for the Town and to have an Engineer inspect the building for the viability of the project, viability is not possible. **Paul** has received quotes for a new utility rescue truck for the Fire Department. KME is for \$203,000; Larry Dingy quoted \$173,250 for identical specifications. The Association voted to donate \$60,000 towards this truck, we have almost \$60,000 in reserves, and **Paul** would like permissions to research financing options. **David W.** motioned to allow, **Seth** seconded, and the request passed 4-0.

WATER: Update: Lines were flushed. **Heidi** reviewed collections status. She and **Seth** suggested adding the collections policy to the back of all invoices, thus eliminating the need to vote every single time a shut off is needed. The policy needs review, **Heidi** will send it to **Seth** who will then bring a proposal to the next meeting.

**Seth** motioned to adjourn, **Don** seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 8:16pm 4-0.

Respectfully submitted, Heidi L Vogt, Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper

**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016**