

**Colebrook Fire Department  
Forge Company**

April 6, 2021

Present: Todd Hiller, Deputy Chief, Steven Sartirana, Captain, Benjamin Bartlett, Chief, Erich Fritz, Dan Butler, Bob Bull, Terry Phelan, Ralph Halzen, Maureen Bascetta, Elizabeth Norman, Evan Sartirana, Bill Hiller

Meeting called to order at 19:14.

**Reading and approval of minutes:**

Captain Steve Sartirana read the March monthly meeting minutes. With there being no discussion or amendments to the minutes, a motion was made by Terry Phelan to accept the minutes from the March meeting; Erich Fritz seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Communications, correspondence and notices:**

The Fire Department received a donation after the Easter brush fire. This was delivered in person.

**Report of committees:**

Truck Committee: The committee met, and we had interest from people who own sod farms. A representative looked at both trucks, and he was given a spec sheet. They would like to buy the trucks. The department requested \$30K for both trucks; they offered \$25K. Todd confirmed with the First Selectmen that the check should be made out to the town. Todd is hopeful that the funds will go back into the capital fund.

New Truck Committee: A committee for the replacement of Engine 2 went to Thomaston to discuss truck design and features of rescue pumpers with them. The committee will go to Winsted to look at their rescue pumper. The idea is to have an idea of what we want it to look like. It will take about a year to build, so we would like to request it in 2022 in order to procure it by 2023. Terry suggested maybe going to Harwinton West as well.

**Admission of applications for new membership:**

None

**Old business:**

The air packs sold. Rick will bring a check to Bob.

The ID tags have arrived and should be picked up after the meetings. Steve suggested that a policy on the use of ID tags be created.

**New business:**

Chief Bartlett expressed appreciation for the gift cards from the two companies.

He reported that beneficiary forms need to be filled out annually, including for new applicants.

An officers meeting was held a few weeks ago. They are working on items that need to be tightened up, including getting ready for OSHA inspections.

There is an option for everyone to get Hepatitis B vaccinations. Members should accept or decline the vaccinations.

The Berkshire Trailriders Ride will be on Saturday, May 22. The Cub Scouts are going to do a breakfast where we will serve them at a buffet. There will be a dinner as well. They are expecting around 100 people.

The Steak Bake is canceled for this year due to COVID.

Ben reached out to the Coon Club to talk about the dinner. A committee will convene to discuss that.

After the officers meeting, the companies are working on a five year plan for new equipment and repairs that need to be done.

Ben requested that each company spend \$10K by June on equipment. A list of who needs to be sized and needs equipment should be put together first.

Todd would like to form a By-laws committee. Todd and Elizabeth volunteered. Ben will request representatives from Center as well.

Todd brought up the idea of sending out an appeal letter to help buy new radios and other necessary equipment. Terry Phelan moved that we send out an appeal letter to purchase new radio equipment; Erich Fritz seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Ben will follow up with the Center Company to see if they are in agreement. The last appeal sent out 700 letters and raised around \$18K.

Bob asked for a status update on fueling the fire trucks. Ben has been talking with the town about this but it is not resolved yet. In the meantime, people should use the credit card. If it is after hours, town officials can be requested to get gas.

Erich Fritz made a motion that we buy new bunting as long as the cost does not exceed \$100; Terry Phelan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Boy Scouts are getting us a new American flag. Bob offered to retire the old ones through the VFW.

**For the good of the company:**

Todd expressed appreciation for those who showed up on Easter Sunday to address the brush fire.

Being no further business, a motion was made by Terry Phelan and seconded by Erich Fitz to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 20:04 PM hours following the pledge of allegiance.

Respectfully submitted,

*Elizabeth Norman*

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