

**Colebrook Fire Department  
Forge Company**

**January 4, 2022 Monthly Meeting Minutes**

Present: Benjamin Bartlett, Chief, Todd Hiller, Deputy Chief, Rick Tillotson, Treasurer, Steven Sartirana, Captain, Chris Beaulieu, Dan Butler, Bob Bull, Terry Phelan, Bill Hiller, Evan Sartirana, First Selectman Christopher Johnstone.

Deputy Chief Hiller called the meeting to order at 19:05 hours. .

**Reading and approval of minutes:**

Deputy Chief Todd Hiller presented the December monthly meeting minutes as submitted by Lieutenant Terence Phelan. Chief Bartlett gave a correction that the donation was \$250 from each company. With there being no additional discussion or amendments to the minutes, a motion was made by Rick Tillotson and seconded by Benjamin Bartlett to accept the minutes as read. The motion passed unanimously.

**Report of Treasurer and bills for payment:**

Treasurer Rick Tillotson presented the Treasurer's report, including a report of donations that were received. Donations were from Lombardi Ford, Colebrook Associates and a number of individuals. With there being no discussion or amendments to the Treasurer's report, a motion was made by Dan Butler and seconded by Terence Phelan to accept the Treasurer's report as read. The motion passed unanimously.

**Communications, correspondence and notices:**

Deputy Chief Todd Hiller read correspondence and shared additional donations in memory of Ralph Hazen.

**Report of Committees:**

No Committees met in the month of December. A Truck Committee meeting will be scheduled soon. Deputy Chief Hiller suggested every other month on Tuesdays. Sunday mornings at 10 AM were also suggested. The next meeting will be Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, at 10 AM.

**Admission of applications for new membership:**

Michael Knap is a retired RN, and he would like to apply to become an EMT. Terence Phelan will look into whether he can challenge the state test.

**Old business:**

Deputy Chief Hiller looked into whether we would receive a bill for towing from the reservoir. The company is not planning to charge us.

The soda machine is gone and cannot be repaired. Deputy Chief Hiller took a photo of the signs Ralph Hazen made such as "Loser" and "Better luck next time."

The meeting schedule for 2022 will remain as the first Tuesday of each month.

Captain Steve Sartirana will reach out to Justin from Firematic about the batteries for the air packs to see what the situation with the batteries is (whether we need extra or need to swap them more often.)

**New business:**

Benjamin Bartlett was re-elected as Chief last night. He gave a recap of the Center elections as well.

The skating party will be January 29<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm.

The Investigation Committee will reach out to applicant Ryan Farrell and meet with him.

There was a discussion of getting a DEP matching grant. One possible use is getting a PPE extractor which is roughly \$5K.

Chief Bartlett shared that the Berkshire Trail Riders would like to do an event again in May 2022. One option is for the Center to do the dinner and the Forge to do the breakfast and share the proceeds.

The Steak Bake was discussed at the meeting last night. A Dinner Committee will be formed to discuss the Steak Bake and the Appreciation Dinner. Depending on the status of COVID, these events may end of being merged.

Chief Bartlett discussed having another night of uniform fitting for the Department, along with coats and sweatshirts.

First Selectman Johnstone mentioned that there will be a Capital Improvements meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup>. We should let the town know of any equipment needs. Deputy Chief Hiller discussed a cascade system to replace the one at Center. The price tag could be between \$50K to \$100K, based on the costs from Norfolk and Riverton.

**For the good of the company:**

Deputy Chief Hiller thanked everyone who attend Ralph Hazen's service. The family expressed appreciation of the time commitment that the Fire House put in, including the use of the space and the honor guard. The family also said Ralph really appreciated Captain Sartirana and others driving by his house during the Gator Parade.

A moment of silence was held for Ralph Hazen.

Captain Steve Sartirana made a motion to dedicate the new truck to Ralph Hazen, Bob Bull and Bill Hiller. Lieutenant Terence Phelan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Bartlett presided over the elections.

Deputy Chief Hiller accepted nomination for Deputy Chief as Todd Hiller. Terence Phelan moved to close the nominations. Steve Sartirana seconded. Terence Phelan asked the Secretary to cast one ballot for Todd Hiller. He was re-elected as Deputy Chief.

Steve Sartirana accepted the nomination for Captain. Terence Phelan moved to close the nominations. Todd Hiller seconded. Terence asked the Secretary to cast one ballot for Steve Sartirana. He was elected as Captain.

Terence Phelan accepted the nomination for First Lieutenant. Steve Sartirana moved to close the nominations. Todd Hiller seconded. Steve Sartirana asked the Secretary to cast one ballot for Terence Phelan. He was elected as First Lieutenant.

The nominations for Second Lieutenant were open. Steve Sartirana moved to leave the position vacant. Terence Phelan seconded. This was passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Norman accepted the nomination for Secretary. Terence Phelan moved to close the nominations. Steve Sartirana seconded. Terence Phelan asked to cast one ballot for Elizabeth Norman. She was elected as Secretary.

Rick Tillotson accepted the nomination as Treasurer. Terence Phelan moved to close the nominations. Steve Sartirana seconded. Terence Phelan asked the Secretary to cast one ballot for Rick Tillotson. He was elected as Treasurer.

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

Respectfully submitted,

*Elizabeth Norman*

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