

Colebrook Fire Department
Forge Company
December 5, 2023, Monthly Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Todd Hiller, Terry Phelan, Dan Butler, Bill Hiller, Maureen Bascetta, Tim Strahan, John Parenteau, Shawn Thibault, Rick Tillotson, David Mann, Bob Bull, Maggie Parenteau, Elizabeth Norman, Scott Shahmanesh, Bryce Zygmont, First Selectman Brad Bremer, Benjamin Barlett, Chris Johnstone, Chris Beaulieu

Deputy Chief Todd Hiller called the regular monthly meeting of the Colebrook Fire Department Forge Company to order at 19:12 hours.

Reading and approval of minutes:

Elizabeth Norman presented the minutes from the November meeting. With there being no discussion or amendments to the minutes, a motion was made by Terry Phelan and seconded by Shawn Thibault to accept the minutes as read. The motion passed unanimously.

Report of Treasurer and bills for payment:

Treasurer Rick Tillotson presented the monthly bills and account balances. With there being no discussion or amendments to the report, a motion was made by, Terry Phelan and seconded by Bryce Zygmont to accept the report as read. The motion passed unanimously.

Communications, correspondence, and notices:

We received a letter from the Colebrook Lions Club, along with a donation for the First Responders.

Report of Committees:

No committees have met.

Admission of applications for new membership:

We have two applications: from Nora Ely and Cianna Ferraro. Terry Phelan motioned that we submit both applications to the membership committee. It was seconded by T.J. Strahan and approved unanimously.

Old Business:

We had a nice food expiration dinner.

Appreciation was expressed for members who attended the memorial service for Paul Jasmin.

Deputy Chief Hiller will print the cancer remediation policy and make it available in the fire house. He summarized the policy for members. We are updating our procedures to comply such as having a log to register when equipment is cleaned. Terry Phelan reminded people to bring shoes with

them on the truck because boots are among the equipment that will be transported in a pick up truck and cleaned.

Chief's Report

Appreciation was expressed for everyone who attended the live burn.

Thank you to the Ladies' Auxiliary for hosting the children's Christmas party.

An interstate Fire Service application is available. Please let Deputy Chief Hiller know if you are interested.

The Winsted Gator Parade is on December 16. Please let Deputy Chief Hiller or Chief Bartlett know if you plan to attend with an apparatus.

We typically do a donation for needy families at this time of year. There are between 15 and 20 families. Center will be donating \$50 / family. Terry Phelan moved that we do the same, and Rick Tillotson seconded. This was unanimously approved to be taken out of the joint account.

Chief Bartlett also shared the joint account donations and balances.

We got a request from the town for updates on any equipment purchases over \$2500.

On December 12, there will be a cold water rescue training.

Joint meeting for elections will be on January 8th, and the Forge will meet on the 9th. Then the officers will meet on January 23rd.

The efforts to improve relations between the two companies is going well. A policy is being drafted to create protocols for joint fundraising.

New Business:

Fleet update:

Engine 2 had several repairs done.

The Brush Truck and Rescue had repairs made as well.

Engine 2 had a mishap because there was an electrical fire in one of the compartments. It was started by a wire into the generator. It was lucky that it happened while the truck was in use and being observed, because it could have happened during the night and been a lot more costly. The repairs ate up a lot of our budget, so we will have to be careful. Deputy Chief Hiller will discuss with the Chief and First Selectman to see if we should submit this to insurance.

The church requested to have a Knox box installed, similar to the school and the Town Hall.

Deputy Chief Hiller thanked Maggie Parenteau for all of her work on replacing the outdoor sign. This is in progress, and the school would like the old one once it is replaced.

We need to get the washer repaired (because the transformer came off). The estimated cost is \$800. Terry Phelan moved that we appropriate up to \$900 to repair the gear washer. The motion was seconded by Bryce Zygmunt. This was unanimously approved. Deputy Chief Hiller reminded everyone that only 4 pieces of gear can be washed at once. A liner and a shell count as separate pieces.

Evan Sartirana and David Mann would like to go to Fire I, and John Parenteau and T.J. Strahan would like to go to Fire II. The cost is \$4300 for the training. There is some capital funding available for new gear as needed for two people. Terry Phelan moved that we appropriate the funds to send four people to fire school. Bryce Zygmunt seconded. This was approved unanimously. Before appropriating money for the gear, we will see if funding is available in capital funds.

Maureen Bascetta recommended that we replace the food for the emergency shelter. Maggie Parenteau offered to help with this.

For the good of the Company:

John Parenteau got three cameras for interior and two exterior EUFY cameras. He spent \$600 of the \$1000 budget. He would like to spend an additional \$100 for door sensors.

We still need to figure out a time to install the Christmas lights on the fire house. We will trim the tree here Sunday at 5 pm.

Bill Hiller and Bob Bull are going to buy challenge coins and put them on the gravestones of Ralph Hazen and Teddy Waldo.

Maureen Bascetta reminded everyone that there are nomination forms available for officers.

Being no further business, a motion was made by Terry Phelan and seconded by T.J. Strahan to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 20:03 hours following the pledge of allegiance.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Norman

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Secretary