

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
SHAKER PINES FIRE DISTRICT # 5
MAY 20, 2014

PRESENT: Vice President Douglas Maxellon, Clerk Margaret Guyette, Commissioner Guy Beck, Commissioner Peter Burk, Treasurer Noella Gatten, Chief Charles Macsata and 21 taxpayers.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice President Douglas Maxellon called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ARTICLE I: To nominate and elect a moderator of the meeting. A motion was made by Eddie Prajzner to nominate Douglas Maxellon for moderator and Harry Guyette seconded the motion. No other nominations were made and the clerk cast one vote.

ARTICLE II: To hear the reports of the District Officers. Vice President Douglas Maxellon read the warning. Fire Chief Charles Macsata read his report, a copy of which is attached to the minutes. We have a new Fire Marshal, Jim Nolan, and the Chief will now be the Deputy Fire Marshal. During 2013, we sold Engine 51, we had six firefighters attend the Ct Fire Officers weekend at the National Academy, we were able to staff the station four times over the past year during the winter storms at no cost to the taxpayers and have saved approximately \$ 6,0000 since May 2011 by generating energy from our solar system. As of May 29, 2014, 9.16 acres of land was transferred from the State of Connecticut to Shaker Pines Fire District for a training center to be built in the future. All town fire departments, the prison cert team and the town police department will use it. There were 734 calls for service in 2013. The Chief also mention that the department has a web site and the agenda of meetings, along with the minutes of past meetings will be posted there in the next several months. He also brought to the taxpayers attention that we currently have four female firefighters that we are very proud of. There will be an article about them in the Hartford Courant in the next week.

Vice President Douglas Maxellon spoke on behalf of the commissioners, thanking the members of the fire department for doing a great job. The station has improved tremendously over the last six to eight years. Financially, the department is in good shape and we are expecting to end the year under our budget.

ARTICLE III: To determine the financial requirements, debts, obligations, needs and expenses of the forthcoming fiscal year, approve the annual budget, adopt a mill rate commensurate there to, and authorize the use of the district savings to fund the amount not covered by the mill rate. Eddie Prajzner made a motion to approve the article and Michael Forsyth seconded the motion. The motion passed.

ARTICLE IV: To authorize the expenditure of funds in accordance with the proposed appropriations as needed during the forthcoming fiscal year. Bob Rossman made a motion to approve the article and Leslie Cunningham seconded the motion. The motion passed.

ARTICLE V: To authorize the District Fire Commissioners to make intra-budget transfers from available unexpended balances of budget items to anticipated over-expended budget items if the same becomes necessary. Vice President Douglas Maxellon explained that this article allows the Board to go over on any line item, like in the insurance area, but not go over the total budget. Nelson Rodriguez made a motion to accept the article as written and Diane Burk seconded the motion. The motion passed.

ARTICLE VI To solicit proposals for architectural firms, to perform a usability and needs study along with conceptual design and budget for renovation and upgrades to the existing fire station to meet current and future needs. The Chief explained that our heating system is running at 80% efficiency at this time and cannot do any better. We received a quote for radiant heat in the bays of \$ 60,000 and for the rest of the station it would be an additional \$ 71,000. The system would then have zones, so one part of the building is not cold and the other too hot. The emergency generator is under-sized. Not all the heats are on the generator and it is over 20 years old. Another department just replaced one and it costs them approximately \$ 48,000. The sprinkler system has pinholes in the pipes and is leaking into the offices. The roof is also 20 years old and has leaks in it. Our grounds repairs of the lighting, drainage and paving the parking lot have been approved by the Zoning department and that will cost approximately \$ 250,000. There are other upgrades we would like to consider; bunk rooms for winter storms, smaller training room to save on heat, fitness area that is climate controlled and a storage area for the Fire Marshal's plans and records. We also need a clean room to work on the air packs.

Vice President Douglas Maxellon explained that the commissioners have decided that instead of doing these repairs individually, we would try to take them on together. This article allows us to accept proposals from an architect's firms to put together a conceptual plan of our needs with an approximate budget on the work. Once we receive the proposals back, we will call a special meeting to present them to the district for the taxpayer's approval. This article is not for spending any money, but to go out and get the proposals. Nelson Rodriguez made a motion to accept the article and Diane Burk made a second to the motion and the motion carried. Bob Rossman asked if we would change the mill rate at the special meeting to pay for these repairs. Vice President Douglas Maxellon stated that the architects billing would not change the mill rate, as we have enough monies in the budget for that. The future repairs may have to change the mill rate. The Chief noted that

there are monies in the Building Improvement encumbered funds to cover the architect's fees. The motion passed.

ARTICLE VIII: To authorize the District Fire Commissioners to transfer any surplus from the previous year's budget, 2013-2014 to the Truck Fund. Vice President Douglas Maxellon explained that we expect to have a surplus at the end of this year and are looking for authorization to transfer that surplus into the Truck Fund. Michael Forsyth made a motion to accept the article and Eddie Prajzner seconded the motion. The motion passed.

ARTICLE IX: To nominate and to elect one person to the Board of Fire Commissioners for one, five-year term, for the forthcoming fiscal years. Joe Kara made a motion to nominate Guy Beck and Nelson Rodriguez seconded the motion. Bob Rossman made a motion to close the nomination and Joe Kara seconded the motion. A show of hands approved the nomination of Guy Beck.

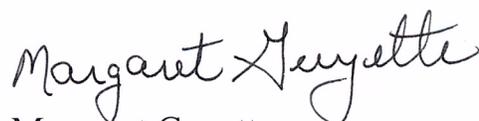
ARTICLE X To make recommendations to the District Fire Commissioners for future considerations. Nelson Rodriguez asked about the part time positions. The Chief explained that it has been a great incentive for the members. They must keep up the minimum of fires and drills in order to work on the weekends. They are doing training on the weekend shifts, learning the trucks and working with members that they might not have worked with in the past. The department was able to save a person's life on the second weekend of the program because they were at the station and were able to get to the resident before anyone else.

Nelson Rodriguez stated that he has seen the members out in the public and was very impressed with the professionalism of the department.

Chief Macsata reported that we have twenty-two members now, down a few from previous years. But we have a few applications we are working on. The average life span of a volunteer nationwide is four to six years, although we have many who have been here a lot longer. The part time program helps retain them along with the Length of Service program.

ARTICLE XI To adjourn the meeting. Eddie Prajzner made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Harry Guyette seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Margaret Guyette
Clerk/Commissioner