

Spofford Fire District Commissioners Meeting Minutes

Meeting was held May 15, 2017 at 6:30pm at the Spofford Fire Station. In attendance: Dave Thomas, Chris Babcock, David Jordan, Michael Fuller, Brad Rosco, Norm Van Cor and Cathy Schlichting.

1. Minutes from April 17, 2017 Commissioners meeting were read and approved.
2. Unpaid bills were reviewed and approved for payment.
3. Old Business
 - a. Tax Exempt Status: Chris has submitted the request for reinstatement, with payment, to the IRS. Confirmation of receipt by the IRS dated May 1, 2017.
 - b. Finish Fire Pond: Chris met with Frank Lucius to review final work to be done. Frank will start soon to complete the project. Norm commented on how good the area looked.
 - c. Heating/Cooling System Upgrade RFP: Representatives from Pinney Plumbing & Heating, Jackson Plumbing & Heating and Gas It Energy were present to submit bid proposals for replacing the system. The Commissioners will hold a special meeting on Wednesday, May 24th to review the proposals. Special meeting will be posted to the Town so that the public can attend.
 - d. Clean File Room: Still more to do.
 - e. Grants: Chris reported that there has been a delay due to administrative changes - still waiting.
 - f. Rental Policy: Norm will provide a copy of the Town's policy to the Commissioners. Commissioners will compare and discuss at next meeting.
 - g. Insurance: Proposals are out - waiting for replies. Quotes will be reviewed/discussed at next meeting.
4. New Business
 - a. Town Solar Initiative: Brad explained the proposal for using solar technology for all of the Town buildings except the school. The Town requested that Spofford Fire District agree to include the Station meter in the Town usage figures. This will not change the District costs, but will increase offsets that the Town may receive. Dave Thomas made a motion to support the initiative. Chris seconded and the Commissioners approved.
 - b. Norm brought forth three items from the Town.
 - There have been discussions on the future of the old Town Office building. It is in disrepair and an estimate of over \$400,000 has been submitted to bring the exterior into a usable state. The Town is looking for someone to purchase the building to improve the property and utilize the space. Otherwise, there will be a Warrant Article next year to approve tearing the building down.
 - The Town has hired a new fulltime Code Enforcement Officer. He also commented on the excellent job that Steve Dumont has been doing.

- The Town is trying to work through the legal issues surrounding the Spofford Hall complex. The Town would like to demolish the structure.
- c. Dave has received a letter from the State indicating that one individual cannot be both the Treasurer and the Clerk of the Fire District. Chris proposed that the Commissioners request further clarification before they respond to the letter.
- d. Mike is working with Cheshire on finalizing the costs and contracts for the firefighter physicals. Cheshire has supplied a form that they need completed to establish our account in their system. Chris will complete the form and get it back to the Cheshire. Mike has six men who have already volunteered to be in the first round of physicals. They are all front line, interior firefighters.
- e. Mike has set up the hose testing for this year. We will be using Swanzey's facility.
- f. The Annual Breakfast will be held on Sunday, May 28th, of Memorial Day weekend. The Gun raffle tickets are now available.
- g. Mike reported that the Annual Supper went well with Camp Spofford providing an excellent meal. There were representatives from the Town Police Department and the State Police in attendance. The hope is that this event can bring together members from all of these agencies. The Department will be sending out a 'Thank You' to Camp Spofford.
- h. David Jordan has contacted three overhead door companies for bids to provide yearly maintenance. Champion Door has provided a verbal quote of \$600 a year (without any major parts required) and will be supplying a written quote to match. Keene Door has submitted a quote that would provide two inspections per year (one in Fall and one in Spring) at a cost of \$330 an inspection. The third party indicated that due to the distance they would have to travel, they are not interested in submitting a bid. David supported hiring Champion Door due to their excellent response time to make repairs and that they keep repair supplies on site. David made and motion to accept Champion's bid and Chris seconded. The Commissioners voted to award Champion Door the contract.

Next regular Commissioners Meeting will be at the Fire Station Monday, June 19th at 6:30pm.

Special meeting to review Heating/Cooling proposals will be held at the Fire Station Wednesday, May 24th, 2017 at 6:30pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine H. Schlichting
Clerk/Treasurer