



Office of Board of Selectmen Town of Mason

16 Darling Hill Road – Mann House
Mason, New Hampshire 03048
(603) 878-2070 (603) 878-4892 Fax

Selectmen Staff Meeting 8/25/2020
Approved Minutes

Present: Selectmen Louise Lavoie, Charles Moser, Pete McGinnity; AA Kathy Wile, Chief Fred Greenwood.

Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chair Louise Lavoie via the Zoom platform. The meeting had been duly posted, attendance was by roll call, and all votes will be by roll call as well.

Business:

- Budget year to date numbers look generally good.
Louise asked about waterhole maintenance, Fred said perhaps next year they would be putting some more money into that line.
Fred said he is onboarding 2 new firefighters, and will be using some of the HepB and Physicals lines.
They will be getting some more turnout gear for EMS as well as firefighters.
The 2 new air bottles will be ordered; they are now part of the budget for annual replacements rather than individual warrant articles.
Telephone line looked high; Fred knows they have had some work done, perhaps those costs were included in the phone line? – will check with Brenda.
- Dispatch in Hollis was discussed. John DuVarney has retired, and has been replaced by Rick Todd. Fred will be working with him to bypass the fax issues, by having them emailed.
Mentioned that the PD uses an emailed fax system, Fred will check in with Kevin about it.
Fred further mentioned he will be ending his contract with American Alarm and have dispatch monitor the FD building, at no cost. In which line is that accounted for? Short discussion as to whether all buildings could do so; to be followed up on.
- In general, Fred holds off on the somewhat “optional” expenses until close to the end of the year, in case unexpected expenses arise. An example is the new code books, which he will be getting through NFPA. Discussion on extra copies for building inspector – they can share the NFPA books, but Jake should have updated IBC codes. Kathy to contact Jake on those.
Fuel line questioned – is “0” accurate? Fred thought the fuel sheets were up to date at the FD, haven’t gotten to Dave to report to Brenda apparently.
- Louise mentioned that BOS will be asking Departments to submit their preliminary 2021 budgets in September, with an eye to keeping level funding.
- Brookline ambulance service was discussed – Fred said that he is confident that the person temporarily replacing Chief Shawn Jackson was more than capable of doing the job. He said call

numbers are down for the year, and Louise was hopeful that the costs to Mason would be down as well, reflecting the lower call numbers and any savings on salaries that go along with it, as well as the savings of the Chief's salary. She noted that contract renewal is due in October.

- Pete asked about the federal truck replacement program was still a possibility for Mason. Fred said the person who was managing that is Rick Todd, who is managing Hollis Dispatch now, so that program is on hold until they get a new person in that position.
- Fred noted that Firefighters Mike Knowles and Kirk Smith have moved up to Lieutenant positions in the FD.
- Fred said that after 34 years, it was his time to retire from the FD, effective by the end of 2020, and that Ass't Chief Flip Phalon would step into the chief role temporarily. Fred said that the past year has been his most difficult, and hopes the compensation gap between FD and other departments can be addressed going forward. Louise acknowledged the conversation needs to be started at Town Meeting. All selectmen thanked Fred for his service, and asked if he and Flip could both be available for next month's staff meeting to talk about the transition.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Louise motioned to adjourn, second from Charlie. Roll call votes three affirmative, Louise adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM..

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Wile
Administrative Assistant