

# TAMWORTH FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT

## **Board of Firewards Meeting October 5, 2023**

**Firewards Present:** J. Bowles, Z. Remick, J. Hartley

**Members Present:** Chief R. Colcord, 2<sup>nd</sup> Asst. Chief M. Baumann, Capt. D.K. Bowles, Capt. D. Cribbie

**Public Present:** Applicants Elijah Ralph, John Miller, Michael Wilcox

**Meeting Opened at 19:30 by Chairman Bowles**

**Minutes:** The Board reviewed the September 7, 2023 minutes. J. Hartley made a motion to accept, seconded by Z. Remick, all in favor.

### **Old Business:**

Butterfly valves for E4 & E5 are ordered.

Two new batteries for the Auto Pulse have been ordered for around \$1,250 each and a new battery for the Cardiac Monitor that is in A1 has been ordered at a cost of around \$800.

Vehicle inspections and chassis/pump servicing is done. Pump testing will be scheduled soon.

There was discussion about which air packs to get. Vendor presentations from Scott and MSA were done last month. It was decided that more input from the members is needed so it will be discussed at next Thursday's training.

Chief Colcord will assemble specifications and pricing for the SCBA air compressor and fill station so a decision on that can be made as well. The preliminary information from the two vendors is difficult to compare.

### **New Business:**

Interviewed and accepted Elijah Ralph, John Miller, Michael Wilcox as probationary members.

Firehouse software replacement: Chief Colcord has attended several training sessions and has been working with the NH Division of Fire Standards and Training & EMS office to get the Department set up on the New Hampshire Emergency Services Reporting (NHESR) system. Chief Colcord advised that it will be able to do everything that we have been using the Firehouse software for and is free. He is using both NHESR

# TAMWORTH FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT

and Firehouse in October with the goal to switch to just the NHESR system on November 1.

Reviewed, discussed, and approved Chief Colcord's budget proposal. Agreed to follow the lead of the Selectmen's office with regard to COLA. The Chief's salary line item and the part time salary line item will be adjusted by any amount that the Selectmen decide to propose for their employees.

Discussed the fact that Chief Colcord is still owed \$15,000 out of the \$25,000 that the Board didn't pay him when he got the requested certifications two years after he was hired. It was decided that if there is money left at the end of the year, the \$15,000 will be added to his last check of the year.

The meeting to discuss the Fire/Rescue budget with the Selectmen is scheduled for Thursday October 10/19/23 at 18:00 at the Selectmen's Office.

D. Cribbie announced that next week's training is ladders. Also at that training we will discuss air pack preference with the members.

Vehicle extrication training is scheduled for Thursday 10/19/23 and Saturday 10/21/23.

J. Hartley brought up that he thinks the initiative for having an officer's meeting should come from the Chief instead of being regularly scheduled for the hour before the Department meetings on the first Monday of the month. There was some discussion about the value of regular officers' meetings versus having them only when the Chief calls them. It was mentioned that up until this year we did not have regular officers' meetings and much of that type of business was conducted on the Firewards meeting night either before, during, or after the meeting. Although no vote was taken, it was generally agreed to return to this format.

**Adjournment:** Motion for adjournment made by Z. Remick at 21:25 seconded by J. Hartley, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Bowles, Chairman – Town of Tamworth Board of Firewards