

TAMWORTH FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Board of Firewards Meeting December 3, 2020

Firewards Present: Jim Bowles, Harry Remick, John Hartley, Zach Remick

Members Present: Capt. Diane Bowles, Asst. Chief Matt Baumann

Public Present: None

Meeting Opened at 19:33 by Chairman Bowles

Minutes: The Board reviewed the November 5, 2020 minutes. Motion to approve made by J. Hartley, Second by H. Remick. All in favor.

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

Chief Colcord has been unable to get someone else to connect the generator to the Irving tank so scheduled Irving to connect it. They were supposed to do it on Tuesday but still have not shown up.

All vehicles except the forestry vehicles have been inspected.

Engine 3's class A foam system cannot be repaired because it is too old and the parts have been discontinued.

The \$20,000 deposit invoice for the new forestry truck has been submitted. J. Bowles advised that he attended a FEMA grants webinar and confirmed that when the final invoice for the truck is received, we request the money from the grant and they pay it. The Town does not have to pay the money out and get reimbursed.

J. Bowles advised that there is some more junk to be removed from behind S. Tamworth station.

Chief Colcord has approached several contractors for prices and contracts for the siding and roofing at Chocorua Station and the electric upgrades at Chocorua and Wonalancet stations but as far as we know he hasn't got anything in writing yet.

New Business:

Filing a grant application to replace our air packs was discussed. Z. Remick has talked and met with a couple vendors to get prices. We will need approximately \$190,000 to replace all 24 packs. The AFG grant will only fund \$7,800 per pack so we will need to come up with some money of our own. Also, to increase the chances of being awarded a

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grant, we should show that there is commitment from the Town. Z. Remick suggested that we do a warrant article similar to last year's forestry truck article where we raise and appropriate the total requested grant amount plus \$20,000 of our own money for the match. The money will not be spent unless we are successful in getting the grant. It was noted that the grant will not fund individual masks so we will need to pay for these ourselves.

There was more discussion on the need to get help for the Chief and increase midweek daytime coverage. As noted in last month's minutes there is a labor law that prohibits paying people to do things that volunteers are also doing without getting paid. It was noted that many neighboring departments are already paid on call and that it appears that we are going to be forced into doing this as well. Several things were discussed relative to estimating how much money will need to be budgeted when/if this change takes place. Most of the man-hours for calls and in-house trainings are already tracked in our Firehouse Software but it was felt that there are many volunteer hours that are not tracked. After further discussion it was agreed that many of these extra hours are put in by a small number of people. It was decided that D. Bowles will pick up some medium sized composition notebooks and distribute them to the members who are most likely to put in these extra hours and ask them to keep track starting January 1, 2021.

Adjournment: Motion for adjournment at 20:43 made by J. Hartley. Seconded by Z. Remick. All in favor.

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