

# TAMWORTH FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT

## **Board of Firewards Meeting September 7, 2023**

**Firewards Present:** J. Bowles, Z. Remick, J. Tavares Jr.

**Members Present:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Asst. Chief M. Baumann, Capt. D.K. Bowles, FF. J. Larocque, FF. Kim Eldridge, Jr. FF. M. Tavares, FF. M. Colcord, FF. J. Baumann

**Public Present:** None

**Meeting Opened at 20:12 by Chairman Bowles** (The meeting started late because the Scott Air Pack demo/presentation ran over time.)

**Minutes:** The Board reviewed the August 3, 2023 minutes. J. Tavares made a motion to accept, seconded by Z. Remick, all in favor.

### **Old Business:**

It was mentioned that we have been notified of being successful in getting the SCBA & fill station grant. A special roll call phone vote was taken by the Board on 8/13/23 to accept the Federal Assistance to Firefighters Grant that the Fire/Rescue Department has been awarded for the purchase of new Self-Contained Breathing apparatus, along with the compressor, filtration system, and fill station.

### **New Business**

Chief Colcord has started working on the equipment list from last month.

Trucks have started to get their state inspections. Pump testing is scheduled for 9/28/23. Anyone available to shuttle trucks that day please let Chief Colcord know.

Training Captain D. Cribbie is working on rescheduling the Emergency Vehicle Operator Course that was to be held at CMI since the previous one was cut short by a motor vehicle crash emergency call.

J. Bowles advised that he reminded LRFA about getting an estimated price for the fire engine replacement that is scheduled for 2024 in order to update the CIP.

Z. Remick mentioned that ambulance coverage during busy periods is still an issue for the area.

J. Larocque mentioned that Windsock sent out an email that the Nature Conservancy is going to be doing controlled burns between now and the end of October in the Ossipee Plains area off of Rte. 41

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D.K. Bowles mentioned that she gave an application to an interested person who is attending UNH and just got their EMT license and also lives part-time on Ferncroft Road. M. Baumann mentioned that there's another potential applicant who is on Center Ossipee Fire/Rescue but will be moving to Tamworth soon and has expressed some interest.

It was mentioned that the NH Fire Marshal's office sent an email to 20 or 30 departments around the State that are using Firehouse Software for their National Fire Incident Reporting. The notice advised that Firehouse is not updating their software to match changes made in the federal database so they are getting multiple errors from our submissions. The notice advises all departments to stop using Firehouse Software and switch to one of the other currently available programs. There are several issues that will need to be dealt with for us to change. In addition to using Firehouse Software for NFIRS reporting, we use it for payroll and asset tracking. Another problem is that the other brands cost ten times as much. \$7,000 - \$8,000 instead of \$600-\$800. More research will be done before making a decision.

M. Baumann mentioned that FF Weekend at Danforth Bay is 9/16/23. They're looking for a truck for the parade.

The Board approved Kim Eldridge to apply for Kevin Romano's EMT class. It's based in Berlin but is mostly virtual. The cost is \$1100. Due to a shortage of EMS providers, there is a new program whereby upon successful completion, the State will reimburse individuals and organizations for the cost of the class.

It was mentioned that we need to get two new batteries for the Autopulse.

The hose lines training that was scheduled for next Thursday will be postponed until a later date because MSA will be here to do a presentation/demonstration of their SCBA.

**Adjournment:** Motion for adjournment made by Z. Remick at 21:15 seconded by J. Tavares Jr. all in favor.

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