

TAMWORTH FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Board of Firewards Meeting August 5, 2021

Firewards Present: Jim Bowles, John Hartley, Harry Remick, Zach Remick called in at 20:08

Members Present: Capt. Diane Bowles, Eric Ames

Public Present: None

Meeting Opened at 19:35 by Chairman Bowles

Minutes: The Board reviewed the June 3, 2021 minutes. Motion to approve made by J. Hartley, Second by H. Remick - approved. Although a couple Firewards showed up for a July meeting, the chairman was out of town so no meeting was held.

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

H. Remick has finished replacing the rotten trim & eave wood at S. Tamworth Station and has finished painting it.

New Business:

Chief Colcord has been released from the National Guard Vaccination Mission and has been back to work part time since 7/16/21 and full time since 7/18/21.

There is a piece of vinyl siding on the west side of S. Tamworth Station near the eaves towards the front that has mostly come off and is hanging.

The wilderness rescue class in W. Ossipee on Saturday July 25th went well. Other than the host department, Tamworth had the highest participation.

Jim and Michael Bowles replaced the fuel line on the 41 Ford and took it to S. Tamworth Station to make room for installing an overhead door in the back of Central Station where the new forestry truck will be parked. Chief Colcord has said that he will lead the project to get the hole cut and new door installed.

What to do with the 41 Ford fire truck was discussed. J. Hartley made a motion that it be auctioned off at a public auction to be held at 19:00 on September 2, 2021 at the South Tamworth Fire Station and that there be a minimum bid requirement of \$1,000. H. Remick seconded the motion and all were in favor. J. Bowles will prepare an advertisement and ask the Town Administrator if she will have it advertised in the same locations as other town public notices.

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J. Bowles reported that he has built a box and picked up some stainless steel mounting bolts to store the hose mule in the hose bed of 6E5. At the next opportunity, perhaps as part of a water supply class for September's fire training, all 3000 feet of 4" hose will need to be removed, the box installed, and the hose re-packed.

Fireward Z. Remick and 2nd Asst. Chief M. Baumann are scheduled to leave Tuesday 8/10/21 to fly out to Alexis to do the final inspection and bring the new forestry truck back. They will probably get back sometime Thursday 8/12/21.

Emergency Vehicle Operator Collision Avoidance Safety training is scheduled for the Thursday, August 12, 2021 training night. As a condition of the Federal Grant that we got for the new forestry truck, anyone driving it must have had an Emergency Vehicle Operator type class within the last year. Please reach out to any members that you see to encourage them to be at this training.

Z. Remick reminded the Board that the next engine is scheduled to be replaced in 2023 so we should check around and make sure that the amount in the Capital Improvement Plan is adequate. It was agreed that Engine 2 and Engine 3 should be compared to determine which one should be replaced first.

Z. Remick brought up the subject of ambulance replacement. The existing ambulance is still serviceable although it lacks power, especially until it has been running for a while. There is also corrosion in some areas of the ambulance body. There was discussion that although there is adequate money to replace the ambulance now, the longer we keep it, the more money we can save the Town. The risk with waiting is that even though we have enough money in capital reserve to purchase one immediately if the existing one were to have a serious mechanical failure, due to the general shortage of vehicle chassis, some companies are saying that it takes 9 months just to get the chassis right now. There is approximately \$253,000 in the capital reserve account now and Zach saw a demonstrator model on a F550 chassis for \$235,000 recently. Zach and M. Baumann will do some more research before a decision is made.

Adjournment: Motion for adjournment at 20:33 made by J. Hartley. Seconded by H. Remick. All in favor.

Note: After the meeting a couple of the Firewards did some building and equipment maintenance.

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