**Town of Goshen-Board of Fire Commissioners**

**Regular Meeting-Goshen Fire House**

**February 5, 2020 7:00PM**

**Present:** Commissioners William Lane, Alternate Lisa Foster, and Tony Damiani (arrived at 7:25pm)

**Excused:** Don Sage

**Call Meeting to Order:** William Lane called the meeting to order at 7:06PM. Lisa Foster was seated for Don Sage.

**Reading of the Minutes**: The Commissioners read the minutes from the January 8, 2020 meeting

**IN A MOTION** made by Lisa Foster and seconded by Bill Lane, it was **VOTED** to accept the minutes of the January 8, 2020 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

**Fire Chief’s report**: The Fire Chief report was presented by the Deputy Chief Peter Bernard.

The Company had 15 calls. 10 EMS (1 mutual aid to Cornwall), 3 Fire, 2 MVA.

**IN A MOTION** made by Lisa Foster and seconded by Bill Lane, **it was VOTED** to accept the report as given. Motion carries.

**Fire Marshall Report:**  The clerk read the Fire Marshal’s report for December 2019.

**IN A MOTION MADE** by Lisa Foster and seconded by Bill Lane, it was **VOTED** to accept the Fire Marshal’s report as read. Motion carries.

**Correspondence**: The possibility of applying for a grant through the Firefighters Charitable Foundation Grants was discussed. The clerk will look further into the grant specifics. Also the clerk received an email that the FEMA grant period has opened. The registration for the new FEMAGo process is in progress by the clerk.

**Bills:** All qualifying bills and vouchers were signed. Discussion of bills took place as necessary. The clerk will deliver the bills and vouchers to the fiscal office.

A purchase order request along with three written quotes for SCUBA tanks was presented to the Commissioners.

**IN A MOTION** made by Lisa Foster and seconded by Bill Lane it was **VOTED** to approve the purchase of SCUBA tanks from New England Dive of Wallingford, CT, which came in as the lowest bidder at $1,799.96 and has a solid prior business relationship with the Fire Co. Motion carries.

**IN A MOTION** made by Lisa Foster and seconded by Bill Lane, **it was VOTED** to approve and pay bills as submitted. Motion carries.

Tony Damiani arrived at the meeting.

**Board of Fire Commissioners**

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**Old Business: A) Budget discussion-**The Fire Protection and Rescue operating budgets were reviewed line by line with discussion on each current budgeted amount and the possibility of decreasing or the need to increase each line. Overall, the Protection budget proposed will have a decrease of approximately $7,500.00 and the Rescue will have a decrease of approximately $1,500.00. The clerk will prepare the budgets as discussed for presentation and final approval at the March meeting prior to submitting them to the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen.

The Capital Non-recurring budget was also reviewed line by line with 5 year projections in mind. Much of the discussion focused on the replacement of Engine’s 1 and 2. A general guideline for such apparatus is to have it be replaced every 25 years. Engine 2 is a 1989 model and is due for replacement. Engine 1 is a 2001 and will be due for replacement in 2026. The possibility of creating or combining the individually titled replacement line items into an “Apparatus Replacement” item was discussed. Public Works had created a similar line item to cover replacement of needed apparatus without a specific truck being identified for replacement as instances occur making it necessary to replace some apparatus before it is due. Also, last year’s requested appropriation of $80,000 for the initiation of replacement of Engine 1 was decreased to $10,000. Current estimated cost of replacement of the Engine is $760,000 with a 3% increase of cost per year. The amount of appropriation requested for this coming FY and the 5 year projection will be further discussed and decided on at the March meeting.

**New Business:** None

**Other Business to Come Before the Board:** None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm by Lisa Foster.

Respectfully Submitted,

Erin Reilly

Commission Clerk