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

**Special Meeting-Goshen Fire House**

**December 16, 2019 7:00PM**

**Present:** Commissioners William Lane, Donald Sage, Tony Damiani, and Alternate Melissa Foster

**Call Meeting to Order:** William Lane called the meeting to order at 7:04PM. Newly elected alternate, Melissa Foster, was introduced and welcomed.

**IN A Motion Made** by Bill Lane and seconded by Don Sage **it was voted** to move the agenda item 7. Old Business A) Capital budget discussion to the top of the meeting to have discussion with the Selectmen Bob Valentine and Dexter Kinsella, in the interest of time, as they have other meetings scheduled for budget discussion as well. **Motion carries**.

First Selectman Bob Valentine discussed the new challenges faced by the Town this year with the Region 6 budget. There has been an increase in the percentage Goshen will need to contribute and Bob is asking all Boards, Commissions and Departments to be cognizant of this additional expense. The request is that all be discriminating on any change in the operating budget, which he understands can be a challenge. Discussion on the Capital budget included budgeting for larger items such as the Engines that the Fire Company has in the 10 year plan. Budget items that have large appropriates over time are being looked at and supporting documentation as to the projected cost is requested. Bob would like to see the vendors provide an estimate as to the cost of the item with the specifications the Company is looking for, which can be presented to the Board of Finance for review. This year the Board of Finance is also asking that the proposed Operating Budget as well as the Capital Budget be presented at the same time. For the Fire Company this will be in February 2020. There was discussion on the Purchase Order Policy and the committee that is being formed to review it. Don Sage will serve as the liaison for the Fire Commissioners on the review of the policy. Bob Valentine left to attend another meeting. Further discussion and clarification continued with Dexter Kinsella. He would like to attend the next 2 meetings to help with any questions or have necessary discussion on the budget to be proposed. The Commission thanked Dexter for his offer and welcomes his input during this process. Dexter left the meeting.

**Reading of the Minutes**: The Commissioners read the minutes from the November 6, 2019 meeting

**IN A MOTION** made by Tony Damiani and seconded by Don Sage it was **VOTED** to accept the minutes of the November 6, 2019 meeting as presented. Bill Lane and Melissa Foster abstained. Motion carried.

**Fire Chief’s report**: The Chief reported 33 calls this month. 19 EMS, 1 downed wires, 6 MVC, and 7 various fire calls.

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Hose and ladder testing were completed. 4 lengths of hose did not pass and 4 lengths were pulled out of reserve. Discussion on the need for a line item in Capital to appropriate for hose. It will be addressed and may need to be part of the 5 year plan.

Barry discussed the possibility of combining the separate line items for the replacement of engines/trucks. Instead of having individual line items for replacement of each truck, it would be a replacement line item similar to how Public Works is set up.

**IN A MOTION** made by Don Sage and seconded by Tony Damiani it was **VOTED** to accept the Fire Chief’s report as presented. Motion carried.

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

**IN A MOTION MADE** by Tony Damiani and seconded by Don Sage, it was **VOTED** to accept the Fire Marshal’s report as read. Motion carries.

**Correspondence**: A memo from Bob Valentine on the inventory of the Fire Company equipment and items in the building. The Clerk will review it with the Officers of the Company.

**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.

**IN A MOTION** made by Tony Damiani and seconded by Don Sage, **it was VOTED** to approve and pay bills as submitted. Motion carries.

**New Business:** A) Election of Officers

Don Sage nominated Bill Lane for Chairman. Tony Damiani seconded. The Clerk cast one vote for Bill Lane as Chairman.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm by Melissa Foster.

Respectfully Submitted,

Erin Reilly

Commission Clerk