

***Revised November 7, 2017**

Commissioners Meeting

September 12, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

976 Main Street, Freedom Hall, Cotuit, Massachusetts

Called to order at 5:30

Commissioners present: Rick Pisano, Kevin Conley, and Adam Zais

Present: Fire Chief Paul Rhude

No one recording

Public Comment:

- No public comment

Minutes:

- Motion made to approve August Minutes and previous warrants with no changes, seconded, all in favor

Chief Report:

- **Monthly Activities:**
 - 85 responses for the month of August-59 medical, 23 service, 1 structure fire, 2 hazardous condition
 - Commissioner Pisano asked if CFD had false alarm tracking. Chief Rhude responded that the call was not malicious and yes, we have tracking capabilities. Commissioner Conley asked if could track repeated false alarm, to which the answer was yes, they are tracked.
- **Comstar Report:**
 - was reviewed
- **Budget:**
 - Commissioner Conley asked what the expenses were for OML complaints. *Chief Rhude responded that to date in 2017, \$10,418.15 has been expended on OML complaints, record requests, and subsequent AG and IG actions. Commissioner Pisano commented that these actions were initiated by Amy Kates and Cynthia Gardner. Commissioner Conley asked if there are any rulings to date; Commissioner Pisano answered that he was unaware of any adverse rulings against the district in FY18. Commissioner Zais asked if had a prior year comparison to be examined.
 - Commissioner Pisano mentioned line item 5113, which includes the last payout to Chief Christopher Olsen from FY18.
 - Commissioner Pisano asked to have the Treasurer create a line item under legal for OML complaints
- **Personnel:**
 - FF Kate Halloran is going to the Fire Academy for 10 weeks starting November 6.
 - Trey Wellbeloved has been accepted as the BHS intern to the Department
 - LT McNamara and FF McPherson have volunteered for the USCG training this fall.
- **Facilities:**
 - The Engineering plan for the septic has been received, now awaiting bids

- Barnstable Health Department agreed to the grey water exception for the Department as the Department of Public Health testing showed no problems
- New garage doors have been installed and has remote operation capabilities
- Currently collecting bids for a new roof and repairs for Fiscal 19
- LT McNamara cited for work in constructing and repairing the stairs at the Department for a lunch break area
- **Apparatus:**
 - Chief Rhude presented a 10-year Capital Plan and was reviewed by the Commissioners for discussion:
 1. Potential replacement of 260 and 269 with a single more versatile vehicle in FY19
 2. 267 possibly be retiring without replacement if the potential replacement of 260/269 allowed adequate response capability in a few years
 3. 263 is going to be reviewed by Minuteman for recent maintenance and if able to stay in service for 4-5 additional years.
 4. 268 and 266 was discussed and possibly replacing 268 as needed for pond access, and examine engine and trailers independently.
- **Update on Electronic Tracking:**
 - Chief Rhude gave a report that IT Corp came into the station to review and analyze the software and hardware, awaiting what they recommend. Chief meeting with Barnstable Fire and Police Chief on cooperative efforts and potential joint dispatch report on electronical tracking of budget and payroll, etc.

Old Business:

- **Personnel:**
 - Extended discussion about the Office Manager/EMS Coordinator benefits package and options for sick pay and vacation. Chief Rhude and Commissioner Pisano favored more coverage and accumulation as per industry norms. Commissioner's Conley and Zais argued for tighter fiscal constraints. Agreement was unanimous to leave vacation at four weeks after ten years and provide fifteen sick days a year vested at start of each year. Also agreed that in light of no disability insurance, the Chief could approach the Board for reconsideration in event of an extended illness.
 - Board agreed to receive materials for future meetings in electronic distribution the Friday beforehand to reduce the use of paper.
- **Ambulance Billing Rates:**
 - Rates were received in light of regional comparison and Chief was unanimously empowered to raise rates to comparable levels of neighboring districts. Provisions were made to address patients who didn't have insurance and/or were constrained in ability to pay.

| Charges | 2017 Medicare Fee Schedule Allowed Amounts | Avg Bundled Comstar Top 50 | Current Rates | New Rates Proposed |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| BLS EMERGENCY BASE RATE | \$373.71 | \$1352.00 | \$754.96 | \$ 1,350.00 |
| BLS NON-EMERGENCY BASE RATE | \$233.57 | \$1352.00 | \$471.85 | \$ 1,350.00 |
| ALS NON-EMERGENCY BASE RATE | \$280.28 | \$2197.00 | \$566.22 | \$ 1,950.00 |
| ALS1 EMERGENCY BASE RATE | \$443.78 | \$2197.00 | \$896.52 | \$ 1,950.00 |
| ALS2 EMERGENCY BASR RATE | \$642.33 | \$3323.00 | \$1,297.58 | \$ 2,750.00 |
| SPECIALTY CARE TRANSPORT | \$759.11 | \$3744.00 | \$1,533.52 | \$ 3,000.00 |
| MILEAGE | \$7.17 | \$34.51 | \$29.47 | \$ 33.00 |
| OXYGEN | N/A | in base rate | \$108.72 | \$ - |

ite: The above allowed amounts reflect the 2 percent reduction according to the Budget Control Act of 2011.

New Business:

- Chief Rhude introduced two Certificates of Recognition for two young men, Jack Pagano and Noah Kozub. They assisted in a rescue of a local boater in medical distress. The Board happily signed the certificates and ordered their being awarded.
- Commissioner Pisano announced a Special Meeting needs to be schedule for in two weeks to review the legal status of issues before District with Attorneys. The meeting will take place on September 26 at 5:00 p.m. all agreed and agenda will be posted.

Adjourn:

- Motion to adjourn, seconded and unanimously approved