

Campton – Thornton Fire Commission Meeting Minutes February 11, 2009

The monthly business meeting was called to order at 1610 hrs by Chairman Dan Morel.

Fire Commissioners present: Dan Morel, Niles Downing, Jim Demeritt, Todd Baldwin.

Fire Department Reps. : Chief David Tobine, Deputy Chief Ian Halm

The Minutes of the January 14th meeting were read and approved as written.

Old business : The Commission and Chief made adjustments to lines in the 2009 budget to comply with the cuts made by the Selectmen at the budget meeting on January 20, 2009 as recommended by Chief Tobine.

New Business: Since the Department acquired new high pressure breathing apparatus recently through grant money, Chief Tobine suggested donating the old low pressure air bottles and packs to a needy department.

After assurances that the Campton – Thornton fire department was adequately equipped with breathing apparatus and spare tanks, a motion was made and seconded to donate the old breathing apparatus and spare bottles to a department in need. The motion passed unanimously.

At 1630 Chief Tobine requested that the meeting go into a closed session to discuss a personnel issue.

The public session resumed at 1702 hrs.

The search for a paramedic to fill the recent vacancy did not come up with an acceptable paramedic candidate but Chief Tobine had one candidate that had most of the necessary certifications to qualify for licensing for the ambulance. He is currently enrolled in the Fire Science program at Lakes Region Community College and should graduate in the spring. He is also enrolled in an EMT-I program. He has passed many of the required levels for Career Firefighter certification, but there are some loose ends.

The Commission agreed to allow the Chief to pursue this direction.

In response to the difficulties the department has had in retaining full-time personnel longer than a year, Chief Tobine would like to develop a three year contract that would stipulate the terms for reimbursement to the Department for training and expenses incurred during their employment. He will be seeking advice from the Town's attorney.

A residency requirement was discussed to be included in the contract, but no consensus was agreed upon by the Commissioners at this time.

There were several requests for hardship write-offs for ambulance service. After review and with the recommendation of Chief Tobine, write-off's were granted for run # : 08297, 08310, 08314, and 08319.

Several more unpaid bills were sent to collections.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed at 1738 hrs.

Respectfully submitted, Niles Downing