

Enniskillen/Oil Springs Joint Fire Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, July 13, 2015
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Oil Springs Fire Hall
4589 Oil Springs Line, Oil Springs, ON

Committee Members Present: Al Charlton, Deputy Fire Chief
Mike Cumming, Fire Chief
Mary Lynne McCallum, Enniskillen Council Rep
Kathy O'Hara-Wilson, Chair/Enniskillen Council Rep
Rick Powell, Oil Springs Council Rep
Larry Wagner, Oil Springs Council Rep

Staff Members Present: Jennifer Turk, Secretary

Call to Order

Chair Mary Lynne McCallum opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest/Conflict of Interest

No declaration was made by any one member of Council at this time. The Chair requested that committee members make the appropriate declaration if necessary throughout the business of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Motion #1 - O'Hara-Wilson/Wagner: *That the previous minutes of March 2, 2015 be approved as submitted.* *Carried.*

Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Addition to Fire hall Building

Project is to be deferred by both Councils until plans are finalized so the costs can be included in the future budget, if need be.

Nothing further to discuss.

Mutual Aide with Township of Dawn-Euphemia

No update at this time.

4616 Oil Springs Line

Discussions took place regarding the order of business that took place about the subject property pertaining to a property standards complaint received at the Oil Springs municipal office in March 2015.

Concerns were raised with the use of outside Fire Services for a Village business coordinated by the County of Lambton Property Standards Officer.

The Secretary informed the committee that in the past, there have been many issues with the subject property pertaining to hoarding, garbage and debris blocking entrances/exits to some apartments and main entrance/exit into building, fire alarm constantly going off since installed in 2014, exit lights burned out or removed, and other building code infractions...one being no fire coded door to the maintenance room. This building code infraction sparked the Property Standards Officer to do a fire inspection to 4616 Oil Springs Line, involving Mr. Lawrence Swift, Fire Prevention Officer for Petrolia and Plympton-Wyoming (as well as trained personnel for County of Lambton) and Mike Cumming, Fire Chief for Enniskillen/Oil Springs Fire Department.

A recommendation was brought forth to the committee that if the fire commission had concerns with the order of business conducted by the Property Standards Officer, that both councils should contact the County of Lambton Chief Building Official.

2614 Frederick Street

The Secretary informed the committee that a private request was made for a fire inspection to be done at the said property. Concerns were raised regarding invoicing procedure for private requests.

Discussions took place regarding the fire fee schedule and the accompanying bylaw. Fire Chief Cumming asked to investigate the fee schedule.

150th Birthday Celebration – Parade

Councillor Powell indicated to the commission that everything was set to go. Still receiving entries for the parade and suspect more will be received at the day of the parade. Parade is set to take place Saturday, July 18 at 11:00 am.

Fire Chief Report

Radio System Update

Chief Cumming gave the commission an update regarding a report that was circulated to all the fire departments in Lambton County proposing implementation of a new radio system County wide. The cost of the proposed radio system for Oil Springs is \$90,679. This would be 22%/78% between Village of Oil Springs and Township of Enniskillen. Fire Chief Cumming informed the board that there is an additional cost of \$500 per pager for each firefighter. There are 24 pagers needed at the department. Chief Cumming informed the board of a Fire Chief's meeting

coming up in August in Inwood, Ontario and the radios would be a topic of discussion then along with Cynthia from Spectrum Communications.

Discussions took place regarding the current radio system at the fire hall. The equipment is 2 years old and at times there is "dead air" when on scene at a fire call.

The Secretary gave the board an update pertaining discussions that took place with Oil Springs Council regarding the proposed radios. Council deferred any decisions on July 7 until more information could be obtained.

At this time, the board tabled any further discussions until more information could be obtained pertaining to costs and the possible availability of upgrading the radios currently in place at the fire hall.

Calls for Service

Fire Chief Cumming reported that to date there has been twenty-one (21) calls for service. Out of the twenty-one (21) calls, seven (7) were multi-station including the call for service to Caroline Street in Enniskillen Township, Marthaville.

New Hires

Fire Chief Cumming informed the board of two (2) new fire fighter recruits; Adam Veen and Tyler O'Hara. Training needed for both of them.

Budget 2015

Discussions took place regarding the 2015 Budget. Fire Chief Cumming gave a brief overview of what was budgeted and what was spent.

The furnace at the fire hall is set to be repaired at a cost of \$3,021 plus HST. There was no tender process for the replacing the furnace. The central air will not be replaced, only repaired at a cost of \$310.

Fire Prevention Officer

Fire Chief Cumming informed the board that there was interest from one of the fire fighters to take the role over as Fire Prevention Officer. No commitment to move forward at this time. No other interest from the fire fighters. The course is 3 - 4 days out of town. To date \$155 has been spent on training. Fire Chief indicated to the board that the training budget would be spent by end of the year.

Multi-Station Fire Agreement

The board asked the Fire Chief for an update pertaining to the subject matter. At this time nothing further has been developed. There is an old agreement from 1997 that has been indicated by the Fire Chief of Lambton County, that is old and out dated. In 2013, the past Fire Chief for Oil Springs indicated that a new agreement was not needed. Fire Chief Cumming was directed to check with the past Fire Chief to see if in fact a new agreement was needed.

New Business

Fire Prevention Week – October 2015

Councillor O’Hara-Wilson suggested that something new be done for 2015 to attract people’s attention to the importance of Fire Prevention. Deputy Fire Chief Charlton asked for suggestions. Councillor O’Hara-Wilson was to ask the schools in the local area to ask what they do for Fire Prevention Week.

Suggestions from the board warranted if advertising was an issue with the lack of people attending activities. At this time, it appears not lack of advertising but lack of interest from the public is the reason there is low attendance at Fire Prevention activities. The Bike Rodeo in 2015 saw 25 children take part in this activity.

Fleet – Update

Fire Chief Mike Cumming updated the board that Truck #4 was in a minor accident with no injuries. Truck #4 hit a barrier and caused minor damage. Currently parts are on order, waiting for them to arrive.

Outdoor Lights

Councillor O’Hara-Wilson asked the fire department about the outdoor lights being on all the time. The LED lights operate by a photo cell on each of them and are on automatically from dusk to dawn.

Petition for Wyoming Fire Fighter N. Bain

Fire Chief Cumming asked that the Oil Springs Municipal Office have a copy of the petition that is currently circulating relating to a charge under the Highway Traffic Act, that the fire fighter received while responding to a call in a snow storm, be put at the front counter for anyone to sign.

Adjournment

At 7:55 p.m., the Joint Fire Commission meeting was adjourned.

Motion #2 - *Wagner/Powell: That the Joint Fire Commission meeting be adjourned.*

Carried.

No date was set for the next Joint Fire Commission meeting.

Chair

Clerk