

Enniskillen/Oil Springs Joint Fire Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, November 28, 2016
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/Chair

Staff Members Present: Jennifer Turk, Secretary

Call to Order

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest/Conflict of Interest

No declaration was made by any one member of the committee 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 – Powell/O’Hara-Wilson: *That the previous minutes of August 31, 2016 be approved as amended.* *Carried.*

Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Omissions/Error in previous Minutes

Councillor McCallum indicated on page 2, under Fire Chief Retirement – omit the word “council” and replace with “commission”.

Fire Chief Retirement

At this time, the current Fire Chief has not decided if he is going to retire as Fire Chief in December. Next Firefighter meeting is Thursday, December 8, where elections will take place for Fire Chief, and Deputy Fire Chief. At that time, Fire Chief Cumming will determine if he is going to retire or continue another year.

Councillor McCallum asked that a motion be brought back to both councils for consideration once a decision has been made.

Fire Department Roof

Fire Chief Cumming indicated to the commission that there have been no further leaks detected since the last commission meeting in August. No further action at this time.

Lambton County Fire Radios

Fire Chief Cumming updated the commission regarding the fire radios. Currently the towers are being installed and tested throughout Lambton County. As of today, the radios are expected to go live in January 2017. An invoice is expected to be sent out from the County at that time.

Budget

2016 Expenditures to Date

Fire Chief Cumming gave a verbal report on the amount of monies left to spend in the 2016 Budget. The balance in the account as of November 22, 2016 is \$58,499.94. There are cheques being made up to pay out the honorariums and firefighters for the year totaling \$22,500. Fire Chief Cumming indicated there is new equipment ordered that has not been paid. The capital reserves account total is \$48,064.05. This includes \$4,500 put into the reserves from 2016 budget.

Discussions took place regarding ordering a new computer desk and computer for the Fire Chief's office. No new equipment has been ordered, however it was indicated from the Commission that there is room in the budget under Administration. Fire Chief Cumming informed the Commission that there is no money in Administration for the purchase of the said equipment due to other expenses during 2016.

Fire Chief Cumming was reminded to spend all monies of the budget before year end.

2017 Budget

At this time there was nothing to present to the commission for the 2017 Budget.

Discussions took place regarding the possible need for bunker gear for 2017 as it is hoped that there will be at least two (2) new firefighters hired by end of the year.

Return of Equipment

Fire Chief Cumming gave the commission an update regarding the letters that were sent to three (3) firefighters asking them to return their pagers and bunker gear. The department is still waiting for the return of equipment from one (1) firefighter to date.

Fire Chief Report

2016 Fire Call Summary

Fire Chief Cumming indicated to the commission that there have thirty-seven (37) calls to date. This includes calls to Petrolia, and Dawn-Euphemia. A detailed list will be presented at budget time.

Automatic Aid Agreement

Fire Chief Cumming indicated to the commission of a meeting that took place recently between Mayor Veen, Mayor Marriott, and Mayor Broad, as well as the Fire Chiefs and Deputy Fire Chiefs from Enniskillen/Oil Springs Fire Department and Dawn-Euphemia Fire Departments. The discussion was in regards to creating an Automatic Aid Agreement between the two (2) Fire Departments from 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. for coverage to Dawn-Euphemia from Enniskillen/Oil Springs Fire Department. The need of an Automatic Aid Agreement came from a recent fire call in Dawn-Euphemia regarding a motor vehicle accident, where CCAC paged out Dawn-Euphemia Fire Department a total of nine (9) times before help arrived at the scene of the accident. Dawn-Euphemia lacks man power during that time as most firefighters work during the day and depending on the time of year, could be attending to their fields.

Deputy Fire Chief Charlton indicated to the commission that the Fire Marshall's Office likes to see ten (10) men in ten (10) minutes to a call/page.

Discussions took place regarding the amount of fire calls Enniskillen/Oil Springs received in 2016 to assist Petrolia and Dawn-Euphemia.

Steps moving forward with the creation of an Automatic Aid Agreement, the Secretary handed Fire Chief Cumming three (3) different Automatic Aid Agreements to help assist with the creation of one between Dawn-Euphemia and Enniskillen/Oil Springs Fire Departments. The agreement is to be completed as soon as possible to assist Dawn-Euphemia in having manpower to attend their calls/pages.

Motion #2 – O'Hara-Wilson/Powell: That the Automatic Aid Agreement move forward between Dawn-Euphemia and Enniskillen/Oil Springs Fire Departments as soon as possible, and that a draft copy of the agreement, as drafted by the Township of Dawn-Euphemia, be brought back to the Enniskillen/Oil Springs Joint Fire Commission for review and approval, with no costs incurred to Enniskillen/Oil Springs Fire Department, prior to approval by the three (3) councils, Enniskillen, Oil Springs, and Dawn-Euphemia. Carried.

New Business

Door-to-door Fire Alarm Checks

Councillor McCallum asked if there were any complaints received regarding the recent fire alarm checks performed door-to-door by the fire department. Fire Chief Cumming mentioned there were no complaints received.

Discussions took place regarding the batteries used in smoke alarms, that not all alarms are 9 volt.

Discussions took place regarding the conversation Councillor McCallum had with her firefighter that was serving her area, regarding the need for carbon monoxide detector in her home.

Future Retirements

Councillor O’Hara-Wilson asked if there were any future retirements coming up at the fire department. Deputy Chief Charlton indicated that there was not, that Mr. Watson would be stepping down as Fire Prevention Officer, but would still be on as a firefighter. Mr. John Berdan is expected to fill the vacancy as Fire Prevention Officer as he has been taking the training needed to fill the position.

Brooke-Alvinston Report

Councillor McCallum asked if the Fire Chief or Deputy Fire Chief had read the recent report from Brooke-Alvinston. Both indicated at this time, they had not, but expected to be brought up at the next Fire Chief’s meeting.

Adjournment

Adjournment of the Joint Fire Commission Meeting took place at 7:50 p.m.

Motion# 3 – Powell/O’Hara-Wilson: That the Joint Fire Commission Meeting be adjourned until Monday, March 6, 2017, commencing at 7:00 p.m. Carried.

Chair

Clerk