

Fire Commissioners Meeting
March 27, 2017

Present: Commissioners Ed Rigney, Ralph Guyer, Gary Petzold, and Chief David Bourcier

Meeting began at 3:05 moderated by the Chief

General discussions were held on the following topics related to the budget:

Uniform and protective gear costs rising due to increasing costs, new employees, replacement of older gear, etc.

Staffing is all set going into FY 2018. A new private is coming on the job next month. A committee is working on developing selection plans for new captain for EMS/training and a shift captain.

FY 2018 we hope to get approval for the purchase of a Quint to replace two pieces of apparatus, the ladder truck and an engine, which are both in need of repairs/upgrades shortly.

New radios are being paid for by a grant.

For fire overhaul a hydrogen cyanide meter is needed as this gas is generated from burning plastic pipes and it is deadly.

General topics discussed:

Regional dispatch center pro and cons were discussed. Could save the town money but Ludlow and Hampden are no longer interested and there does not seem to be a clear direction.

WMA is donating \$20,000 to the fire department towards the Quint vehicle.

The new police department training room is going to be a great asset to the town for training, town committee/departments meetings, and handy for the WFD as vehicles will not need to be moved and left running in the winter.

The microwave radio system was discussed.

Vehicle replacement was discussed and the capital expense timetable is:
FY 19 Rescue and Car 4
FY 20 Ambulance (from ambulance funds)
FY 21 Engine 3

Meeting adjourned at 3:40

Submitted by Commissioner Gary Petzold