

TOWN OF RUMNEY
FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 10, 2014

Commissioners: Terry French, John Bagley, Tim Lewis
Chief: David Coursey
Clerk: Diana Kindell

Truck Committee: Carl Spring, Evan Hacker, Ray Valentin, Nick Coursey
Public: Mark Andrew

The truck committee met at 6:10 pm to update and compile the necessary components and cost to retrofit the F550 Ford truck from a highway dump to a fire utility/forest vehicle. This information will be required to present a warrant article at the March town meeting requesting the necessary funding.

At 7:00 pm Chairman Terry French opened the Commissioners meeting.

An applicant will be meeting with the membership committee on Thursday night. As it will be a conflict of interest for Carl Spring, Terry will replace him for this interview.

Chief Coursey mentioned the price of new bronze flag holders currently in use at the cemeteries. The bronze is presently \$65.00 per holder and the flags are \$270.00 per gross. The department is out of the holders and still needs one for a fire commissioner who passed this summer. A plastic holder is available for less money, however, the Commissioners agreed to stay with the bronze. An order will be placed, but not received until the end of winter.

Budget: Further review of budget line items was necessary to qualify exactly where the monies would be used. The following lines were discussed:

1. Code enforcement
2. Stipend with a new line being created for Chief's Salary and verify if the remaining amount will suffice for call stipends
3. Training/mileage – increased as there are 3 members waiting to take a Firefighter I class and 3 waiting to take a Firefighter II class
4. Equipment repair which was increased due to age of small equipment (pumps, etc)
5. Radio/Repair and Maintenance was increased to stagger replacements of radios purchased under a grant several years ago. The present Motorola units will no longer be serviced by Motorola. Two portables will be purchased.
6. Pagers are also no longer being serviced by Motorola who has a replacement unit available. Two pagers will be purchased.

7. New Equipment was increased to purchase warning signs for use on the road when fire engines are parked on the roadway. Cones (5 pack) will also be purchased.

8. Hose was increased as the present hose is showing many leaks under pressure testing – 500' of 1 3/4" will be purchased at a cost of \$329 per 100'.
9. New Breathing equipment was increased as batteries (11 packs) need to be purchased. There will also be a charge for mask fittings and testing starting in 2015 – a service that has been free in the past.
10. Protective Clothing – there are three (3) sets of clothing that will be purchased in 2015.
11. Fire prevention saw a small increase to cover shipping of the material given to the school children during Fire Prevention Week.
12. Explorer Program will remain as is to pay dues and renew the Charter.

The Capital Reserve account was discussed as the price of fire engines has increased tremendously due to safety requirements from the Federal Government. To meet the expected cost a request for an additional \$10,000 (increase from \$30,000 to \$40,000) per year will be made.

Mark Andrew, as a private citizen, asked to speak at this time as he has done research on pricing for a new utility vehicle as opposed to retrofitting the highway F550 Ford. He has found new units available for under \$100,000 and proposed taking funds from Capital Reserve to purchase new. If a new crew cab vehicle was purchased it would transport the firemen rather than purchase another "big" fire engine. A smaller fire engine would perform better on the town's back roads. Ray mentioned that when they respond to mutual aid five men must go and that would require two vehicles going to a station or fire scene. The available storage compartments on a larger engine is also necessary for the equipment they carry.

Mark asked them to review what the need for Rumney really was and what was needed for vehicles.

John Bagley stated the free town owned truck could be outfitted for \$20,000 and Nick stated all the equipment put on this truck could be swapped to a new cab and chassis if necessary. Which Mark replied to "it doesn't happen that way" – experience shows that when the time comes, new equipment would be wanted and purchased.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

