

Rumney Fire Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2023

Present: Commissioners Terry French and David Coursey
Fire Chief: Evan Hacker
Fire personnel Guests: Dan Medaglia, Sam Coes and Sean Zaikowski
Clerk: Diana Kindell

Acting Chairman Terry French opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.
Minutes available could not be approved due to change in the sitting Commissioners.

Chief Hacker presented bills for review and signing. He stated that Lakes Region Mutual Aid has not set or billed for the area hazmat team. They expect to be billing each town \$1500.00 during the year. Dave pointed out that had not been budgeted for this year and would have to be paid in the next year's budget.

1. Engine 3 needs work – 3 valves need replacing and there are pin holes in the lines which need to be welded. E-One would do the valve work, but a welder is needed for the pin holes.
2. The ATV is in Warren being serviced and the trailer is being stored in the W. Rumney station.
3. Chimney – one quote in the amount of \$2500.00 has been received. Dave suggested Evan look into metalbestos that could go up through the building rather than against the roof to avoid the ice knocking it off. Additional quotes need to be obtained.
4. Painting the W. Rumney station – one quote for \$2500.00 has been received that includes all prep work and applying the paint, but not the paint. Sherman Williams quoted a price of \$540.00 for the white paint and \$235.00 for the red. Additional quotes need to be gotten as the town requires three (3) quotes.
5. Training – Evan stated he has passed the EMR class and will be taking the state exam on April 22nd.
6. Dana Cohen of Center Ossipee will be teaching an extrication training, hosted by Rumney, on April 20th. The class is \$700.00 and members from Wentworth and Canaan will attend.
7. Rumney firefighters will have the opportunity to participate in an on-scene live burn training on May 13th put on by Canaan Fire Dept. at a location in Grafton.
8. Evan would like to have per diem holiday coverage during the summer season. This was tried in the past and the Selectmen did not approve it.
9. As the new Warden, Evan asked Dave to turn in all of last years permits for payment as well as returning all radios and pagers in his possession.
10. Engines 2 and 3 need work on leaking seals. Dan Myles should be able to do this work.

With the start of a new Commissioner on board, and in lieu of the fact changes to the department were voted on at Town Meeting, Dave stated that ALL bills for the department will be approved by the Commissioners including payroll. Also, a record be kept by the department in a book or on a spreadsheet of all monies spent and the budget line affected. This will be useful in preparing the budget for the next year. Also need to clarify the monthly pay for the administrator. Are points also paid? Explain the 20 hours weekly duties. If the Chief is on vacation for a week, does he get paid or should that money go to the Deputy Chief??

Another project this year for the Commissioners will be a job description for all firemen – Chief, secretary, all Officers, etc.

Bonnie Beadle contacted Dave as at the recent meeting of Ladies Auxiliary Kathy Hacker relayed that the plant supplies upstairs in the station needed to go. Dave felt this was totally wrong after all the support the department has received from the Ladies yearly plant sale. Evan clarified the area only needed to be organized and cleaned – not removed. They are doing a “spring cleaning” of the upstairs! If there was dissention within the Auxiliary it was their problem to deal with internally. There was a great deal of verbal concern from Dan, Sam and Sean that Dave was backing the ladies unfairly because they had worked together for many years.

The fire members also were very vocal against the Commissioners telling the Chief how to run the department. The Commissioners are only there to advise. And Sam further vocally chastised Terry for the way last year’s vote for Chief was handled. As several “outbursts” occurred during the meeting, future meetings will be run by Roberts Rules of Order

The meeting adjourned at 7:15.

Respectfully submitted

Terry French
Acting Chairman

TF/dk