

Suite 24, 69 South Main Street, Brooklyn, CT

- The skid unit on a service truck was damaged as is out of service. It is being repaired, but they do not have a cost estimate at this time. They still have the other vehicle in service.
- They received a photo update of the new truck. It is going on the production floor in June. November delivery is anticipated.

6. Department Discussion

a. Recruitment

- Chief Breen provided copies of a pamphlet that the two Chiefs handed out at the Transfer Station on Earth Day. They were there for four hours and spoke with many people and received positive feedback. They had 2,500 printed and plan to mail the pamphlet to every household in Town. They also plan to provide some to the Town Clerk's Office. Mr. Podzalne suggested leaving some at businesses. Mr. Lee suggested putting a QR code on them when having more printed. Mr. Lee also suggested that they ask businesses to add it, with contact information, to their scrolling advertisement screens.
- The Chiefs also plan to be visible at various Town events. Chief Pepin mentioned that there is a "Touch a Truck" event coming up as well as a food drive at WalMart.
- Over the past two weeks, they have been posting more on social media and have reached over 7,000 people. They will be posting photos of joint trainings.
- Mr. Podzalne mentioned that the tax abatement program will help.
- They have finalized the application to be used by both Departments. There will be an electronic version which can be filled in on the website.
- Chief Pepin commented that the joint trainings have been going very well. They have six or seven months of training scheduled.

b. Retention – No discussion.

c. Paid Staff – Subcommittee Update

Mr. Podzalne stated that he will be putting together a questionnaire for the Fire Chiefs and the Selectmen to get their concerns/view points on moving forward on a long-term approach. Regarding the tax abatement program, he asked that the Chiefs work on the question of how to quantify the members who are helping, but not necessarily responding.

7. Financial Reports Discussion

Patrick Gauthier submitted East Brooklyn's updated Annual Report. There was discussion regarding the insurance line item. Mr. Lee explained that the Board of Finance received a budget proposal from the Board of Selectmen which removed the insurances from the line items for the Fire Departments, but kept it under Fire Service Facilities as an insurance line item. There is a new line item for Ambulance Only Insurance.

There was discussion regarding grants. Mr. Lee explained that if anyone receives a grant from the Town of Brooklyn, there is a requirement that, after the fiscal year, they provide some sort of validation for how the money was spent.

Mr. Lee asked what plans the Departments have for grants and how they used the money received to date. Mr. Gauthier explained that the previous Jewett City Savings Bank grant was used for the d-fib and WalMart was just a grant fund. Mr. Gauthier stated that for this year, they are going to apply like they always do and they will discuss what they would use the money for prior to applying. Chief Breen stated that the FM Global grant was used for i-pads and the Jewett City Savings Bank grant was used for the Heart Safe Program (Lieutenant Anderson has been working on this). Mortlake will be applying for the DEEP grant and Jewett City Savings Bank this year (nominal grants). Mortlake is still trying to get 501c3 status.

There was discussion regarding allocation of ARPA funds. They are still gathering proposals. Mr. Brodeur stated that \$100,000 has been set aside for small grants of up to \$10,000 which can be granted after the June 30th deadline. Mr. Lee encouraged the Departments to fill out the form.

8. Other Business

- Mr. Lee stated that he will provide his feedback to the Chiefs regarding the Respiratory Programs. He said that he has identified that a program administrator is needed, record keeping is critical, and enforcement is another issue.
- Chief Pepin explained that a lot of changes are being made at QV dispatch. They are implementing Crew Force to relieve a lot of the radio communication out of the dispatch center. He explained that he has used it. Discussion ensued regarding how the system works. The i-pads that Mortlake wants to get with grant money is for this purpose.

9. Public Comment

Gill Maiato commented that he would like to see both the tax abatement program and the compensation program be implemented. He feels that all members should benefit.

10. Next Meeting – June 8, 2022.

Motion was made by L. Berube to hold bi-monthly meetings for both the Board of Fire Commissioners (7:00 p.m.) and the FD Paid Staff Sub-Committee (6:00 p.m.) beginning July 13, 2022. No meetings in June.

Second by P. Gauthier. No discussion.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote (5-0-0).

11. Adjourn

Motion was made by L. Berube to adjourn at 7:32 p.m. (19:32 hours).

Second by B. Pepin. No discussion.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote (5-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

J.S. Perreault
Recording Secretary