

Mountain Fire Protection District

Trustee Meeting

October 26, 2021

In Attendance: Trustees Tony Wright, Harold Kamikawaji, Clem Remillard, Dave Stewart and Neil Nelson. Administrator/Financial Officer Sarah Zubkowski. Fire Chief Russ McMann, Deputy Fire Chief Dave LeNeveu and firefighters Wayne Morgan and Steven Harwood. Resident Charles Pinker.

Meeting called to order @ 7:01 pm by Neil Nelson. Second by Tony Wright. MSC.

Correspondence:

- Mountain View School reached out to the District to come do a tour of the firehall. Four firefighters will be doing the tour with the kids October 27, 2021.
- Clem Remillard received an email thanking the District for the information on the super shuttle service as this resulted in a discount on the residents insurance.
- The fire department received a new key and code for the horticultural centre as they have had to cut the lock in the past for calls.
- Wayne Morgan has started writing permits as of October 1, 2021.
- The flag is at full mass now. Flag was also replaced as it was damaged. The flag was provided for free. Charles Pinker stated that the District can request a free flag from the local MP. Clem Remillard will follow up.

Financial Report: presented by Sarah Zubkowski.

- List of bills noted and discussed.

Fire Department Report: presented by Russ McMann.

- 7 calls in July – 3 alarms, 1 call out of district, 1 burning complaint, 1 mvi, 1 assist for a dog down a bank.

Old Business:

- The loose gravel around the fill spots for the water tanks still have not been filled. Dave LeNeveu wasn't sure it was approved. Neil Nelson stated it was fine to proceed and suggested 24x24 paving stones.
- Russ McMann stated they are moving forward with the replacement third truck. Dave Stewart will provide information to the Chief regarding the broker he knows for fire trucks. Russ McMann provided a design blueprint from Rocky Mountain Phoenix. This is a new design route for the District. Once completed, the fire department will shop around for quotes. Currently, through Rocky Mountain Phoenix the cost is approximately \$400,000. This is quite a customized design. Clem Remillard asked if it will fit in the bay. Russ McMann stated that it will. This is for forestry calls, mvi calls, and is for relay water pumping to the main trucks. This layout will be finalized in the next week and then pricing can be acquired from multiple places.

New Business:

- Clem Remillard stated that he receives copies of the burning permits filed and Wayne Morgan has been very busy this month since burning opened. Clem Remillard motions to pay Wayne Morgan his gas allowance this month rather than December since he spends his money now. Second by Neil Nelson. MSC.
- Clem Remillard stated that one of the burning signs has been stolen in the District. Rather than replace it, Clem Remillard is suggesting that we have new signs to replace the current signs in the District. The fire department agrees that new signs should be acquired. Clem Remillard will follow up on getting new signs made.
- Wayne Morgan stated that the printer received through the new lease does not have a paper feeder. Sally Burnett would like a feeder option in the printer and it is time consuming. Neil Nelson asked if Dave LeNeveu can make contact with the lease company regarding this issue. Wayne Morgan also noted that Sally has been very valuable to the District and asked if the District can buy her a new chair for the office.
- City of Nanaimo was automatically paged for entrapments callouts in the past. It is currently not in the mutual aid agreement. The new mutual aid agreement will rectify this however this has not been approved. The firefighters are not sure whether the new dispatch service will automatically callout to the City. The fire department may need to respond to mvi's and require more training if this is the case. Clem Remillard asked what the status of the mutual aid agreement that is pending. Russ McMann stated this is still pending. Russ McMann reminded the board that there is a weekend course for the jaws of life and should be considered for the 2022 budget.
- Sarah Zubkowski presented the budget for 2022. Reviewed in detail. First reading of the budget completed. Neil Nelson motions to accept the 2022 budget at \$207,996. Second by Harold Kamikawaji. MSC. Second reading of budget completed. Tony Wright motion to accept the 2022 budget of \$207,996. Second by Clem Remillard. MSC.

Questions:

- Neil asked for questions.
- Charles Pinker stated that the RDN would like to start having in person meetings going forward. He asked if the fire hall can still be used.
- Charles Pinker still intends to drive around for road assessment.
- Charles Pinker stated that he heard that residents are requesting a name change for the Guy Fawkes celebration. Charles Pinker opposes this and hopes that the trustees and fire department stand up for this. The officers group agrees with Charles Pinker however the fire department are one of the last departments to not change the name. They want to get ahead of this as it relates to the hanging of an individual over a fire does not conjure a good message. Therefore, the officer has voted to change the name and not burn an effigy. Charles Pinker asked if we can change the burning to a scarecrow as this would represent the saving of food for winter. Dave LeNeveu stated that they are open to suggestion. Pudge stated that a lot of people don't know what it is. Clem Remillars stated that the complaints relate more to the burning of an individual rather than the name. Wayne Morgan agrees with Charles Pinker on the issue and that social media is making the issue more prevalent. Charles Pinker asked if we can just change the name to Guy Fawkes bonfire. Dave LeNeveu stated that they are changing the name to East Wellington Bonfire and Fireworks Celebration.
- Charles Pinker noted that the minutes for September stated that fire problem at Milner was reported incorrectly in the local news. Charles Pinker asked that the fire department go over the District lines again with the City of Nanaimo as this was out of District. Charles Pinker not does not want our fire department to be out of District for an extended period of time as this could affect response to callouts in our District. Will the

foam be replaced for the Milner fire by the City or RDN? Dave LeNeveu stated that if we ask for foam then they could ask for water that was used. The fire department thought best not to make this an issue. Russ McMann stated that they have discussed with Milner the fact that they are out of District. Russ McMann stated that the manager was respectful and thanked the District. Dave LeNeveu relayed the callout to Charles Pinker. The City is useless in the situation for drafting water. Charles Pinker doesn't like the fact that it was in the media and therefore available for everyone to see and possibly question.

- Charles Pinker asked if meeting minutes can be posted at least 2 weeks before the meeting so residents can review.
- Charles Pinker noted that there is a water source at the winery. Russ McMann asked where the water source is. Charles Pinker stated that there is a pond. Russ McMann stated that they know about this.
- ***Charles Pinker asked about the rescue of the dog. He was concerned as the write up in the paper could be seen by WCB which could be an issue. Perhaps the details of the rescue should not be published. Russ McMann has addressed the situation that was reported by the firefighter.

Motions Adopted by E-Mail:

- Motion to pay bills made by Neil Nelson Sept 23, 2021. Second by Harold Kamikawaji Sept 23, 2021.
- Motion to pay Sarah Zubkowski made by Neil Nelson Oct 4, 2021. Second by Harold Kamikawaji Oct 4, 2021.
- Motion to pay bills made by Neil Nelson Oct 8, 2021. Second by Dave Stewart Oct 8, 2021.
- Motion to pay bills made by Neil Nelson Oct 15, 2021. Second by Clem Remillard Oct 16, 2021.
- Motion to pay Sarah Zubkowski made by Neil Nelson Oct 18, 2021. Second by Harold Kamikawaji Oct 19, 2021.

Motion to adjourn meeting @ 8:22 pm made by Neil Nelson. Second by Tony Wright. MSC.

Next meeting November 18, 2021 @ 7 pm.