

## **Mountain Fire Protection District**

### **Trustee Meeting**

**July 15, 2021**

**In Attendance:** Trustees Tony Wright, Harold Kamikawaji, Clem Remillard, Dave Stewart and Neil Nelson. Administrator/Financial Officer Sarah Zubkowski. Assistant Fire Chief Russ McCallum.

Meeting called to order @ 7:03 pm by Neil Nelson. Second by Tony Wright. MSC.

#### **Correspondence:**

- Clem Remillard provided information regarding COVID restrictions and Provincial Regulations that have been updated.
- Sarah Zubkowski emailed the financial information and required filings to the Provincial Government as required after the AGM.

**Financial Report:** presented by Sarah Zubkowski.

- List of bills noted.
- Sarah Zubkowski brought up the receipt received from the firefighters for water and Gatorade. She was under the impression that the firefighter association paid for drinks and food with the remuneration that is paid from the District. Clem Remillard stated that this is the way that it has been for years. This will be discussed with the other fire chief's. Clem Remillard also stated that the reconciliations and receipts need to be provided to the board prior to paying out remuneration for 2021.

**Fire Department Report:** presented by Russ McMann.

- 5 calls in June – 2 burning complaints, 1 medical assist, 2 alarms activated, and mutual aid.
- Neil Nelson stated that a trailer was at the firehall being washed again. There is an issue with personal use of District assets. The fire truck was used again to pump out water for personal purposes recently. Neil Nelson stated he receives phone calls regarding pools getting filled. Neil Nelson receives a text from the Chief when the fire truck leaves the hall. Russ McMann states that it is being used for training purposes. Clem Remillard stated that it doesn't look good as it looks like it is being used for personal purposes. Clem Remillard said he thinks that it should be available for use by everyone in the District or no one in the District. Perhaps the District can charge for the water pumping and pool filling. Russ McCallum stated that the water does need to be dumped after training on filling the truck so sometimes residents receive free water. Harold Kamikawaji stated that there should be rules in place so that the board and the firefighters don't receive a bad reputation. Clem Remillard stated that the perception is not good for District. The District doesn't want to be in the business of providing water. Harold Kamikawaji asked if the firefighters can provide a report stating that it was used for training purposes and where it was and what the water was used for. This would help when the board is questioned. Clem Remillard feels that personal trailers, boats and vehicles should not be washed at the firehall as these are personal items. Clem Remillard has received multiple pictures from residents of these taking place and the residents are upset and also want access to these services. Dave Stewart agrees with

Harold Kamikawaji that a report should be filed and then the board would have some answers to questions from residents on what the truck is being used for. Russ McCallum believes that if you volunteer for the District you should have access to use of the equipment/hall. Tony Wright stated that it is a perception issue when the residents see the equipment being used by the firemen. Clem Remillard stated that he receives more complaints all the time regarding the use of the fire trucks and hall. Harold Kamikawaji motions that a report be filed with the board each time the fire truck is used that states where the truck is going and where the water is pulled from and where it is dumped. Russ McCallum stated that we will have to pay for water from the City of Nanaimo if we report where the water is being drawn from. Tony Wright seconds Harold Kamikawaji's motions. MSC.

### **Old Business:**

- Clem Remillard stated that Mitchell Nelson is still updating the florescent lights to LED. The bay is yet to be done.
- The generator maintenance is complete.
- Sarah Zubkowski has yet to receive the ICBC cheque to cover the Nucor Environmental bill.
- Russ McCallum stated that the fire comm system is running smoothly so far. Russ McCallum stated that the radios are being reprogrammed and switched over for the Surrey Dispatch system.
- Clem Remillard stated that the Certificate for insurance purposes is on the website for the residents. The firemen received a draft letter from firefighters that they want the Board to mass mail this out. The board feels that the sign has the information, the website has the information, the mailboxes had a notice and it was discussed at the AGM therefore there is no need to mail out a letter.
- Clem Remillard stated that the fobs are still being updated with the firefighters
- The firefighters are still waiting on quotes regarding the replacement truck for 903.

### **New Business:**

- Clem Remillard stated that the email is not working well through the website and asked whether the board is ok with getting separate emails. Board stated they would prefer to keep this through personal emails.
- Russ McCallum asked about the 10% increase in the firefighters budget that was brought up at the AGM by the firefighters. The board stated that they will discuss this further.
- Russ McCallum stated that the new compressor puts out more output than 4 of the bottles the fire department has. These bottles are expired. Therefore the firefighters would like to upgrade 2 of these bottles to larger bottles at a price of \$3500 per the quote. Tony Wright asked the firefighters to get another quote as per the policy. Tony Wright will look into this and give a quote to the firefighters next week.
- Tony Wright stated that the firehall roof has a lot of moss and we should get this removed. Clem Remillard also stated that the gutters should be cleaned.
- Clem Remillard stated that a vote for chairman of the board needs to happen. Clem Remillard votes for Neil Nelson. Second Harold Kamikawaji. MSC.
- New trustees need to get codes to Sarah Zubkowski and Clem Remillard will get fobs.

**Questions:** No residents in attendance.

**Motions Adopted by E-Mail:**

- Motion to pay bills made by Neil Nelson Jun 8, 2021. Second by Tony Wright Jun 8, 2021.
- Motion to pay bills made by Neil Nelson Jun 16, 2021. Second by Clem Remillard Jun 16, 2021.
- Motion to pay bills made by Neil Nelson Jun 24, 2021. Second by Harold Kamikawaji Jun 24, 2021. MSC.
- Motion to pay bills and adopt minutes made by Neil Nelson Jul 1, 2021. Second by Tony Wright Jul 1, 2021.
- Motion to pay Sarah Zubkowski made by Neil Nelson Jul 2, 2021. Second by Harold Kamikawaji Jul 2, 2021.
- Motion to pay bills made by Neil Nelson Jul 13, 2021. Second by Clem Remillard Jul 13, 2021.

Motion to adjourn meeting @ 8:16 pm made by Neil Nelson. Second by Harold Kamikawaji. MSC.

Next meeting August 17, 2021 @ 7 pm.