

Mountain Fire Protection District

Trustee Meeting

June 20, 2024

In Attendance: Trustees Neil Nelson, Clem Remillard, Tony Wright, Harold Kamikawaji and Dave Stewart. Administrator/Financial Officer Sarah Zubkowski. Deputy Fire Chief Dave LeNeveu, Burning Permit Liaison Wayne Morgan, Fire Chief Russ McMann, Lieutenant Scott Lawson and firefighter Kai Kristiansen.

Meeting called to order @ 7:01 pm by Neil Nelson. Second by Harold Kamikawaji. MSC.

Correspondence:

- Russ McMann received a survey request from the RDN of the inventory in the firehall.
- Russ McMann stated that he was contacted regarding the fence above the back parking lot. Russ McMann stated that we voluntarily put the fence up so he feels like the RDN should replace it. The RDN contact will look into it.

Financial Report: presented by Sarah Zubkowski.

- List of bills noted and discussed.
- Board questioned what the door from Gregg Distributors. Dave LeNeveu stated that this was in fact the special container for the seacan.

Fire Department Report:

- 3 calls – alarm at school, burning complaint, and one other issue.
- 34 firefighters currently.
- One probationary firefighter has moved away.
- City of Nanaimo is still in the hiring process so still may lose a few firefighters.
- One previous firefighter is now back in the District and may be joining back to the hall. He brings previous experience and knowledge of the hall processes procedures.

Old Business:

- Russ McMann confirmed with his lawyer regarding the indemnification information provided. He confirmed that he no longer is pushing for a bylaw.
- Clem Remillard talked to one guy about the old firetruck. He will also put it on the government site for sale. Chief will also purchase personally if we do not sell. Dave Stewart had it advertised online for a few months and only got a few replies. Facebook marketplace was also suggested. Russ McMann asked about the list price. Board stated that they are selling it for \$13,000. Clem Remillard stated that they need to be more aggressive on the fire truck sale. Clem Remillard stated that there is a man selling a 1993 firetruck for \$12,000 with a ladder so maybe our asking price is a little high. Russ McMann stated that the water tank is only 350 gallons which is quite low for another fire hall to purchase.
- Tony Wright ordered security cameras and is waiting for them to arrive. They will have to be installed. 6 cameras in total.
- The seacan arrived and had an extra layer of insulation spray on the inside.

- New third bay door has been installed. Also yellow line painted to assist in parking in the third bay. We are waiting for invoices for the door, cutting the concrete, and drywall.
- Data added by Clem Remillard to the Telus plan and Darcy Morgan is currently ensuring it gets installed correctly.
- Hall ventilation is currently being scheduled in.

New Business:

- Russ McMann had someone come look at the exterior of the building for repairs. Waiting on the quote.
- Neil Nelson and Clem Remillard had the well tested and there is rock dust in the water. Prior years, we had passed the water testing. This is starting to happen more and more in the District. Clem Remillard is going to follow up to get the well tested and to see how we move forward. We will need to get another quote to satisfy the requirements of the purchasing policy for spending over \$5,000. A few companies were mentioned.
- Russ McMann believes that we need to get quotes on the following so we can budget for this in the future: concrete cracks in the parking lot, parking lot lines are quite faded, siding mentioned earlier, painting of the building.
- Clem Remillard stated that the parks meeting occurred the other night. They are doing a feasibility study on bike lanes in parts of the District. The walkway near the firehall will also have new chips put on it.

Questions:

- Charles Pinker asked what Big Yellow Truck is. Clem Remillard stated that they provide truck maintenance.
- Charles Pinker stated that the minutes are not going on the website in a timely fashion. Clem Remillard stated that he is going to try to be better.
- Charles Pinker asked if we have talked to any construction companies to see if they are looking for a water truck. Russ McMann stated that the water tank is probably too small.
- Charles Pinker asked if foam we use is environmentally friendly. Russ McMann stated it is. Dave LeNeveu stated they have changed foam for this reason.
- Charles Pinker asked about turn out gear and whether the fire fighters are replacing it with better materials that are better for the firefighters and the environment. Dave LeNeveu stated that they are replacing the turn out gear by 4 every year and they are now replacing it with the better gear each year. The firefighters have additional clothes for wearing in the trucks to not transfer anything in the trucks.
- Kai Kristianson stated that he feels that the fireman should be allowed to wash boats and rv's as this is a perk of being a volunteer firefighter. Neil Nelson stated that the issue is not with pickups but with rv's and boats as these are not required for use in firefighting duties. Clem Remillard also stated that it may be an issue with the amount of water and that everyone is on wells here. Wayne Morgan stated that he talked to a lot of residents of the District and the people that he has talked to, no one has an issue. Harold Kamikawaji stated that maybe they should go wash their vehicles at a car wash and give us the bill. Kai Kristianson stated that of the current members under 40 there are only 4 that own homes in the District. Kai Kristianson stated that he feels that if the City takes over the firehall there are a lot of firefighters that have no skin in the game and don't care if the property taxes get higher in the District. Clem Remillard stated that he volunteers at a lot of organizations and doesn't get perks and he doesn't expect it. Charles Pinker stated that he volunteered for 40 years and didn't wash his vehicles ever. Charles Pinker stated that 70% of the firefighters have City water so they should wash

their vehicles at home. We have limited water in the District. There is a policy about using the assets of the District (tables, chairs, etc). Kai Kristianson stated that he just wanted his opinion known. Neil Nelson stated that the well is not an ever ending water supply and that is the issue. Russ McMann stated that it should only be an issue if there are water restrictions. They will discuss further.

Motions Adopted by E-Mail:

- Motion to pay bills made by Dave Stewart May 23, 2024. Second by Neil Nelson May 23, 2024. MSC.
- Motion to pay bills made by Neil Nelson May 30, 2024. Second by Dave Stewart May 30, 2024. MSC.
- Motion to pay Sarah Zubkowski made by Tony Wright Jun 3, 2024. Second by Harold Kamikawaji Jun 3, 2024. MSC.
- Motion to pay bills made by Harold Kamikawaji Jun 6, 2024. Second by Tony Wright Jun 6, 2024. MSC.

Motion to adjourn meeting @ 7:53 pm made by Neil Nelson. Second by Tony Wright. MSC.

Next meeting is on August 15, 2024 @ 7 pm.