

## **Mountain Fire Protection District**

### **Trustee Meeting**

**January 19, 2023**

**In Attendance:** Trustees Neil Nelson, Dave Stewart, Clem Remillard and Harold Kamikawaji. Tony Wright absent. Administrator/Financial Officer Sarah Zubkowski. Fire Chief Russ McMann, Deputy Fire Chief Dave LeNeveu, and Firefighter Darcy Morgan.

Meeting called to order @ 7:00 pm by Neil Nelson. Second by Harold Kamikawaji. MSC.

### **Correspondence:**

- A park committee from the RDN asked if they can continue to use the fire hall for their meetings. Meetings are at same time as potential District meetings. They can use the hall but the meetings have to be held on Tuesdays so they don't coincide with board meetings and firefighter practices. Clem Remillard volunteers to open and close the firehall for these meetings.
- Firefighters had multiple people contact them regarding the super shuttle accreditation certificate for insurance purposes. Clem Remillard stated that it is in the history on the website as well as on the homepage now.
- Clem Remillard received current loan amounts and borrowing estimates for future financing of the fire truck.
- Harold Kamikawaji sent out new policy he drafted regarding the designation by the Fire Chief to allow emergency responders to access the District. Russ McMann and Dave LeNeveu reviewed and provided feedback. Sarah Zubkowski will update for signature.

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

- List of bills noted and discussed.

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

- 4 calls in December – 1 wildfire, 1 burning complaints, 1 medical assist and 1 hydro line. 3 burn permits issued.

### **Old Business:**

- The new truck quote is \$492,000. Quad cab, ultra high pressure unit, can be built by May 2023. Deposit is required on chassis price (approx. \$90,000) and payment will be due in full upon delivery. This will have to be held at meeting to the public to approve the new updated cost. Then information will need to be provided to Provincial Government. Financing options were discussed. Sarah Zubkowski will post in the paper for Feb 2 or 7 meeting. Sarah Zubkowski will ask the bank for bridge/short term financing options as we cannot get monies from the government till July 2023. Cordless tool options for vehicle extraction tools will add to the quote about \$15,000. Clem Remillard stated that this final quote will need to be completed and ready for the meeting with taxpayers.
- Clem Remillard still to contact City regarding the dry hydrant at Witchcraft Lake.
- A couple of roof vents were installed.
- Russ McMann to complete the required plywood for attic access door.

- Clem Remillard followed up on the printer. Nothing wrong with it. Requested a payout amount and upgrade amount from leaser. We are still locked for a couple of years on the lease.

#### **New Business:**

- Sarah Zubkowski asked about the fire truck values for insurance purposes – potential appraisals done to provide accurate numbers for ICBC. Dave Stewart to follow up on this.
- Draft Agreement for mutual aid has been provided by the fire department. Issue is with the coverage for automatic aid agreement clarification. Issue with the insurance coverage as well moving up for ICBC third party insurance. Cost recovery issue noted as well. Firefighters will go back with comments and see what the other fire departments come back with. Dave LeNeveu asked for comments prior to Feb 1<sup>st</sup> as he is required to get back to them by this date.
- Russ McMann stated that the Viera training will be offered for 1001 by 2 Nanaimo firefighters who happen to be parents of 2 volunteer firefighters. The firefighters will pay for there book and tests themselves. This will have no cost to the District.
- The laundry room needs to be updated. Stacking kit and drain required.
- The board discussed funding of proposed new truck. Purchase price is approximately \$500,000-\$525,000. Neil Nelson stated that the down payment of approx. \$90k will come out of the capital reserve. Dave LeNeveu asked how much the board wants to leave in the capital reserve? The board is not sure. Dave Stewart proposes that we pay \$100,000 and finance the rest. Dave LeNeveu stated that authorization is required to be provided on the phone tomorrow to let the builder know that we are starting the process to purchase the truck.
- Anchor on the roof still to be put up. Russ McMann to follow up on this.

#### **Questions:**

- Charles Pinker noted that there is a correction required last months minutes. He requested that the RDN look into water tanks be situated in Pleasant Valley and East Wellington for the City and fire department for access to water. This was presented to the RDN however he does not know where this went.
- Charles Pinker as when the 2011 fire truck needs to be recertified. Not until 2031.
- Charles Pinker asked how much is in reserve fund currently. About \$365,000. How much is the District contributing each year - \$30,000.
- Charles Pinker asked for appreciation of volunteer firefighters specifically through the RDN and has no idea where this has gone. New director will need to be followed up with. North Cedar fire department thanked Charles Pinker for bringing this up. He would like recognition in the form of gifts and would like the board to look into this with the RDN. Charles Pinker provided information on this.
- Charles Pinker asked how many firefighters are applying for the positions opening at City of Nanaimo? 4 per Russ McMann.

#### **Motions Adopted by E-Mail:**

- Motion to pay Sarah Zubkowski made by Harold Kamikawaji Dec 16, 2022. Second by Neil Nelson Dec 16, 2022. MSC.
- Motion to pay bills and approve minutes made by Tony Wright Dec 21, 2022. Second by Dave Stewart Dec 21, 2022. MSC.

- Motion to pay Sarah Zubkowski made by Neil Nelson Jan 3, 2022. Second by Dave Stewart Jan 3, 2022. MSC.
- Motion to pay bills made by Neil Nelson Jan 12, 2022. Second by Tony Wright Jan 12, 2022. MSC.
- Motion to pay Sarah Zubkowski made by Neil Nelson Jan 16, 2022. Second by Clem Remillard Jan 16, 2022. MSC.

Motion to adjourn meeting @ 8:41 pm made by Harold Kamikawaji. Second by Neil Nelson. MSC.

Next meeting is on February 16, 2023 @ 7 pm.