

Mountain Fire Protection District

Trustee Meeting

January 18, 2024

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

Meeting called to order @ 7:09 pm by Neil Nelson. Second by Tony Wright. MSC.

Correspondence:

- Dave Stewart has placed an ad to sell the 1988 fire truck.
- Clem Remillard received the annual reporting requirements for 2023 from the Provincial Government.
- Clem Remillard and Neil Nelson received correspondence regarding the 2023 grant and the requirements to complete paperwork. Sarah Zubkowski and Clem Remillard to follow up on completing the paperwork for the grant.

Financial Report: presented by Sarah Zubkowski.

- List of bills noted and discussed.

Fire Department Report: presented by Dave LeNeveu.

- 2 calls – 1 MVI and 1 wildfire.
- Estimated 54 calls total in 2023.

Old Business:

- Indemnification bylaw will be reviewed by a lawyer. Harold Kamikawaji will deal with this upon his return.
- New fire truck is still in progress. The firefighters are doing a site visit to view the truck currently. They have been testing the truck and ensuring that all the parts are going to work. There is an issue with a valve which we will need to have addressed. It will add approximately \$3,000 to the cost of the truck. Clem Remillard motions that the fire department can spend up to \$3,000 on the new steamer port. Neil Nelson asked what if it is more? Clem Remillard stated that they should come back to us if it is more. Neil Nelson second. MSC.
- Neil Nelson will refill the generator tonight.
- Fire fighters requested that we purchase 8 more chairs to replace old chairs that were disposed of. Tony Wright still to follow up on this.

New Business:

- Dave LeNeveu stated that there was an OHS safety audit completed on the firehall. There are some discrepancies that will need to be addressed. In particular, there is an issue with venting in the bay due to exhaust. A second issue is that the gas sensors are too high on the walls and need to be lowered. A potential issue may be storage for certain fuels. A report will be sent back with any issues or suggestions that need/should be addressed. Dave LeNeveu stated that we will most likely have to start looking into a

storage container for storage. With the grants received, we can use the budget to address the storage issue. Clem Remillard stated that the Air Mation unit was installed when the firehall was built which was in compliance with WCB at the time. Tony Wright asked why the audit was initiated? Dave LeNeveu stated that he and Russ McMann decided that it was necessary to ensure that we were in compliance and the hall is safe. The report will be provided to the Board as well.

- Dave LeNeveu has asked that email correspondence be quicker responses in order to ensure that when items need to be dealt with, they are in a timely fashion.
- The fire department will be looking to bring on some new firefighters (between 3-5) since the fire department has recently lost 4 people. Neil Nelson asked if they are restricting the hiring to location. Dave LeNeveu stated that they must be no further than 10 minutes away from the hall, preferably in the District. Neil Nelson asked how they are addressing the retention of fire fighters. Dave LeNeveu stated that they will be doing interviews to try to address this problem as we invest money into these volunteers.
- Dave LeNeveu stated that the Wounded Warrior run will be going through the District on March 1, 2024 and have asked that the fire department escort them while they are in the District. The Board agreed this is a great idea.
- Clem Remillard stated that we need to send a bill to the RDN for the additional cost for the telephone line to Surrey. Sarah Zubkowski to follow up on this.

Questions:

- Charles Pinker asked how the complaints were handled regarding the fireworks for Guy Fawkes. Neil Nelson stated they there were supposed to be residents in attendance tonight and no one came.
- Charles Pinker asked if street lighting has been requested in parts of the District as there are many dark areas in the District. No requests have been made.
- Charles Pinker suggested advertising the 1988 fire truck to the First Nations in the area. Dave Stewart will follow up on this.

Motions Adopted by E-Mail:

- Motion to pay Sarah Zubkowski made by Neil Nelson Dec 20, 2023. Second by Dave Stewart Dec 20, 2023. MSC.
- Motion to pay Sarah Zubkowski made by Clem Remillard Jan 2, 2024. Second by Dave Stewart Jan 2, 2024. MSC.
- Motion to pay Sarah Zubkowski made by Tony Wright Jan 17, 2024. Second by Dave Stewart Jan 17, 2024. MSC.
- Motion to pay bills made by Neil Nelson Jan 17, 2024. Second by Dave Stewart Jan 17, 2024. MSC.

Motion to adjourn meeting @ 7:51 pm made by Neil Nelson. Second by Tony Wright. MSC.

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