

PETROLIA NORTH ENNISKILLEN FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRST MEETING

MINUTES

MARCH 6th 2019

A meeting of the management committee of the Petrolia North Enniskillen Fire Department was held on Wednesday March 6th 2019 at 7:00 pm at the Petrolia Fire Training Centre.

Present:

Town of Petrolia: Ross O'Hara

Township of Enniskillen: Wally Van Dun and Judy Krall

Fire Department: Chief Jay Arns, Deputy Chief Brian Clark and Ken Henry
Rick Charlebois

Judy Krall presented a report on her activities as chair of the committee in 2018 until the present.

A. Appointment of Committee Chair

Moved by Ross O'Hara

Seconded by Chief Arns

That Judy Krall be nominated as chair of the fire management committee.

There were no additional nominations.

Judy Krall assumed the chair.

B. Minutes

Moved by Wally Van Dun

Seconded by Ross O'Hara

That the minutes of the meeting of November 5th 2018 be adopted as circulated.
Carried.

C. Financial

1. 2018 Budget to December 31 2018

Chief Arns reviewed the financial report for 2018.

Judy Krall questioned the Chief in regards to collecting fees for fire inspections. Chief Arn explained that on taking over the Chief's role he had started to charge for inspections undertaken by the department. He noted that additional revenue had been generated by issuing invoices to property owners for noncompliance with opening burning rules.

Judy Krall questioned the Chief on the participation of the fire department

members at the YMCA. Chief Arn noted that he was reviewing the participation of the fire fighters at the YMCA.

Rick Charlebois noted that the 2018 year end expenses would be confirmed after the completion of the Town audit by May of the current year.

Moved by Ross O'Hara

Seconded by Wally Van Dun

That the 2018 Financial Report be received by the committee.

Carried.

2. 2018 Year-end report

Chief Arns circulated the annual report on the activities of the fire department. He reported that there was an increase in the overall number of calls from 2017 to 2018 from 136 to 143.

He estimated in the current year that the number of calls could exceed 200.

Chief Arns compared the number of calls between 2017 and 2018 indicating the increase or decrease by type of call.

Chief Arns reported that the fire trucks had been equipped with Narcan kits in the event of an opioid overdose in the community.

Chief Arns reviewed the activities of the department in regards to fire prevention and public education. The work included visits to local schools and specific messaging on fire prevention to the students.

Chief Arns provided an overview of the firefighter wellness and fitness initiative. The incorporation with the local medical community allowed the base line tracking of firefighter health which was hoped to provide early detection of any illnesses.

Chief Arns reported that there were over 4,200 hours of participation by the firefighters and up to 1,000 hours by the SORT group.

Ross O'Hara questioned whether the medical testing would test for asbestos. Deputy Chief Clark noted that this was not something that was tested. He noted that the decontamination of firefighters on site and the bagging of clothing for cleaning would reduce the transmission of contaminants to the firefighter's personal vehicles or homes.

Wally Van Dun questioned whether the department undertook inspections of smaller commercial businesses in the fire area.

Deputy Chief Clark commented on a list of businesses which the department would be interested in updating.

Moved by Ross O'Hara

Seconded by Wally Van Dun

That the Chief's 2018 reported be accepted.

Carried.

D. Fire Apparatus proposed new ladder truck update

Chief Arns reported that the truck committee would start meeting again regarding the preparation of the specifications for the new ladder truck. The truck would require a 500 gallon water tank and a 100 foot ladder. He noted that a scoring system had been developed that would assist in the rating.

Chief Arns noted that the department would focus on the purchase of a demonstrator truck.

Judy Krall questioned whether the department planned to undertake fundraising for the truck purchase.

E. Training Center High Level Business Plan

Chief Arns reported that currently six different local departments had received training at the center. In the future open enrolment would take place with fees being charged to the participating departments.

Chief Arns noted that he would put in place a complete package on the operations at the site.

F. Other Business:

1. Personnel update

Chief Arns reported that one person on the department was moving from the area due to work commitments. One person was on extended leave due to a medical condition.

He noted that four new members had been brought into the department in December of 2018. He reported participation in a mentoring program with Fanshawe College.

Chief Arns reported that the department was organized in 4 platoons of 6 members.

2. Support Operations Response Team stipend

Chief Arns noted that 11 persons participated in the SORT group. He noted

that there was 1,000 hours of participation by the group in 2018 supporting the fire department. He requested that the committee consider providing a stipend to the members in the next budget.

3. 1925 fire truck

Chief Arns reported that the 1925 International Fire Truck had been moved back to the fire hall. He noted that this was the first motorized fire truck in the Town of Petrolia. A search is underway to find parts for the truck to make it operational.

Chief Arns reported that tenders had been advertised for the supply of new SCBA. Tenders would be opened at Victoria Hall on March 14 2019 at noon.

Ross O'Hara requested information on a fire fighter who had fell through the floor of a house on Garden Crescent during a recent fire.

Chief Arns reported that the firefighter with three others had entered the house. The floor had given way with the firefighter supporting himself with his arms on the main floor. The firefighter released his support and fell about a foot to the basement. Chief Arns reported that the Rapid Intervention Team entered the house and placed a ladder in the floor hole after which the fire fighter climbed out. He noted that the firefighter was checked by the ambulance crew on scene and taken to CEE Hospital for evaluation and was eventually released.

Chief Arns reported on a second house fire on Parkside where there was smoke damage.

He noted that in both cases the fire department members on site worked well.

Chief Arns reported that there were currently 33 members in the fire department.

G. Adjournment

Moved by Ross O'Hara
Seconded by Wally Van Dun
That the meeting be adjourned.
Carried.

Chair

Secretary