

Board of Firewards – Town of New London Meeting Minutes – October 17, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 4:31pm with the following board members in attendance: Pete Lauridsen, John Ryan, Doug Lyons, and Steve Ensign. Also in attendance were Fire Chief Jason Lyon, guest Bill Degnan and Clerk Kyla Pillsbury. Upon recommendation by Steve Ensign, a motion was made passed unanimously to approve and accept the minutes of the September 12th meeting were approved as posted.

Agenda items:

- General Updates and Activities-
 - Year to date NLFD is at 651 calls. It seems that May and March are the slowest months statistically, beyond that months are upwards of 70 calls. There is a variety of call types, fire alarms, medicals, MVAs, and mutual aid. Ambulances are auto dispatched for calls where potential patients could exist, including fires.
 - 10/14 there was a call and it was mapping wrong for some on Active 911. The dispatch information that was communicated on the pagers was correct and when looking into more details, it appeared correct on Active 911 for Chief Lyon. Technology is great, but it has limitations and is reliant on what is input and clarity of road names!
- Recent Inspection Results-
 - Mike has been working with the Pleasant Lake Inn and New London Inn to bring things up to code. Pleasant Lake Inn has sold and the new owners are aware of the recent efforts and work so that they can implement a plan to get things up to code.
- Discussion of Current Budget Process
 - Selectman/Operating Budget 10/6- Chief Lyon was in attendance at this meeting. There was minimal discussion of the Fire Department budget.
 - Joint Meeting/Capital reserves 10/26
 - Budget Committee/Operating 12/14
- Board of Selectman Activity-
 - Nancy Rollins is on bereavement leave and the board shares their condolences with her.
- General Discussion
 - Halloween-10/30 4-6pm
 - Main Street will be shut down from Pleasant Street and Williams Street for this duration. Worth noting is that there is increased traffic on lower illuminated and more narrow streets during these times-safety should be observed.
 - A group will be present at the station to hand out candy as well as shutting down roads and diverting traffic. When main street is shut down it makes it challenging for members to get to the station if an emergency call were to come in.
 - With there being no statutory provisions for alternate position, it was suggested to put an ex-officio position in place. Steve Ensign is going to attempt to define what this type terminology and position would look like.

- Fire Prevention 'month'-the school has had significant COVID numbers. Preschool-5th grade is what has been concentrated on in the past. NLFD is looking at 10/26 to use the learning lab and will be watching a video as well as the interaction and familiarization with PPE demonstration. There will be a variety of demonstrations by grade.
- Mobile vaccination clinic van will likely be setting up at NLFD in the near future, it will be run independently, but the department will be supportive of their needs.
- Paynight dinner has been transitioned to a dinner around the election of Officers (April)- the goal is to have this April 12th at the Refinery. The paychecks will be distributed to members in December still.
- Bob Bowers had reached out to Chief Lyon in regards to the population density in town and what the impact to the fire department and personnel would be. There would certainly be an impact of the New London Place. This has been approved by the Planning Board at this time – 2 larger buildings and approximately 9 cottages are included for this location now. It was noted that there are already locations in town where there are higher call volumes and the thought is that this will be the case at this location-DPW, Water Department, Sewer department, EMS, Police, and Fire will be impacted by this development. The development on the Crisenti property is still seemingly moving forward as well.
- Other Business
 - No executive or non-public session (RSA 91-A:3) was held tonight.

Next meeting:

- The next meeting of the Board will be December 19th at 4:30pm.
- The meeting was adjourned at 5:24pm

Minutes Recorded By Kyla Pillsbury, Clerk.