

GRAND VALLEY AND DISTRICT FIRE BOARD

January 25, 2016

The Grand Valley and District Fire Board met Monday, January 25, 2016 at the Grand Valley Fire Hall at 7:15 p.m. for a regular meeting. Board members. Philip Rentsch (7:20 pm), Don MacIver, Tom Nevills, John Stirk, Jane Aultman and John Ince were present. Also in attendance were Secretary-Treasurer Susan Stone, and Chief Kevin McNeilly. Deputy Chiefs Dave Stevenson and Mike Agar also in attendance along with Firefighter Gord Driscoll.

1. Meeting called to Order

The meeting was called to order by Secretary-Treasurer at 7:15 p.m.

1.1 Appointment of Chair

John Stirk appointed Chair for 2016. Thanked Jane Aultman for her past 2 terms as Chair.

1.2 Appointment of Vice-Chair

John Ince appointed Vice-Chair for 2016.

2. Late Submissions

2.1 VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) added to the agenda.

3. Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved as amended.

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest with Reasons

Can be declared now or at any time during the meeting, with reasons. None declared at this time.

5. Adoption of Minutes – October 19, 2015; October 26, 2015 (Special Meeting)

Minutes adopted as circulated.

5.1 Business arising from the minutes – nothing at this time.

6. Unfinished Business

6.1 Training Facility – Update

Chief McNeilly reported that the facility is 90% complete and is usable, with just some interior walls and some exterior work to do. Also received another \$4,500 donation bringing the total amount of donations to \$17,000. Have spent all of the approved funds from the Emma Street property, in the amount of \$35,000 so total cost will be approximately \$50,000 which is significantly less than similar facilities elsewhere. Other area departments have shown interest in utilizing the facility. Chief McNeilly intending to put plaque of appreciation noting all the donors on the facility, but noted that they have not had a lot of press coverage to date.

7. Financials (at meeting)

7.1 Bills and Accounts

Motions passed with respect to 2015 and 2016 accounts.

7.2 Bank Account Information

Will be separate reserve created for Training Facility.

7.3 2016 Draft Budget

Draft budget discussed. Remuneration for firefighters increases at 3% annually, plus increase included for Chief (to be discussed in Closed Meeting). 911 dispatch services still required from Orangeville, but rate not changing for 2016. 15 Year Capital Plan provided. Secretary Treasurer wages to be removed from the budget, and only meeting and mileage to be paid, as the services are provided by the Township of East Garafraxa, which receives an annual amount of compensation accordingly.

7.3.1 Firefighter Benefits (per Association request)

Firefighter Gord Driscoll in attendance on behalf of the Association and indicated approximately half of the members do not have coverage as many are self-employed. Benefits would be based on Township rates. Board members questioned if there are other

scenarios and lesser coverages; if fulltime occupation is a factor and amount of risk that might be associated with that employment; whether members can join anytime or only on their anniversary date; can members opt out or is everyone in; could there be a shared contribution basis. Secretary-Treasurer to bring back a report with budget numbers for further consideration.

8. Grand Valley Fire Fighters Association Report

Firefighter Gord Driscoll reported on Association business, noting that they have recently purchased a trailer, and are in process of applying for not for profit status.

9. New Business

9.1 Fire Calls Summary Report

Received. Will be basis for apportionments for Operating Budget. False alarms questioned and whether cost can be recovered. Tariff of Fees Bylaws to be provided for next meeting.

9.2 Appreciation Night - Summary

Successful event once again.

9.3 Fire Department Establishing and Regulating Bylaw

Chief McNeilly indicated he would like to see a new bylaw, a draft of which was worked on last year. Matter deferred and will be brought back to a future meeting.

9.4 New Policies

9.4.1 Harassment in the Workplace

9.4.2 Health & Safety Policy for 2016

9.4.3 Social Media Policy

Chief McNeilly discussed various department policies, explaining that they are triggered on a complaint basis. Motion was passed to approve/adopt the 2016 Health and Safety Policy.

9.5 911 Centre moving to Sudbury

Impacts unknown at this time. Does not occur until June or July, 2016, but information package to be sent out in advance. However, it will be a "hub to hub" service wherein the call will go to Northern 911 then back to Orangeville; hence both dispatch services required.

9.6 Snow Plowing Contract

Proposal from Everlast to extend contract received and resolution passed. To be tendered again next Fall.

10. Added Items – per Late Submission Resolution

10.1 VOIP

Jane Aultman discussed VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) issues, noting that an Orillia resident called 911 for a carbon monoxide detector and was advised to call back in an hour if still an issue. Land line is also needed to identify location but many residents these days do not have land lines. Chief McNeilly noted that they need a backup number since 911 service drops calls. Meeting with County Emergency Management Coordinator, Steve Murphy suggested.

10.2 Chief McNeilly discussed WSIB Claim approval for former firefighter approved, noting that lung cancer for firefighters now recognized.

10.2 Issues with radio system and interference, which may be result of cell towers, discussed. Chief to follow up with Industry Canada.

10.3 U.S. dollar impacting vehicle purchases discussed. Chief to provide contingency amount for budget.

10.4 Chief McNeilly noted that he has made arrangements with Orangeville for fire prevention services, which he has been doing, but cannot continue to do so. However, there are FPPA requirements that the FP Officer must be a member of the department so needs to be investigated further, including WSIB implications, and need for a GVFD uniform

11. Closed Meeting

11.1 Personal matters about identifiable individual(s), including municipal or local board employees/labour relations or employee negotiations.

11.2 October/15 and October 26/15 Closed Meeting Minutes

Closed Meeting held from 8:50 p.m. until 9:35 p.m. and staff instructed accordingly.

12. Confirming Resolution and Adjournment

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting to be February 29, 2016 at 7:15 p.m. or at call of the Chair.

The following resolutions were passed:

MOVED BY J. INCE, SECONDED BY J. AULTMAN

THAT John Stirk be appointed Chair of the Grand Valley and District Fire Board for 2016. **CARRIED.**

MOVED BY D. MACIVER, SECONDED BY J. AULTMAN

THAT John Ince be appointed as Vice Chair of the Grand Valley and District Fire Board for 2016. **CARRIED.**

MOVED BY J. AULTMAN, SECONDED BY J. INCE

THAT the following items be added to the agenda:

- VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol). **CARRIED.**

MOVED BY J. INCE, SECONDED BY D. MACIVER

THAT the agenda be approved as amended. **CARRIED.**

MOVED BY T. NEVILLS, SECONDED BY J. AULTMAN

THAT the minutes of the October 19, 2015 regular meeting and October 26, 2015 special meeting of the Grand Valley and District Fire Board be adopted as circulated. **CARRIED.**

MOVED BY T. NEVILLS, SECONDED BY P. RENTSCH

THAT the Bills and Accounts for 2015 from October 19, 2015 to January 22, 2016 in the amount of \$187,083.03 be approved and paid from the General Account. **CARRIED.**

MOVED BY D. MACIVER, SECONDED BY J. INCE

THAT Bills and Accounts for 2016 from January 11, 2016 to January 15, 2016 in the amount of \$3,176.72 be approved and paid from the General Account. **CARRIED.**

MOVED BY P. RENTSCH, SECONDED BY T. NEVILLS

THAT the Board approve and adopt the 2016 Health and Safety Policy Statement for the Grand Valley and District Fire Department. **CARRIED.**

MOVED BY J. INCE, SECONDED BY D. MACIVER

THAT the Board accept Proposal from Everlast Landscapes for winter maintenance at the fire department for 2016 in the amount of \$1,900.00/month or \$7,600 for season plus HST. **CARRIED.**

MOVED BY T. NEVILLS, SECONDED BY P. RENTSCH

THAT the Board will now go into Closed Meeting for the following reasons: personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; labour relations or employee negotiations. **CARRIED.**

MOVED BY J. INCE, SECONDED BY D. MACIVER

THAT the Board will now rise from Closed Meeting and resume regular business. **CARRIED.**


MOVED BY P. RENTSCH, SECONDED BY T.NEVILLS

THAT all actions of the Board Members and Officers of the Grand Valley & District Fire Board, with respect to every matter addressed and/or adopted by the Board at the January 25, 2016 regular meeting are hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed;

AND THAT each motion, resolution and other actions taken by the Board Members and/or Officers at the regular meeting held on January 25, 2016 are hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed. **CARRIED.**

MOVED BY T. NEVILLS, SECONDED BY P. RENTSCH

THAT the Board adjourn to meet again February 29, 2016 at 7:15 p.m. or at the call of the Chairperson. **CARRIED.**



CHAIR



SECRETARY