

## Firewards 9/18/25

Present: Josh Trow, Matt Gross, Jake Paris, Chief Tillson  
Public: Tim White, Shannon Martinez, Steve Marshall

Open 6:31pm

Amend previous minutes - Jake Paris was present.

### Budget

Are we wanting to move full-time chief?

Is it worth it if there's no appetite?

There might be more than previously?

Our mission is to independently determine need, not just what people "like"

We are taking advantage of the current and past folks on time anyway

What do we care the most about? Admin? Calls?

If we stop talking about a full-time chief, it will never happen

The need is here

It's not just a chief though, you need the backing for that person

Are we forcing a roadmap of full-time? Per-diem?

The town is getting older - what are we doing about that?

Fire prevention & inspections - how many fires have we prevented?

Inspections take more time - once you find issues, now there's more follow-

up

More knowledge necessary as well to support that

Chiefs have jobs they have to do by RSA, regardless of what we want them to

do

Move forward with chief article for now, review and revisit

make sure it's not on Ted's plate to push that - it's the Firewards/

### Selectboard

Keep adding to the capital reserves as well - we can't stop that

We should be marketing it all, put a face behind it not just a "letter to the editor", etc

What is 19k for "PROP SERV" in proposed budget?

Advocate for keeping 1 per-diem M-F

The 'baseline' for this year should include the 2-24/7 per-diem article \$

### Calls

Nothing to bring up

## Meetings

Had meetings with Sunapee Cove staff & residents in August  
meet & greets, went well  
recent fire in MA raised their concerns  
work on pre-plan, short-staffed in evening

Quarterly meetings with local fire chiefs

Peer review - try to attend, but can't make many with current schedule

Prospect Hill development - had concerns about access for trucks

Meeting with "Craig," wanted info on trucks to be sure it fits his driveway

Should there be more requirements on this for general driveways?

Can we host a community CPR class?

Again, need time - but it could be a standing thing

Walk-ins are increasing

2 recent ones - one custody exchange that devolved, one actual medical

issue

Can we put together a pamphlet or whatever?

Calls as well, not just physically coming in

Monthly department head & highway safety meetings chief is attending

Budget season has arrived!

## School

Relationship is still positive, good interaction with head custodian

Tim went to Elementary school drill, took a few notes back that we followed

up on

Per-diems aren't just here to take active calls!

## Repeater/Radios

Bernie coming next week to program remaining radios

Still have some holes from dispatch towers, TBD

Radio shack is still on Bell's land, to discuss Tuesday

## Personnel

waited to finalize officers, then reach out to the 2 applicants

Matt Pollari was promoted to Asst Chief

Tim White promoted to Lieutenant

There is no effective difference between Asst and Deputy, so we will continue as Asst for now

## Goals for Department

Next meeting

Like to see appropriate responses, no missed calls, etc

Department can take those and make guiding goals from there

Renaming/re-branding, to better rep what we do?

## Vehicles

Car needed 3k in parts to just keep it on the road

It is rotting away - won't get more than a year most likely

We are on the road 1.7 times/day - 35% of that is the car

Remainder of inspections went fine, still pending 3 trucks

What is the short-term plan for when the explorer dies?

Maybe October on new engine?

Next meeting October 16th

Adjourned 8:05pm