

SELECTBOARD MEETING
Approved Minutes

October 16, 2014

7:00pm EMFD Station 2

**JOINT MEETING OF THE CALAIS SELECTBOARD, EAST MONTPELIER SELECTBOARD and
EMFD BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Quarterly Financial Review

Attending: Calais Selectboard Members: Denise Wheeler and Rose Pelchuck; East Montpelier Selectboard Members: Carl Etiner; EMFD Board Members: Ty Rolland, Chief, Bill Amell, President, Greg Pelchuck, Vice President, Kim Ingraham, Treasurer, and Albert Petrella, Board Member; and Bruce Johnson, East Montpelier Town Administrator and Don Welch, East Montpelier Town Treasurer.

Denise Wheeler noted the Calais Selectboard is lacking a quorum; therefore this continued meeting would be adjourned at a later date when a quorum can vote to adjourn.

Ty Rolland welcomed everyone and provided agendas. It was agreed the Selectboards and EMFD would meet on December 4, 2014 to review and discuss the updated EMFD Capital Plan, then bring it back to their respective Selectboard meetings for approval. There will not be a Quarterly Financial Review meeting in January 2015.

Building Repair Capital Budget – Toby Talbot, EMFD Building Officer & Calais Selectboard Member, and Don Welch, East Montpelier Town Treasurer, developed a plan to pay for major repairs of the EMFD Emergency Services Facility for the long term. This fund will be used for major capital repairs items and \$12,000.00 will need to go into this fund each year. Ty Rolland reported EMFD would contribute \$4,000.00 annually. Calais and East Montpelier will determine each town's cost share of the balance.

October Fire Prevention Month – Ty reported annual fire prevention programs have been happening at the local schools and one daycare.

School Safety Plans – EMFD has been meeting with local school officials to review safety plans. Our local schools don't have buses on site in the event an evacuation is necessary. Accountability of the kids is another area of concern.

U-32 is launching an after school program for 7th and 8th graders, which includes introducing kids to emergency services. EMFD will be part of this initiative and Ty Rolland believes this is a great opportunity for the kids to learn and become interested in emergency services.

New defibrillator is here and has already been used.

New tanker loan has been approved.

Fire school at Twinfield School – we are sending five members from EMFD; water supply and flashover trailer training.

Exterior Building Painting - Ty reported some exterior paint is peeling near the building lettering and will be repaired in the springtime. Ty spoke about the importance of keeping up with the exterior paint surfaces.

EMFD's 50th Anniversary Celebration on August 16, 2014 was very successful. Ty Rolland presented both Calais and East Montpelier with two copies each of the EMFD Commemorative Books printed for the occasion. Ty suggested having one on display in each town and archiving the other copy.

Kim Ingraham, EMFD Treasurer, provided the Treasurer's Report. The first quarter for FY 2015 numbers were reviewed and discussed.

Call Volume Data – Ty Rolland reviewed the call volume data for the 2014 calendar year thus far. There were 67 calls in Calais and 277 in East Montpelier, which included 96 burn permits. Ty Rolland spoke about air quality issues for burning logs and stumps. Denise Wheeler inquired how the 911 calls to Calais are responded to. Ty explained that EMFD and Woodbury Fire Department are toned out for all fire calls in Calais. Denise would like to know if the call volume numbers from Woodbury would match the list from EMFD. Ty advised Denise to find out the total number of calls Woodbury Fire Department gets called to and the total number of calls they respond to.

Dry Hydrant – Ty Rolland recently met with AOT regarding the Route 14 bridge design in East Montpelier Village, which Ty hopes will include something that will enable the department to pump water from the river in the event of an emergency. Ty said the design might include a platform off the side of the bridge that would allow the pipes and necessary connections.

Communication Grant for \$8,500.00 was awarded for repeaters near Station 1 on Templeton Road. This will enhance radio communication and may also benefit the East Montpelier Town Highway Department.

Paramedic Service - EMFD is looking at changing to a paramedic level of service when paramedics are on staff. This will provide a higher level of service; licensing isn't more expensive. Ty Rolland said it is a positive move forward. There are grants available through the Vermont Department of Labor to educate someone to a higher level. EMFD is currently in the application process and has the support of Dr. Daniel Wilson, Medical Director of the local EMS District 6 Board and support from the EMS Board as well.

Volunteer Sustainability Planning – EMFD will be meeting with State Representatives, Janet Ancel and Tony Klein, to come up with a state initiative for volunteer firefighters and EMS workers to create some program that gives some incentive to those who volunteer in this line of work. Rose Pelchuck inquired if Ty Rolland knew of any programs in other states that have incentive programs. Ty Rolland tasked the Selectboards to think of any incentive on the local level that could be given to volunteer firefighters and EMS workers in hopes to encourage more volunteers to serve.

Holiday Gift Baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas – the annual plans are underway Ty reported.

EMFD Safe Haven Policy – Ty Rolland reported a recent incident made EMFD realize they needed to look at their Safe Haven Policy. The babies' drop off at the fire station policy has been in effect for a number of years. EMFD is grappling with how to figure out the best way to handle a different interpretation of the Safe Haven Policy. Ty went on to say that public safety in time of need and safety of EMFD staff/volunteers are the two primary issues that need to be determined; what EMFD sees are the scenarios to provide the best care they can.

Denise Wheeler asked about fireworks permits since Calais has had a problem with ongoing fireworks use this summer, especially in the Maple Corner area. Ty Rolland said EMFD will not publicly release the names of those who do have a fireworks permit. Ty said if somebody has an issue with fireworks, they should call the Town Constable for enforcement (then VSP).

Next meeting is December 4, 2014 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rose Pelchuck
Calais Selectboard Member

Note: On October 17, 2014 via conference call between Denise Wheeler, Rose Pelchuck and Scott Bassage, Scott Bassage made a motion to adjourn the continued meeting. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried.