

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
MINUTES

Date: January 30, 2018
Time: 7:00pm
Place: Town Hall
Egremont

Present at the table were Chairman Turner, Vice-Chairman McGurn, Selectman Brazie. Also present were Finance Committee members Laura Allen and Stephen Rawlings, and for part of the meeting Fire Chief Joe Schneider.

The Board discussed the Fire Department's request for a new rescue truck with Fire Chief Joe Schneider. The estimated cost is \$200,000. The current rescue truck is a 2008 that was purchased by the fire department but is actually a converted plumbing truck paid for by the Fire Corporation not the town and has less than 10,000 miles on. The rescue truck responds to all calls and carries medical equipment; rope, water and ice rescue equipment; and brush fire fighting equipment. The truck is not efficient and the department has outgrown its usefulness. The Corporation plans to keep the current vehicle and convert it to a brush truck and use it to tow the trailer that houses the all-terrain vehicle. The new vehicle proposed is a standard body with a customized back. It should last 25 years. This will be a special article and the funds will likely be borrowed.

Joe also explained that in about 2 years the Department will be asking to replace a 30 year old truck. The Department is looking at a "mini-pumper" for access to homes that the larger trucks cannot get to. The "mini-pumper" technology of today is equivalent to a 1500 gal per minute pumper/tanker. The approximate cost is \$300,000.

Joe also noted that ambulance service is becoming an issue in the area. Just today there was a need in Egremont and no ambulance was available to respond.

Joe also explained that the stipend paid to fire members is now calculated using a point system based on the number of meetings, calls and drills that members attend.

The board approved the following budget requests:

Zoning Board of Appeals	\$100.00
Inspector Expenses	\$2,780.00
Selectmen's Expenses	\$11,400.00
Sustainability Coordinator Expenses	\$350.00
Agricultural Commission	\$100.00
Registered Design Professional	\$4,450.00
Sick Leave Buyback	\$5,000.00
GIS Program	\$4,300.00
Legal Expenses	\$2,000.00
Litigation	\$5,000.00
Town Telephone	\$9,600.00
Dispatch Facility	\$10,626.00
Interest Short-term Debt	\$10,000.00

The board approved the following for special articles:
Color Copier \$10,000.00

Budgets held for further information:
Police Department

The Board discussed the acceptance of MGL Chapter 32, Section 85H ½ in regards to paying a pension to call/volunteer firefighters who are disabled in the line of duty. The Board would like legal counsels opinion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27pm

Mary Brazie,
Office Administrator

minutes.18/jan30

The recording of the minutes is on record at the Town Hall for 90 days. Anyone who wishes to may obtain a copy or listen to the recording at Town Hall. Attachments are on file at Town Hall.