

MINUTES
of
Board of Trustee Meeting
WHITEFISH FIRE SERVICE AREA

November 16, 2016
Whitefish Fire Department South Station

CALL TO ORDER

On November 16, 2016, 7:00 PM, Chairman Bert May called the Meeting to order. Present were, Treasurer Doug Loy; Secretary Bill La Brie and Board Member Mark Carlson. Vice-Chairman Ed Lieser was absent.

The Board Meeting Minutes for October 19, 2016 were reviewed. The minutes were unanimously approved. The Minutes will be forwarded to the Flathead Election Administrator for their records.

Chairman May discussed the recent paving of the parking lot. Many of the Firefighters have indicated that the drive-way entrance should be expanded on the West side of the Entrance to accommodate the turning radius of the large Fire Engines. Chairman May reported that T-Bend had been contacted and the problem had been corrected.

Mark Carlson indicated that he would bring his fork-lift over to the Station this week-end and move the concrete ties that are utilized for barricades in the parking area, after further consideration, it was decided that the barricades would not be put in place until Spring in order to accommodate Roger Bergstrom when he plows snow. It was decided that the edge of the parking area be marked with fiber glass poles to assist marking the snow plowing area near the Office.

Chairman May reported that he has had phone calls regarding property fees from the Ray Family who wants to DE-annex an acre of land from the WFSA and change it to the Columbia Falls Fire District, and the Baker Family who wants an abatement because they claim the house trailer on the property is only used for storage. Chairman May and La Brie will meet with the Flathead County DOR regarding this issue. Mark Carlson has also talked to County Commissioner Phil Mitchell who indicated that he is going to look into the situation.

Treasurer Loy reported that all outstanding bills have been paid. The WFSA is financially sound with adequate money to pay the next Fire Contract payment with the City of Whitefish. Treasurer Loy also pointed out the fact that on the October 2016 Checking Account Notice from the County, \$144.00 was deducted from the WFSA Checking Account on 10-31-2016. The only explanation on the form was "FCT-Flathead County Trea.--Abate 2016 RE TAXES TAX Revenue R.E. Taxes". This withdrawal was done without any prior notice or explanation from the County to the WFSA Board.

All Board Members present were very concerned about the reason for this withdrawal and the manner in which it was done.

Retired Whitefish Firefighter Rollin Harwood who lives in the WFSA submitted a request to have his WFSA Property Fees returned as has been historically the procedure for many years. The Board voted unanimously to return his fees.

It was decided that since several of the Board Members will be Out of State on Christmas Vacation at the time of the next scheduled WFSA Monthly Meeting, (December 21st) the Board elected to cancel the December 2016 Board Meeting. Any emergency issues that arise can be handled via telephone and those Board Members remaining in Whitefish.

The next schedule Board Meeting will be January 18, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

William J. La Brie, Secretary