

Elmwood Fire Department Joint Board of Management
September 30th, 2020
7:00 p.m.
Elmwood Fire Hall

Present: Steve Adams Brockton Representative
Rebecca Hergert West Grey Representative
Dean Leifso Brockton Representative
Tom Hutchinson West Grey Representative

Staff: Wayne McLeod Deputy Fire Chief
Alf Brenndorfer Captain
Kerri Mighton Recording Secretary

Regrets: Michael Murphy Fire Chief

Chair Steve Adams called the meeting to order.

1. There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.
2. There were no declarations of pecuniary and/or conflict of interest.
3. The February 19, 2020 minutes were reviewed.

Leifso/Hergert – That the minutes from February 19th, 2020 are approved as presented. #05-20

Carried.

4. Voucher #02-2020 in the amount of \$117,846.46 were reviewed. The Year to Date 2020 Budget was also provided for information.

Hergert/Hutchinson – That Voucher #02-2020 in the amount of \$117,846.46 be approved. #06-20

Carried.

5. The Elmwood Fire Board Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2019 and dated September 29, 2020 were reviewed.

Hutchinson/Leifso – That the Elmwood Fire Department Joint Board of Management hereby accepts the Elmwood Fire Department Financial Statements for the year ending December 31st, 2019 as prepared by BDO Canada LLP. #07-20

Carried.

6. There was no report from the Fire Chief.

7. The Deputy Chief reported that the department responded to 17 incidents from February to September, 2020. It was noted that, compared to last year at this time, the call volume is significantly lower which may be attributable in part to COVID-19. Protocols have been put in place for cleaning after each service call-out. The department participated in Hanover's tanker re-certification and West Grey's tanker re-certification. The Elmwood Fire Department will receive its accreditation under West Grey's re-certification. This accreditation may provide lower insurance rates for residents in the Elmwood Fire Service Area.

The Chamber of Commerce has inquired if they would be able to begin using the meeting room at the Elmwood Fire Hall for their regular meetings. It was noted that all health unit protocols, such as additional cleaning, limitations on numbers, etc. would need to be adhered to if the Chamber is permitted to begin using the facility again.

Leifso/Hutchinson – That the Elmwood Chamber of Commerce be permitted to use the Elmwood Fire Hall meeting room on a three month trial basis, free of charge and following all public health protocols.

8. Other Business

The Deputy Chief provided an update on training being completed since the COVID pandemic. Some online training was completed initially, however there are issues with rural internet access which can be challenging. Various outdoor training has been taking place such as hose testing. The training structure has been completed and has also been utilized. The department plans to resume indoor training in October. If public health guidelines change then it may be necessary to split into two groups for training, however this would result in additional costs.

Discussions ensued on the continuation of leadership with the retirement of Fire Chief Mike Murphy.

Leifso/Hergert – That the Elmwood Fire Department Joint Board of Management recommends current Deputy Chief Wayne McLeod be appointed as Interim Fire Chief for the Elmwood Fire Department until a new Fire Chief is hired by Brockton. #08-20

Carried.

The pond dredging is complete and the firefighters will be completing a tanker shuttle training exercise at the dry hydrant at the Elmwood Community Centre pond.

Discussions ensued on the Long Service Awards and it was the consensus that the 2020 Service Awards be deferred to next year due to COVID. The firefighters will be advised that the Awards will be combined with next year's presentations. All of the hard work and dedication of the volunteer firefighters is greatly appreciated by the Joint Fire Board and the community.

9. Next meeting date:
Oct. 28, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. (budget)

Leifso/Hergert – That all business being concluded the meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.
#09-20

Carried.

Kerri Mighton, Secretary