

Fire Advisory Committee
August 22, 2019
7:00pm
Station 85 - East Thompson Fire Department

MEETING MINUTES

Committee Attendance:

Kim Austin, Chair
Steve Bodreau, Chief Quinebaug
Jeff Sheldon, Chief East Thompson
John Sharpe, Chief Community
Kyle Cimochoowski, Chief West Thompson
Matt Grauer, Chief Thompson Hill

Other Attendance:

2 firefighters
2 community members
Superintendent Melinda Smith

Absent:

Community Member Chair - Vacant

1. **Call to Order** - 19:02
2. **Approval of July Minutes** - Motion by Kyle Cimochoowski, Second by John Sharpe, No discussion, unanimously approved
3. **Update from July Meeting** -
 - a. Tax abatements - Ken has taken care of the two firefighters from Quinebaug. He is open to asking for a change in the ordinance but wanted the FAC to come up with some recommendations for verbage. The Chief's have requested a copy of the current ordinance and criteria. Kim will take care of this.
 - b. Mark Petrone is working on signing up the five fire chiefs for the Trident Software.
 - c. Board of Selectmen meeting from 8/20 went well. Chiefs are asked to forward any recommendations for volunteer of the year for Community Day. Also noted that Sat 8/24 there will be a race along the airline trail. East Thompson is taking that post and is prepared for the event. March 29, 2020 there will be a bicycle race starting and finishing at the speedway. It was mentioned that possibly the fire departments can host a breakfast for the riders and their families. This will be readdressed in the future.
 - d. Town contact - Ken is working on an email address for the FAC chair. The chiefs would like all correspondence to be sent to them directly if it involves operating concerns. Anything else can be sent to the FAC. He has also mentioned that

Mae Flexer is working on getting a bond approved for the community fire department's building.

4. **Board of Finance Meeting Review - Community** - Meeting went well. John Sharpe is going to come up with a blurb to describe where we are in the process and it will be posted to the website.
5. **School Brainstorm** - Superintendent Melinda Smith discussed what a portrait of a graduate is and asked for feedback on what the chiefs would like to see in Thompson High School graduates. It was discussed that EMR is a 1 semester credit that is taken during the summer. It was mentioned to review Woodstock Academy's Fire program and mimic a cadet or junior exposure/exploration program at Thompson. Melinda Smith would like to do another Mock car crash in may, career day in October, and a presentation with the five departments sometime in November. It was also addressed that having a volunteer requirement as part of a senior project is in the works but is not currently a requirement.
6. **Child Focused Emergency Response Training** - this is tabled until further notice
7. **Community Day - October 5th** - Kim is going to purchase hats, tattoos, and balloons for the event. The chiefs have stated that they are getting calls confirming their participation. They are also concerned about their placement on the field and not hearing announcements. The departments will present together and will perform a car extraction around 2pm.
8. **Other Concerns and Comments**
 - a. Christine Chatelle has asked to fill the vacant seat for a member from the community. A question and answer session took place. Her request was accepted and she was instructed to fill out an application and bring it to the Selectman's office to be appointed at their next meeting.
 - b. Next FAC meeting will be on Thursday September 19th at 7pm at Community FD.
 - c. Thursday September 19 at 7pm the board of finance meeting will take place at the library. This will be to discuss "The Woodstock Model"
9. **Adjourn** - Motion by Kyle Cimochoowski at 20:51, second by Steve Bodreau, No discussion, unanimously approved.