

**DALTON
FIRE
DISTRICT**

(413) 684-6118 Treasurer
(413) 684-6124 Water
(413) 684-0500 Fire
(413) 684-6126 Fax

20 FLANSBURG AVENUE
DALTON, MA. 01226

DALTON FIRE DISTRICT MEETING POSTING
20 FLANSBURG AVENUE
THE BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS WILL HOLD THEIR MONTHLY MEETING ON
TUESDAY, JULY 30, 2024 AT 6:30 PM IN THE FIRE STATION.

AGENDA

** This meeting is being audio recorded for minutes only audio will be deleted once minutes are approved. **

1. General Business

- Approval of minutes
 - June 25, 2024
 - July 2, 2024
- New England Woodland Management – Bid Package Approval

2. Fire/Ambulance Report

- Hill Engineers - Hill Engineer's (Jeff Noble) working on different plan designs for the office space, radio room, bathrooms, living quarters, etc for the fire department functional areas in the station house. Anticipate drawing in September for review.
- Job Descriptions - Essential Job Descriptions of qualifications, experience, etc for Fire Chief, Lieutenant, and Firefighter. Still working on considerations for the Job Descriptions of Assistant Chief, Deputy Chief, and Compliance Captain.
- Employee Handbook - Updated pages pertaining to "Employment At-Will," and Vacation requests.
- District Policies - 109 Non-Denominational Chaplain, and 110 Tobacco
- Berkshire Regional Planning Commission - Coordinating start dates as the assessors will need access to Fire Department and Water Department Facilities, and personnel.
- North Collier Ladder Truck - Working closely with Fire Chief Eloy Ricardo of North Collier Fire District, Naples, Florida, on the acquisition of a Ladder Truck, 1998 Pierce Quantum, 105ft Ladder, 1,500 GPM pump, all service records, and certifications, etc.
- MA AGO Fair Labor Division - Received guidance from the Massachusetts Attorney General Office regarding hours and wages, planning on following the guidance to ensure all employees are treated fairly and compensated fairly under Massachusetts and Federal wage and hour provisions.
- MA AGO Safety and Health - Requested an on-site consultation to provide the Fire Department a comprehensive look at safety considerations of the fire house and employees. What policies and procedures are needed, workplace safety and health hazards, and recommended control measures, etc.
- Western Massachusetts Emergency Medical Services - Coordinating meetings with representatives of the Western MA EMS to discuss ongoing dispatch protocols between Dalton Fire Department and surrounding communities (towns). Surrounding EMS services are not following Massachusetts Regulations in the dispatch and timely care of 911 parties.
- Dalton Fire Department Community Meeting Group - Citizens working together, coming together, with their various experience and expertise to help solve, address, and plot a course of Emergency Service (Fire & EMS) direction for the future of Dalton community. Topics include, but not limited to:

Additional staffing, pilot EMS transport program, Compliance Officer, Ladder Truck, additional ambulance, future fire station/emergency service regional center, public information, Pre-School, Elementary, Middle, and High School Coordination, etc.

- Fire Equipment - Newly purchased firefighting gear is arriving, it is Gold/Tan, not what I recall in ordering. However, before any immediate decisions are made I wish to work with the vendor, firefighters, etc to determine what is the best course. Wildland firefighter gear should be arriving any day, I was notified it has shipped, the Wildland firefighting gear was purchased by the Town. Nozzles and other appliances were ordered, not sure of their arrival dates, these were recommended to simply firefighting operations. The plan is to address one apparatus at a time to make the equipment and deployable resources simple, effective, and easy to use in a fire or other emergency. Portable radios have been ordered, and an apparatus mounted radio system.
- Massachusetts FireFighting Academy - Three (3) employees are signing up for the Academy in October.
- SAFE and Senior SAFE - monies have been returned to the State. This should bring the District into compliance for future funding.
- September Warrant Meeting - I believe with all the different gears turning towards the future, that we the Fire Department need to have a community meeting to discuss, support, and invest in the future Emergency Services of Dalton. The use of ambulance user fees would center discussions in funding without adversely affecting, and providing an undue burden, on the people of Dalton. Emergency services in Dalton can be, and will be a delivery service model to community safety, from the students' classroom to the living room of all Dalton residents. That is what I know we are capable of.

3. Water Department Report

- Report at Meeting.

4. Administration Report

- Appoint Melanie Roucoulet as District Treasurer.
- Appoint Melanie Roucoulet as District Clerk.
- New Accounting Software.
- FY23 Financials from auditors.
- FY24 Financials.
- Shut Off Notices
- Purchasing Policies.
- Website Policies.

Posted by: Melanie Roucoulet
07/25/2024