

BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION

MEETING MINUTES

May 10, 2010

Chief Citarella called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The following were in attendance: Bureau Chief Efreem Citarella, Fire Deputies Al Vigliotti and George Wahlers, and Somers Fire Chief John Meeker.

MINUTES

Mr. Vigliotti made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 12, 2010 meeting as submitted. Mr. Wahlers seconded the motion. All were in favor.

SUBMISSIONS

There were no submissions this evening.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Somers Fire Chief John Meeker reported on the following:

District Elections - The Fire District is currently in between a Chief, 1st Assistant Chief and 2nd Assistant Chief until an election situation is resolved. It was supposed to be John Meeker, Mike Cyrulik and Irwin Schriro respectively, but is now John Meeker, George Wahlers and Mike Cyrulik respectively.

Automatic Fire Alarm Calls - An automatic alarm was responded to at 108 Lake Road. A neighbor on Louis Drive greeted the firefighters. Neither resident had a Fire Alarm Permit. Applications were issued.

There was also another call off Lovell Street. The homeowner has two property fronts, Dayton Drive and Wade Farm Road. It was a bit confusing when the call came in. A note was made in the Dispatch Office for future reference.

Knox Boxes - Mr. Meeker has completed the knox box project. A lot of the businesses have new owners and many keys are missing from the knox boxes. A copy of the report was left for Mr. Premuroso, so that he and Mr. Meeker can determine a procedure in which to obtain the missing keys.

DEPUTIES REPORT

Deputy Vigliotti reported on the following:

Somers Sport and Fitness - The upstairs staircase in the building has to be fire rated. Mr. Citarella did a field inspection. They will take care of the staircase situation and will also be installing an exterior exit on the second floor.

Hydrant in the Business Historic Preservation District - In August, information was forwarded by the Town Engineer regarding grants available for this type of project. Mr. Vigliotti believes it is the Town's responsibility to research the grant since the Bureau is not knowledgeable in writing grants. In February, March and April, memos were sent expressing this sentiment. To date, a response has not been received. Another memo will be sent kindly requesting an update from the Town Board.

Deputy Wahler's concerns were addressed under Old Business.

FIRE INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Fire Inspector Premuroso was absent, but did provide Mrs. Schirmer with a report for items under Old Business.

OLD BUSINESS

School District - School District and Fire Department representatives met to discuss some issues. New Knox boxes have been installed and the keys are in the boxes. The Knox boxes are located at the new entrance to the Somers Middle School, and at the gate to the fields and the new bus garage at the High School. The striping has been completed, but a determination has to be made as to whether or not posting "no parking" signs in the bus drop-off circle at the Somers Intermediate and Middle Schools will be in the way of the children exiting the buses. There has not been an update on the ruling of ticketing illegally parked cars, as it has to go before the School Board.

Properties with Multi Dwellings - There are a few properties in Town with multi dwellings. There has been past concern over numbering and signage of the buildings on these properties, as it relates to a fire or medical call.

Mr. Premuroso met with Barry Daniels who oversees the maintenance of all the buildings at the Schwartz's Horse Farm. All eighteen buildings have been identified on a Google Map of the property. Signs still have to be made and installed on the buildings, as well as their four gates. Mr. Premuroso and Mr. Meeker will continue to work on this project. It was also suggested that a Google map be obtained for Stuart's Farm and the Amawalk Farm on Wood Street, and procedures be the same for those properties.

Mr. Citarella and Mr. Premuroso will make a site visit to the Tennis Academy on Orchard Hill Road. Their signs have to be hung higher.

Truss Construction Identification - Signs have been made and received for the Granite Springs Realty building (day care center), the North County building (still under construction) and the sewer plant at Lincoln Hall. All agreed that the signs should be placed to the right of the main entrance. If there is a controversy as to which entrance is actually the main entrance, a second sign can be issued. Mr. Premuroso will give the signs to the owners of the buildings and ask them to hang them. Mr. Meeker asked that as the signs get posted, he be provided with the address and location of the signs so the Dispatch Office can be notified.

1 Maple Avenue - The Fire Department responded to a call at 1 Maple Avenue. They had some equipment and a minimal amount of gas cans being stored on the property. Mr. Premuroso ordered flammable materials stickers. Mr. Wahlers will make arrangements with Mr. Premuroso to conduct a site visit.

Lovell Street - There has been an ongoing problem on Lovell Street in the area of Lakeshore Drive North and South with brush fires. It is believed that the wires throw off sparks on a windy day, which is starting the brush fires. Some of the plastic sheathing on the wires is missing. A letter was sent to New York State Gas and Electric about this situation, with a copy to the owner of the property. Mr. Citarella has been playing a continual game of telephone tag with NYSE&G representative.

Heritage 202 Center - The water flow alarm continually goes off at the Heritage 202 Center and upon arrival, the Fire Department determines that there is no problem. Mr. Premuroso will speak to Bobby Cox of the Heritage Hills Water District regarding this problem.

Fire Alarm Permit Stickers - Mr. Premuroso has secured prices from a company in California for fire alarm stickers. The minimum order is 500 and the cost is \$.67 each, plus shipping and handling for a 3 inch, reflective sticker. He has to submit a drawing first to start the process.

Fire Alarm Permits - It was reported by the Fire Department, that there were thirty one residents that had an unregistered fire alarm system, which is against Town Code. All had been sent a letter on two different occasions regarding the situation. They were given 30 days in which to respond by submitting a provided Fire Alarm Permit Application. No one responded. On April 7, a third violation letter was sent out, by both certified return receipt and regular mail, informing all that they will be issued a court appearance ticket if they didn't respond within 5 days. Twenty have submitted a Permit, two never claimed the letter and nine claimed the letter, but didn't submit a Permit. Court order appearance tickets will now be issued. Mr. Premuroso and Mrs. Schirmer will work on getting this done.

Town Code – In 2007, Chapters 4, 26, 62, 98 and 116 of the Town Code were reviewed and changes made, and noted. Chapter 158 still has to be reviewed. Since the Town committee created to review the Town Code in its entirety has not met in quite some time, this item is not urgent. The Bureau will review Chapter 158 in the near future, and at that time, will address the following: fire lanes at commercial sites in Town, and deciding which chapter should include the topic of dry hydrants and fire hydrants, to include color coding of all fire hydrants. Once completed, all changes will be forwarded to the Town Board.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business this evening.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 14, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. in the Building Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary
Bureau of Fire Prevention

cc: Bureau of Fire Prevention
Town Board
Town Clerk
Planning & Engineering Department
Somers Fire District