

**TOWN OF WATERVILLE VALLEY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: August 17, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Mike Aronson, Margaret Turner, Vice Chair and Rich Rita (@ 10:32am).

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Decoteau, Chris Hodges and Sharon Charron.

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 p.m. by Mike Aronson.

2. Ladder Truck Update

Chris Hodges addresses the BOS and reviewed the timeline of the Ladder Truck Replacement relating to the CIP Plan. The truck was due to be replaced on the plan 6 years ago and has been pushed back. Repairs were made as needed over this time to keep the truck in compliance with the costs covered under the Ladder Truck Repair Capital Account. The CIP currently calls for the truck to be replaced in 2019. The truck failed the annual inspection in April, as well as the UL test which is a more stringent test than the annual test. The repairs needed are very costly to the extent that no one wants to undertake the job due to the availability of parts and the unknown additional repairs, which could occur when certain parts are removed to gain access to other areas. In April of 2018 the ladder truck went out of service due to these reasons. Chris has been looking for options to replace the truck and has followed some leads which were too good to be true, and thus not options worthy of consideration. Viable options for used trucks are in the \$500-700K range, which only come with a 1 year warranty, and they do not fit into the Fire House and building modifications and/or an additional bay will be needed as well to accommodate. A new truck is now about \$1.3 million. Chris contacted the E-One dealer to inquire if there were other options and they located a 2017 Demo Ladder Truck, which is covered by warranties and fits our current building, and has the additional equipment of ground ladders, generator, etc all included. He is currently negotiating a price and Chris is asking for guidance from the BOS. Discussion followed with the board concerning what the price limit. Mark added that he is working with DRA for the emergency appropriation, if the BOS is in agreement. The BOS has the authority to lease the truck now, and then go to Town Meeting in March 2019 for the approval to continue the lease and/or purchase. Chris estimated that the price would be in the \$825-900K range. There is the additional expense of \$3K for lettering which could come out of the current operating budget. Discussion of the board continued as to the impact of not replacing the truck. Those impacts would be the potential increase of insurance rates for homeowners, as well as the town's ISO rating, multi-structure buildings not adequately protected by Public Safety and increased risk to Public Safety Personnel having to use other methods of access and/or reach (ladders). The funding was also discussed as a 30 year bond, which was estimated at a cost of \$60K/year. Concern was expressed as how best to communicate the needs, benefits and costs to the voters when it is presented at Town Meeting in March, 2019. The board felt not enough people are aware that the present ladder truck has been out of service since its failed tests this past April. Chris stated that we could repair the current

truck for an estimated cost of \$100K but it will only last a year, or we could move forward with the lease of the demo 2017 Ladder Truck. Mark asked the BOS if they would like to see a meeting of the Ladder Truck Committee, comprised of WV residents and Public Safety members, so that the situation can be fully explained to them to assist in communicating to the public. The BOS felt that this would be beneficial to help in informing the public.

3. Other Business

Mark comments to the board about the concern of the school board of the availability of after school activities. The Shakespeare in the Valley is offering a program the 1st week of school and the Rey Center is rumored to be offering a one week program the following week.

4. Adjourn

Margaret Turner motions to adjourn the meeting at 10:35pm.

Richard Rita: 2nds.

Motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Charron

Town Clerk /Town Office Assistant