

Minutes of the East Montpelier Selectboard

December 5, 2013 Special Joint Meeting with the Calais Selectboard

SB Attendance: Chair Seth Gardner, Kim Swasey, Steve Sparrow, and Carl Etnier; Town Administrator Bruce Johnson

Calais SB Attendance: Chair Denise Wheeler, John Brabant, Scott Bassage, Toby Talbot, and Rose Pelchuck

EMFD Board Attendance: Chief Ty Rolland, Rick Barstow, Jon Boucher, Bill Amell, and Greg Pelchuck; EMFD Treasurer Jim Carrien

Public Attendance: Don Welch, Town Treasurer

Presentation of the Proposed FY2015 Ambulance & Emergency Services Budget by the East Montpelier Fire Department

The meeting was called to order by Chief Rolland at 7:10 p.m.

Chief Rolland broke the presentation down into five segments:

Timeline of Budget Presentation vs. Interlocal Agreement

Chief Rolland apologized for the failure to provide the required FY2015 materials to the Selectboards by the December 1, 2013 deadline contained in the emergency services agreement between the towns and the EMFD.

Audit Presentation

EMFD Treasurer Carrien provided copies of the FY2013 EMFD financial audit to the Selectboard chairs. The audit was positive with no listed material weaknesses. EMFD showed a net decrease in cash of \$94,774, mainly due to the remount of Ambulance Rescue 4.

Budget

The proposed FY2015 EMFD budget of \$355,975 is a 13.75% increase over the 4-year level-funded budget figure of \$312,939. After subtracting the revenue from the ambulance service contract with Plainfield, the expected contribution from the two towns is as follows:

East Montpelier	\$207,083.33	6.9% increase
Calais	\$103,541.67	28.7% increase

The Calais percentage increase is significantly larger due to the new cost allocation agreement between the towns – now all EMFD allocations follow a one-third Calais/two-thirds East Montpelier cost split, where previously the fire services split was 25% Calais/75% East Montpelier. Both Selectboard chairs expressed concern at the size of the budget increase. The boards will meet to discuss the EMFD budget request on December 9, 2013 at the Calais Town Office.

Capital Plan

Chief Rolland presented a 12-year capital plan for the EMFD. Income for the plan comes first from a percentage of the net proceeds of the ambulance service; any shortfall would likely lead to a request to town voters to approve an EMFD equipment purchase. FY2015 includes a \$100,000 expenditure for a new tanker truck to replace two aging tankers.

Ambulance

As part of the capital plan presentation Chief Rolland explained that Ambulance Rescue 3 is nearing the end of its useful life. A possible replacement has been found in Pennsylvania. EMFD requests permission to use up to \$55,000 in capital reserve funds to purchase the used 2009 ambulance. The boards agreed to add this item to the agenda for the December 9th joint meeting.

Meeting adjourned 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Bruce Johnson, Town Administrator

Approved: December 16, 2013 East Montpelier Selectboard meeting