

ISLAND COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT No 3

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS JANUARY 2, 1969

Meeting called to order by Mr. Henny the chairman at 7.00 P.M. at the meeting room of the Whidbey Telephone Company at Bayveiw.

Commissioners present: David C. Henny
Lloyd S. Capp
Joseph H. Long

Minutes of the last meeting on December 5, 1968 read, and approved as read.

Current bills in the amount of \$ 2665.78 from the firms and individuals listed on the reverse side this sheet are examined, and Mr. Capp makes motion seconded by Mr. Long that they be allowed and vouchers be approved and signed, carried.

Mr. Henny mentions the problem at Freeland of lack of training of the firemen. There is some discussion regarding this, and also discussion relative to the need and difficulty of recruiting new men for the department. Hunter remarks that he had been told recently that in several areas in Canada, fire districts had been forced to put on paid men in order to be sure of a response of a minimum of men to man fire trucks. He also reported that in various meetings of fire department officials, commissioners, chiefs etc. it had been reported that the trend for the future would be along the line of paid men.

Hunter reported that it was time to be considering a pump for the well at the new Maxwellton station. He had some prices from Knaplund Hardware on Jacuzzi pumps. They start at \$ 261.00 for an eleven stage 3/4 HP, \$ 294.00 for 14 stage 3/4 HP and \$ 305.00 for a one HP. These prices for pump only, no wire or pipe included nor tax. There was some discussion and Mr. Capp makes motion seconded by Mr. Long that Hunter be authorized to purchase a one HP pump. The above prices are subject to a 10% discount as is any pipe, wire etc used. The motion carried.

The secretary mentions the need for an increase in salary for the fire alarm dispatcher, as this job requires manning on a 24 hour a day basis all the time and is a responsibility not to be taken lightly. This is a problem facing all fire departments large and small.

There is much discussion regarding this and the question is promoted, what is, or should be the long range planning in this department for this service. It is generally agreed that a plan of this nature should be made, at least for future consideration. The Chief reported that King County Fire District No 4 at Richmond Highlands had used and depended on a system similar to the one in use at present by Fire District No 3 i.e. dispatching from a home. This was done up until about two years ago when that district added on to their headquarters station and incorporated a new radio station and dispatching console there with full time paid dispatchers. During this time there were in their district paid firefighters. Their district is a much higher value district than Island Cty 3.

The Chief voices the thought that at the present time ~~there~~ it is not financially possible for District 3 to this for a full time paid basis with a crew on a rotating basis. ^{do} on This would require five people working on an approximate 40 hour week. By using retired people or disabled people he expected it would cost \$200.00 per month per person for a total of \$ 1000.00 per month.

The Chief also voiced the thought that the service could be continued on the present basis for some ^{time} until the District could pay for a full time person on a 24 hour basis, which could be slightly more than one half the cost for a rotating crew. Then possibly at some future time it could be changed to the rotating

crew method.

Mr/ Capp now makes motion seconded by Mr. Long that the dispatcher salary be increased \$ 75.00 per month to a \$ 200 per month. Carried.

The Commissioners now bring up the question of the town of Langley sharing the cost of dispatching. All unanimously agree that they feel this would be only fair as it is done in other areas where one dispatching service is shared by several departments. Various methods of fairly determining this are discussed. The predominating thought is, that the fairest method would be on a valuation basis, or in other words ability to pay.

After more discussion the secretary is instructed to write the Langley Fire department and Langley Town Council and request their representative presence at the next Fire Commission meeting on February.6 1969. It is further agreed that in the event no representative from the Town of Langley appears at this meeting that the District shall assume that they are making other arrangements for this service, and that the secretary shall incorporate this information with the request for attendance at the meeting.

This concludes the business for the meeting and it is adjourned at 9.15

Marion E. Hunter

Marion E. Hunter, secretary

Island County Fire Protection District No 3