

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES JUNE 24, 2013
APPROVED**

Present: Peter S. Cunningham, Chairman; Joshua A. Degen, Vice Chairman; Anna Eliot, Clerk; John G. Petropoulos

Absent: Stuart M. Schulman

Also Present: Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager; Patrice Garvin, Executive Assistant; Chief Joseph Bosselait

Mr. Cunningham called the meeting to order at 5:00p.m.

Mr. Cunningham stated that a copy of the report has been provided to the Board of Selectmen. [Document-99 Board house Road Fire Report] [Document- Memo from Chief Bosselait]

Chief Bosselait passed out his memo relating to the fire. Chief Bosselait stated that during the investigation phase of the first it was determined that the fire had been burning for at least 2 ½ to 3 hours before anyone discovered it and called 911. The Chief added that once a vent hole was created the fire took off. Chief Bosselait stated that even with water the fire was controlled and then they has a challenge with water supply after that. Chief Bosselait stated that the hydrassist valve takes time to position and those who are not familiar with it can mishandle it. The label on the valve was also newer. Mr. Haddad stated that he has appointed a committee to look at areas around lost lake for dry hydrants and other alternatives. Mr. Haddad noted that this was not a standing committee. Chief Bosselait stated that it was a challenge to get water out of the lake for other reasons.

Chief Bosselait reviewed recommendations from the report.

1. That Town Water personnel should be trained on the hydrassist valve.
2. That all pump operators be trained on the new equipment throughout the year.
3. That all equipment be labeled the same
4. Look at staffing and the challenges on scene

Mr. Degen asked specifically what the issue was with the valve. Chief Bosselait replied that it had to do with someone unsure of how the valve was placed on hydrant. Mr. Degen asked why there was 37 minutes without water. Chief Bosselait stated that is was not one thing but multiple. Chief Bosselait stated that switching out the relay pumper with the mutual aid pumpers at the Lost Lake Drive hydrant and the mutual aid relay pumper delayed water to the scene. Mr. Degen asked if more personnel would have made a difference. Chief Bosselati stated that it would not have and the response time was 8 minutes. Mr. Degen suggested any additional personnel be housed at Lost Lake Station.

Mr. Petropoulos asked what a Water Hammer was. Chief Bosselati explained and added that the water hammer was hard to predict but the large force of water pressure can damage equipment. More triaing can help alleviate a potential water hammer. Ms. Elliot suggested traing at Lost Lake in the future. Mr. Haddad pointed out the positives of the situation. Mr. Haddad stated that no one was injured, saved propoane tanks from blowing up, so surrounding houses were damaged and that mutual aid worked well.

Chief Joe commented on the idea of dry hydrants at the lake and the idea that that water should be utilized. Chief Bosselait stated that it was not just getting water but getting to the water to be able to pump it out. Lost lake is hard to maneuver large trucks and getting to the water is a challenge. The dry hydrants would cost \$5k -10k each. The recommendations in the report are not prioritized but random. Mr. Cunningham thanked everyone for coming. Mr. Degen suggested more conversations regarding this incident moving forward.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Degen moved to adjourn at 5:40pm. Meeting adjourned.

Approved: _____
Anna Eliot, Clerk

_____ respectfully *submitted*,
Patrice Garvin, Executive Assistant

Date Approved: 7-15-13