



**Central Coventry Fire District
Special Board of Directors Meeting**

This meeting will be convened pursuant to Governor's Executive Order 20-05 (including orders continuing and amending said requirements.) The Meeting shall be Convened Telephonically and Using Zoom Video Conference Technology to Allow Timely and Effective Public Access to Deliberations of the Board.

[All Participation will be remote until further notice.]

August 12, 2020 at 4:00 PM

Board of Directors

Fred Gralinski-President, Cynthia Fagan-Perry-Vice President,
Daniel Lantz, Jr., Richard Polselli, Ronald Flynn, Carl Mattson, James Kuipers

Agenda

The public may watch the meeting via:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84803694717?pwd=djBaWFYvRDkWTdFZ3lyMmo5Q0E5dz09>

Call to Order	Fred Gralinski, President
Pledge of Allegiance	Fred Gralinski, President
Roll Call – Quorum Determination	Fred Gralinski, President
Safety Instructions	Fred Gralinski, President

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

1. 06.23.2020 and 07.22.2020

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Review of proposal to conduct Annual Meeting remotely under Governor's Executive Orders and under the COVID-19 state of emergency, including holding the meeting on September 14, 2020 for a public hearing on the budget proposal and allowing the Board to set the new annual appropriation within ten (10) days thereafter, pursuant to amended statute RIGL §45-2-3.2 (b)(2) (and enabling legislation H 8015). Also, to have an all-day vote on Board member seats on October 3, 2020.
(Discussion/Action/Vote)

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

- **August 20, 2020 at 6:00 PM (via Zoom)**

ADJOURNMENT

Fred Gralinski, President

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84803694717?pwd=dIBaWFYvRDFkWTdFZ3IyMmo5Q0E5dz09>

Meeting ID: 848 0369 4717

Passcode: 546899

One tap mobile

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Meeting ID: 848 0369 4717

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Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84803694717?pwd=dIBaWFYvRDFkWTdFZ3IyMmo5Q0E5dz09>

CENTRAL COVENTRY FIRE DISTRICT
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
June 23, 2020 @ 6:30 PM
Telephonically and using Zoom Video Conferencing Technology

The meeting was called to order by President Gralinski at 6:30 PM. A quorum was present consisting of: President Fred Gralinski, Vice President Cindy Fagan-Perry, Ron Flynn, Carl Mattson, James Kuipers and Dan Lantz. Director Richard Polselli was excused. District Manager Gayle Corrigan, Finance Manager Linda Dykeman, Chief Brown, legal counsel Sarah Malley, Esq., of Gorham & Gorham, Inc. and District Administrator Daniel Kaplan were also present. After the pledge, the President asked individuals to review safety instructions for exiting the room.

A motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 21st, 2020 was made by Director Mattson, seconded by Vice President Fagan-Perry and unanimously approved.

Under New Business, District Manager Gayle Corrigan said that insurance proposals were still out to bid, to include Injured on Duty insurance. July 1st is the beginning of the State Fiscal Year and as such noted that a 12.6% increase in retirement costs would take effect then, also the medical expense was going to increase by 7.5% and quote from Delta Dental has not been received yet. A motion to approve the District Manager's report was made by Vice President Fagan-Perry, seconded by Director Mattson and unanimously approved.

Chief Brown read the Chief's Report noting that two firefighters were out on Injured on Duty and one firefighter was out on sick leave. The new Rescue Four truck will be delivered in two to three weeks. The upgrades to the lighting at the stations have been completed, as well as the new furnace for Station Four. A motion to approve the Chief's report was made by Director Kuipers, seconded by Vice President Fagan-Perry and unanimously approved.

Finance Manager Linda Dykeman read the Finance Manager's Report noting that the only change was interest received on the monies at Navigant Credit Union. We are three quarters into the fiscal year, and everything is on target. A motion to approve the District Finance Manager's report was made by Vice President Fagan-Perry, seconded by Director Lantz and unanimously approved.

The Tax Collector's Report was read by Dan Kaplan. A motion to approve the report was made by Vice President Fagan-Perry, seconded by Director Mattson and unanimously approved.

A motion to approve the Ratification of Timeline Waiver under RI Firefighters' Arbitration Act for contract negotiations with IAFF Local 3372 was made by Vice President Fagan-Perry, seconded by Director Lantz and unanimously approved.

The draft letter from Director Kuipers about the Covid 19 expenses incurred by the fire districts in Coventry that would be sent to Town Manager Warzycha was discussed. It was agreed that copies would be sent to the Governor, Town Finance Manager, Town Council President and state senators and representatives who represent the Town of Coventry. A motion to approve the letter was made by Vice President Fagan-Perry, seconded by Director Lantz and unanimously approved.

A presentation by Chief Brown about a consolidation of the Hopkins Hill, Central Coventry and Anthony Fire Districts was discussed. A discussion followed about the pros and cons of such a consolidation. It was agreed that any such plans must and would be completely transparent.

Under public comments, Mr. Huffman requested an abatement of late fees to be removed from his tax liability. The Board, after consultation with Attorney D'Agostino, has decided to honor his request.

A motion to adjourn was made by Director Mattson, seconded by Director Lantz, and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel Kaplan,
District Administrator

CENTRAL COVENTRY FIRE DISTRICT
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
July 22, 2020 @ 6:00 PM
Telephonically and using Zoom Video Conferencing Technology

The meeting was called to order by President Gralinski at 6:00 PM. A quorum was present consisting of: President Fred Gralinski, Vice President Cindy Fagan-Perry, Directors Carl Mattson, James Kuipers, Dan Lantz and Richard Polselli. Director Ron Flynn was excused. Chief Brown, legal counsel David D'Agostino Esq., of Gorham & Gorham, Inc. and District Administrator Daniel Kaplan were also present.

Under New Business, Ratification of Resolution 2020-02 to authorize Charter Changes approved by the voters at the September 2019 Annual Meeting; request from the RI General Assembly delegation to correct and clarify a Sub-A Filing of pending legislation in the House and Senate. A motion to approve the Ratification of Resolution 2020-02 was made by Vice President Fagan-Perry, seconded by Director Polselli and unanimously approved.

A motion to adjourn was made by Director Mattson, seconded by Vice President Fagan-Perry, and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel Kaplan,
District Administrator

2020 -- H 8015

LC005394

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

A N A C T

RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES - GENERAL POWERS

Introduced By: Representative John G. Edwards

Date Introduced: June 09, 2020

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 45-2-3.2 of the General Laws in Chapter 45-2 entitled "General
2 Powers" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **45-2-3.2. Availability of funds upon failure of city or town to approve annual**
4 **appropriation.**

5 (a) Unless otherwise provided by a city or town charter, in an emergency caused by a failure
6 of a city or town to approve an annual appropriation measure, the same amounts appropriated in
7 the previous fiscal year shall be available for each department and division thereof, subject to
8 monthly or quarterly allotments, in accordance with seasonal requirements, as determined by the
9 city or town's chief financial officer: provided, that expenditures for payment of bonded
10 indebtedness of the city or town and interest thereon shall be in such amounts as may be required,
11 regardless of whether or not an annual appropriation ordinance is enacted by the city or town
12 council.

13 (b) Whenever a state and local emergency is declared pursuant to §§ 30-15-9 and 30-15-

1 (1) By continuing the city, town or fire district's prior annual fiscal year appropriation
2 measure and aggregate tax levy not exceeding the total levy of the prior fiscal year to support such
3 annual appropriation; provided, that the appropriation and levy shall not extend beyond a city, town,
4 or fire district's fiscal year as defined by the city, town, or district charter;

5 (i) Any partial levy adopted for a period of less than one fiscal year shall be credited against
6 the final levy adopted by the city, town, or fire district in accordance with this section or the
7 provisions as set forth in the city, town, or fire district charter.

8 (ii) If a city or town has conducted a revaluation of property pursuant to § 44-5-11.6, the
9 city or town may use the property values of the most recent revaluation; provided, that the aggregate
10 tax levy does not exceed the total levy of the prior fiscal year.

11 (2) By the adoption and passage of a new annual appropriation and tax levy by the city,
12 town, or fire district's governing body; provided, that levy shall be subject to all of the provisions
13 of § 44-5-2.

14 (c) Prior to the adoption of any appropriation or levy pursuant to sections (b)(1) or (b)(2)
15 of this section or conducting any business normally taken at a financial town meeting or financial
16 town referendum, the governing body of the city, town, or fire district shall conduct a public hearing
17 on the proposal or business to be considered. The public hearing may be conducted in any manner,
18 including electronically or virtually, that enables public comment and participation. Notice of the
19 public hearing shall be given by publication of a display advertisement in a newspaper of general
20 circulation in the city, town or fire district and by posting of the notice on the website if available,
21 of the municipality or fire district at least ten (10) days before the date of the public hearing. The
22 notice shall state the date and time of the public hearing and the methods of means of participation
23 whether in person, virtually, and/or by submission of written comments.

24 (d) The chief executive officer of a city, town, or fire district shall have the power to, by
25 executive order, extend, move, or continue any and all budget adoption procedures, including the
26 date of any financial town meeting or financial town referendum, as set forth in any city, town or
27 fire district charter, until such time as the declared state or municipal emergency is lifted or expires.

28 (e) Any tax levy adopted pursuant to sections (b)(1) or (b)(2) of this section shall be subject

1 chapter. Notwithstanding any provision of any state law or municipal charter provision to the
2 contrary, whenever a state or local emergency is declared pursuant to §§ 30-15-9 and 30-15-12(b)
3 that prevents a city, town or fire district from conducting a town or district meeting pursuant to this
4 chapter, except for a meeting pursuant to § 45-3-1, the governing body of any city, town or fire
5 district may provide, by resolution, for the convening of a town or district meeting by remote,
6 electronic, virtual or other means; provided, that the governing body finds that the convening of a
7 town meeting would jeopardize the public health or safety of persons within the city, town or fire
8 district.

9 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage and all of its provisions shall be
10 deemed retroactive to March 9, 2020.

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LC005394
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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES - GENERAL POWERS

1 This act would allow a city, town or fire district to appropriate monies, levy taxes and
2 expend funds during any declared state or local and/or statewide emergency in the absence of an
3 annual or biennial financial town meeting and allow for virtual town, city and fire district meetings
4 during state or local emergency declarations.

5 This act would take effect upon passage with all of its provisions retroactive to March 9,
6 2020.

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