

FIRST MEETING HELD TO ORGANIZE DAYSRING & DISTRICT FIRE DEPARTMENT

Minutes of the first meeting held on Wednesday, March 23, 1966 in the IOOF Hall, Upper LaHave, for the purpose of organizing a Fire Department to serve the combined communities of Dayspring, Upper LaHave and Rhodes Corner. The meeting was ably presided over by Mr. M. C. Pickings, who welcomed 95 people. Mr. Pickings introduced the guest speaker, Fire Chief Harold Langille, who has been Fire Chief of the Bridgewater Fire Department for 11 years.

Other speakers present were Mr. Charles Harris, Director of the Emergency Measures Organization for Lunenburg County and Mr. Walter Webber, representing the Department of Lands and Forests.

In his remarks, Mr. Harris outlined the procedure to be followed in organizing a Fire Company, which would not only provide protection against fire but also other things such as hurricanes, aircraft crashes, etc. He explained that the EMO was prepared to make a fire engine and equipment available to a new Fire Department until they were in a position to purchase one of their own. He offered many helpful suggestions on organization and left with us informative and helpful literature. He mentioned that EMO is now in the process of standardizing all fire equipment, hoses, hydrants, etc.

He also assured the meeting that once a fire company has established their own Fire Department, they are eligible for Mutual Aid from the larger Fire Departments in the County at all times, should they require added assistance in fighting a particular fire. He warned those in attendance at the meeting not to be afraid to start in a small way: a small portable pump and a place to store it are the first requirements.

"Two things must be done as soon as you have set up your authorized Fire Company," he said: "Notify Mr. St. C. Randall, Municipal Clerk for Lunenburg County, and inform Mr. K. Parkington of the Nova Scotia Fire Marshall's Office."

Minutes of second General Meeting of the Dayspring & District Fire Department held at the IOOF Hall, Upper LaHave on Monday, April 4, 1966 - chaired by Mr. M. C. Pickings.

Minutes of the first General Meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's report showed \$395.16 which had been turned over from the Rhodes Corner Agriculture Society by Mr. Abbott Wolfe, the former Secretary Treasurer of this Society, who explained that before this Society was disbanded, it was agreed that these funds should be given to a Fire Department for this District, when one was organized.

It was moved by Raymond Mulock and seconded by Warren Wilkie that Wilkie's Cove be included in the Dayspring & District Fire Department territory.

Members of the following Committees were elected:

Ways and Means: Mr. William Bolivar, Dayspring; Mr. M.C. Pickings, Upper LaHave; Mr. Ivan Wamboldt, Rhodes Corner.

Building Committee: Mr. Keith Snow, Rhodes Corner; Mr. Oran Wilkie, Upper LaHave; Mr. Robert Robar, Dayspring.

Equipment Committee: Mr. Ted Snyder, Dayspring; Mr. Alan Demone, Upper LaHave; Mr. Gould, Rhodes Corner.

Constitution & By-Law Committee: Mr. Louis Mulock, Rhodes Corner; Mr. Murray Weiss, Upper LaHave; Mr. Arthur Selig, Dayspring.

Chief Colquhoun confirmed that Imperial Oil Company would supply a 1,000 gal. water tank. Mr. William Bolivar kindly offered to donate a 3-ton truck for transportation of equipment.

Mr. A. Wolfe offered to donate a piece of land in the old gravel pit across from the Conrad Road for a building site for a fire hall. A hearty vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Bolivar and Mr. Wolfe for their generous donations.

Chief Langille voiced his pleasure at being invited to speak at the organizational meeting: "The organization of a Fire Department in this area has been long overdue," he said. He explained the chemistry of fire and the procedures to be followed in fighting a fire depending on the circumstances surrounding the fire itself.

He suggested that thought should be given to the selection of a Fire Chief. He should be steady, well respected in the community, and be able to handle and listen to men. He repeated what Mr. Harris had said, concerning the procedure of notifying the Municipal Clerk and the Fire Marshall's Office of our plans to organize a fire company. Then he explained that each Company needs a Chief, a Deputy Chief, Secretary-Treasurer, Wardens, Captains and Lieutenants to represent each community. He assured the meeting that they did not need expensive equipment to start out with: portable pumps and a good fire alarm system are important. Price of pump and suction - \$600.00.

Chief Langille informed the meeting that when a Fire Department has been organized, you are entitled to a grant of \$500 from the County. Then you must get out and work. "The Municipal Council will match every dollar you earn in the first year," he said.

He assured the meeting that the Bridgewater Fire Department would be only too pleased to give any assistance whenever called upon, in helping to organize our fire company.

Discussion followed regarding a building to house the equipment. It was decided, for the time being, to use the lower floor of a building in Dayspring offered by Mr. Snyder. The School House in Dayspring was suggested as an ideal situation for a fire hall, as it was to be closed within the next few years.

Mr. Colquhoun stated that a 1200 tank was available right now and transportation of this was discussed. Chief Langille made the suggestion that we go War Assets at Western Shore to purchase the pumps.

It was moved by Mr. Colquhoun and seconded by Mr. Clayton Corkum that we form a Fire Department to serve the three communities of Dayspring, Upper LaHave and Rhodes Corner. Carried.

Several names were nominated from the floor for the offices required and elected were:
Fire Chief - Dave Colquhoun, Vernon Faulkenham
Deputy Fire Chief - Frank Crouse
Secretary - Treasurer - J. D. Campbell.