



TOWN OF
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
SELECTBOARD

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*Minutes
Selectboard
Wednesday, August 6, 2014*

Selectboard members Darrell Philpot, Susan Adams, John Carr and Brendan Denehy were present along with Town Administrator Tad Putney.

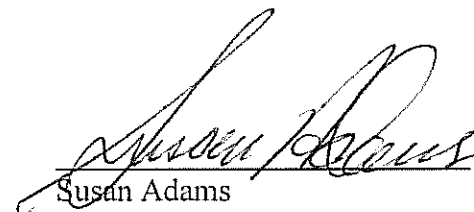
Hollis Fire Chief

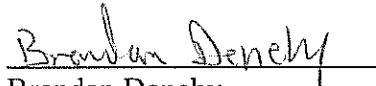
Hollis Fire Chief **Rick Towne** was present to review how Hollis combined the fire and ambulance services. Rick said the ambulance service in Hollis began in 1975. The fire department was asked to oversee the ambulance service, but oversight was limited to its budget. They were separate services. In 1980 the new fire station was built. The ambulance moved into the building but they were still separate services. About 1996 recruitment went down in both services. They felt it would be more efficient so they started to train and work together. They had a full time fire chief and had another full time person to oversee the ambulance service. As younger people came on the service they found they could get twice as much action working together. They now have 7 full time firefighters, 3 full time ambulance people and 1 full time secretary. They found they needed another part time assistant for the ambulance service. Then it became a full time position. The ambulance people stayed on and started to cross train. As people retired, they hired people who were trained as firefighters and ambulance. At that time, they started billing for ambulance services. At the present time, they have 10 full time firefighters, 7 paramedics, 10 per diem, 15 on call members and 5 support (older, retired) people. The deputy fire chief oversees the ambulance people. When the full time fire chief was appointed, he was allowed to join the police union. The fire department was restructured and the fire chief reports to the selectmen. The selectmen hire the fire chief and approves full time people. The chief fires or hires "on call" people. Rick said regionalization has not been done in New England. He said it would be nice if we had a building on the Brookline Hollis line and purchased equipment to service both towns. He said Amherst, Bedford and New Boston tried to work together, but it didn't work. The Selectboard thanked Rick for meeting with them.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.
Minutes submitted by Rena Dunklee.

Darrell Philpot


John J. Carr


Susan Adams


Brendan Denehy