

MINUTES

The Volunteer Firefighter Relief Fund Committee for the Town of Montville met at 6:00 p.m. in Room 203 at the Montville Town Hall on October 18, 2011.

Members present: Joseph Jaskiewicz, Terry Hart, Joe Giangrasso, Bryce Wilkens, Dave Nelson and Keith Truex.

Mayor Joseph Jaskiewicz called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Committee Business

Approval of the August 9, 2011 minutes was tabled.

There was a lengthy discussion about allowing qualified firefighters to choose a tax abatement instead of a stipend. Some firefighters have gotten taxed on the stipend. Truex moved to allow qualified firefighters to choose either a tax abatement or a cash stipend. No second; motion failed.

After further discussion, it was decided that the Mayor would send a letter to congress and U.S. Senator to change IRS Publication 525 regarding stipends for volunteer firefighters. Currently, volunteers earning more than \$30 per month must claim this as income. Truex will also bring this up at the New London County meeting. A copy of this letter will be emailed to all members to review before it is sent out.

Truex asked when members belong to two Fire Departments, can their time be combined to make the 20%. All the members felt that firefighters must choose one department as their main department for earning service points.

There was discussion regarding Cadets/Junior members of the Fire Departments. Some of them have difficulty making the 20% because of the hour of the day that they can be on calls according to the Connecticut State Law. Wilkens will look into changing the restrictions on this.

Public Comment

The Mayor thanked everyone for all their hard work and expressed his gratitude to the organization.

Motion to adjourn by Giangrasso; seconded by Truex; motion passed unanimously.

The Meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.