**Thompson Fire Protection Advisory Committee**

**Wednesday, July 30, 2014 at 7 p.m.**

**Community Fire Department**

**MINUTES**

* Present: John Sharpe, Steve Bodreau, Mike Rivers, Hogan Krohn, Kerstin Forrester, Shawn – WINY Reporter
* Meeting called to order by Chair, Kerstin Forrester at 7:05 p.m.
* Motion to accept minutes of June 25, 2014 meeting made by John Sharpe, 2nd Steve Bodreau, accepted.
* Citizens Comments - NONE
* Committee Member Comments:
  + Mike Rivers commented on the defensive driving for firefighters & EMS class sponsored by Steve Bodreau at Quinebaug – very good class.
  + Steve Bodreau commented on OSHA hose testing set up for 8/13 & 8/14, to be done on school grounds; Steve will coordinate. Also noted that apparatus pump testing will be done at Knights of Columbus on 8/18, 19 & 20.
* Correspondence:
  + John Sharpe read email from Bill Birch about communications improvement at school for safety program. They will be implementing a new VHF frequency (private, non-published) thata will enable fire fighters to communicate with designated key employees at school. There will be a radio etiquette training class to streamline communications.
  + Kerstin mentioned that the FOIA hearing will be on August 28 in Hartford.
* Continue discussion of creating awareness and buy-in:
  + Mike Rivers gave copies of his write-up for West Thompson Fire Department to be included in tri-fold.
  + All other departments agreed to do the same and email to Kerstin no later than August 13, 2014, along with pictures.
  + Kerstin will edit and complete a draft of the tri-fold before our next meeting.
  + Reviewed draft of letter to send out to all residents in Thompson regarding the proposed funding changes to advise citizens of what we are working on. Kerstin will edit and email to committee members for approval. We will then mail to citizens prior to Community Day.
  + Plan for Community Day: September 28, 2014 from 12 to 4 p.m.
    - Kerstin will complete form for booth and display banner.
    - Each fire department will provide something for handouts geared to kids
    - Kerstin will get a town map with all street numbers that we can display along with other information about our fire departments.
    - Letter & tri-fold brochures will be available for anyone wishing to take one
    - Chiefs and other volunteers will be available to answer questions.
  + John Sharpe will find out if there is any money available from the Thompson Fire Assoc. to help defray expenses.
* Meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.
* Next meeting August 27, 2014 at 7 p.m. at West Thompson Fire Department

Respectfully submitted,

Kerstin Forrester, Chair