

Town of Newfield Public Hearing  
November 8, 2018

A Public Hearing was held Thursday, November 8, 2018 at the Newfield Town Hall for the purpose of allowing public comment and opinion concerning proposed approval of the 2019 Newfield Fire Protection District Contract with the Newfield Fire Company.

Present were: Supervisor Hart, Councilpersons James, Laughlin, Powers and Allinger, 7 others were also in attendance.

Supervisor Hart called the Public Hearing to order at 7:08 pm. Supervisor Hart stated the proposed Fire Protection Contract amounts were: 2019- \$404,844.00, 2020-408,678.00 and 2021-\$412,547.00. Supervisor Hart commented the payment for 2018 was \$376,971.00 and that it was an approximate increase of 8% for this year.

Michelle Henry asked if the Fire Company had provided a breakdown of its budget. Supervisor Hart responded the Fire Company had provided a budget but had not provided the requested balance sheet or last audit.

Brenda Lapp asked if the Fire Company had provided an explanation of the requested increase. Supervisor Hart responded that were increases in their Workmen's Compensation Insurance and also the newly enacted interior fire fighters' cancer policy.

Councilperson Allinger commented he was troubled the Fire Company had not provided the required data as requested in the interest of transparency. Supervisor Hart agreed and stated the contract would not be signed until the data has been received and reviewed, and that the current contract was in effect until December 31, 2018. Councilperson Allinger added he felt there should be additional items to the contract requiring the Fire Company to produce additional information on a regular basis. Supervisor Hart felt the Board and the Fire Company need to meet and discuss the contract. Councilperson Allinger added that it was not that there was distrust but rather the Town has a fiscal responsibility to verify their information.

Supervisor Hart asked if there were any questions or comments from the audience.

There being no other questions or concerns regarding the proposed 2019-2021 Newfield Fire Protection Contract with the Newfield Fire Company, Supervisor Hart closed the meeting at 7:16 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Karen Miller Kenerson  
Town Clerk

November 29, 2018