

Minutes of the “Town Hall” Meeting of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District

Meeting held: **26 October 2015**

Lower Hall, Ganges United Church

In attendance:

Trustees: Chair Linda Lee, Mitch Forest, Derek Hill, Norbert Schlenker

Staff Members: Acting Chief Arjuna George, SSIFFA Lieutenant Chantelle Pohl,
Corporate Administrative Officer (CAO) Andrew Peat

Recording Secretary: Sarah Shugar

Public: 22 residents

Chair Lee called the “Town hall” meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She welcomed those attending and read the following statement:

The Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District (the “District”) regrets to advise that Tom Bremner is no longer with the District. The District thanks Mr. Bremner for his contributions and wishes him well in his future endeavors. The District will be considering its options of the Chief’s position. We have full confidence in Acting Chief George and the service’s personnel, and their ability to protect our community. We will not be entertaining any questions regarding this statement and no further comment will be made.

One member of the public questioned why there will be no discussion regarding Tom Bremner. Chair Lee advised that the District does not comment on personnel issues.

One member of the public acknowledged the Salt Spring Island Fire Department for their excellent work and expressed that ratepayers are fortunate to have these individuals serving and giving their valuable time to the community. He expressed concern for the condition of the Ganges Fire Hall and the high concentration of assets within the building. He would like the Trustees to address safeguarding the investment of equipment. Trustee Forest reported that he is in discussions with the architecture firm and building the new fire hall is a top priority. There have been issues with the building site and the level of service.

One member of the public expressed support for the previous comments regarding the condition of the Ganges Fire Hall and added the statistical probability of fire damage to fire halls is more likely than damage from earthquakes.

There being no further questions from the floor, Chair Lee adjourned the “town hall” meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Linda Lee

Chair Board of Trustees

Andrew Peat
Corporate Administrator

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