

Fire Protection Options
Information Meeting
November 13, 2019 6:30 pm
Unapproved minutes
Wheatland Municipal Building

1. **Call to Order** Mayor Eileen Hansen called the April 9, 2019 Village of Scottsville Board of Trustees to order at 6:32pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
3. **Roll Call**

Village of Scottsville :

Eileen Hansen, Mayor
Kathie Carl, Deputy Mayor
Christie Offen, Trustee
Todd Shero Trustee
Leslie Wagar, Trustee
Tom Rzepka, Attorney

Town of Wheatland:

Linda Dobson, Town Supervisor
Lisa Wasson, Deputy Supervisor
Carl Schoenthal, Council
Greg Mullen, Council
Ed Shero, Council
Ray DiRaddo, Attorney

4. Brief intro from Mayor Hansen and Supervisor Dobson explaining joint meeting is to present information for fire protective services for village and town.
5. Power point presentation from Chief Jeff Brown and Deputy Chief Bob Valerio
6. Meeting opened for questions from Boards

Q from Lisa Wasson: Do you feel state will force a consolidation?

A Chief Brown: Scottsville, Caledonia and Mumford work well together but Scottsville would need to be a district first before merging.

Ray DiRaddo added that state does not force consolidation. Two ways to consolidate, by board resolution or resident vote. The first year Commissioners would be appointed until end of calendar year. Before end of year there would be a vote and top five would become Commissioners with differing terms (i.e. highest vote would get 5-year term, 2nd highest would get 4-year term etc. so each year would only need to vote for one commissioner position).

Q from Christie Offen: How are the newer Fire Districts doing?

A Chief Brown: They are doing well and seem to be financially stable. They have five people that make the decisions along with help from the fire chief and seems to be a well-oiled machine.

Q from Linda Dobson: Does state put limit on % of spending year after year?

A from Ray DiRaddo: 1st year no tax cap. 2nd year is subject to tax cap. 3rd year subject to spending limitations which could only be overridden by mandatory referendum by the public.

Linda Dobson explained the Town collects the fire tax and there is separate line item on Town tax bill that itemizes spending for Fire District.

Opened for questions from the public

Q from Ben Deragon How will taxes be affected?

A Too early to tell at this point. Will discuss more in the next meeting.

Q from Ted Raden: What is potential revenue for households in this district and what % per thousand would be a good place to start?

A: Too early to know. In the early stages of putting out information and trying to keep discussion on info presented at this meeting. More to be presented at next meeting.

Q: Will Town and Village reduce taxes to offset additional fire taxes?

A: Too early to decide that at this time.

Q: Can village support fire district without the town?

A from Mayor Hansen: No

Next informational meeting will be on December 11th.

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.