



# Kent Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

P.O. Box 355  
Kent, CT 06757

**The following is the charge of the Tax Abatement Committee:**

1. Make recommendations to the membership on changes to the current KVFD Tax Abatement program/SOP to include the new State of CT higher abatement amounts.
2. Make recommendations to the membership for a tax abatement program/SOP to retain members and attract and recruit new members as Active Emergency Members.
3. Make any other recommendations to improve the program/SOP.
4. Make adjustments to the Committee charge as membership recommends.

## Meeting Minutes

KVFD Tax Abatement Committee  
Saturday, March 12, 2022- 7:00 AM  
Fire House Officer Room

*Attendance: Matt Starr, Eric Epstein*

*Meeting start time was delayed due to snow conditions.*

*Call to Order: Chairman Starr called the meeting to order at 7:07AM*

### *Public/Member Comment:*

- *E-mail from President Russell was read asking if this committee would function as the SOP Committee, requesting a name change to the committee, and several legislative documents were shared.*
- *Epstein: does not feel it is appropriate as the SOP Committee charge is clearly stated and functions to ensure grammatical and layout, not content correction.*
- *Starr: agreed and both felt this should be an appointed standing committee, not in the purview of this committee.*

*Old Business: None*

### *New Business:*

- *Reviewed charge of committee*
- *Reviewed current SOP 1-7*
- *It was noted that the current SOP section 2, letter F needs to be followed:  
F. The KVFD Records Clerk will update the members on a quarterly basis of points earned.*
- *It was noted that section 3, letter B "...two Personnel Committees..." needs a better explanation of whom the "two" committees are. They consist of the current year and the past year Personnel Committees.*
- *It was felt that since the elimination of paper run forms, inspection forms, and non-emergency activity forms there needs to be a better tracing system for the accrual of points*

*for qualification. It was agreed that the committee would work with the technology committee to come up with some type of electronic documentation that can be tracked.*

- *Reviewed Public Act No. 19-36 that allows for the change to the abetment by the municipality by the state.*

*Discussion:*

- *It was agreed that if the department entertains and approves any type of increase to the abetment, that it needs to be geared toward call response. With this thought process, if there were to be an increase, section 2, letter C would need to be re-worded to eliminate “maximum annual abetment.”*
- *The maximum allowable change up to \$2,000.00 was discussed. The committee feels this incentive should be used to encourage Veterans to become engaged in the department again as a responder or as an administrative position.*

*Recommendations for Membership:*

- *Discussion of record keeping*
- *Records Clerk reports to membership*
- *Ease needed in record reporting*

*Assign Tasks:*

- *Epstein: obtain town ordinance for review*
- *Epstein: obtain state statute for review*
- *Starr: Review record reporting options with the Technology Committee*
- *Matson: Review minutes and abetment lists from the Personnel Committee from the past five (5) years.*

*Schedule of next meeting: TBD*

*Adjourn: @ 8:00AM*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Eric Epstein*

*Acting Secretary*

*Attachments:*

- *John Russell E-mail*
- *KVFD SOP 1-7*
- *CT Public Act 19-36*