

Coldenham Fire District
Board of Fire Commissioners
March 9, 2015

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Coldenham Fire District was held on March 9, 2015 at the Coldenham Fire House. Commissioner Keenan opened the meeting with the pledge to the flag.

Roll Call

Commissioners present: Joe Keenan, Anita Grecco, Warren Decker and Wayne Jacobowitz. Tim Besser was excused due to work obligations.

Also present: Mary Keenan, Secretary
Linda Miller, Treasurer

Acceptance of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Decker to dispense with the reading of the monthly meeting minutes of February 16, 2015 and accept them as corrected. Commissioner Grecco seconded the motion. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried. Correction to February minutes: on page 2, under Cestaro Plumbing add \$175/hr for night, weekend and holiday calls.

Communications

- We received a letter from Katelyn Gasperetti, Manager of Sal's Gals in Pine Bush Women's Softball. She requested permission to use the rear and/or back parking lot and/or field. She acknowledged that any injuries would be their own responsibility and not the Coldenham Fire Company, Department or District. Also, if any damage occurs, they would be responsible to fix or correct it. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to allow Sal's Gals to use the firehouse property. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.
- We received flyers from the Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York pertaining to the Annual Meeting beginning Wednesday, April 15, 2015 through Sunday, April 19, 2015 at the Albany Marriott on Wolf Road in Albany.
- Secretary and/or Treasurer Training are being offered by the Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York at the Cronomer Fire District on Saturday, March 21, 2015 from 9 to 12. Treasurer Miller is interested in attending. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to send Linda Miller to Treasurer's Training at Cronomer Valley at a cost of \$75. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.
- We received the investigation narrative from the New York State Department of Labor about the follow-up investigation conducted by PESH (Public Employee Safety and Health) on January 14, 2015 with Commissioner Besser present. All citations were abated and the case file is closed.
- The Town of Montgomery Building Inspector cited our kitchen hood system and the back-up generator. The kitchen hood is grandfathered in and would not have to be upgraded until the kitchen is upgraded. The generator exhaust is too close to the window. Either the window needs to be sealed or the exhaust needs to be moved.

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- We received the insurance binders from Rose & Kiernan.
- We received the insurance cards which were given to the Chief.
- Pensky and Ryder provided their hazardous materials listing for 2015. This was given to the Chief.
- We received our RBC Wealth Management auto pay and monthly pay out report.

Hall Requests

Mike Keenan for VC Wrestling on March 22, 2015 from 5 to 7:30PM.

Mike Wirth on April 12, 2015 for a birthday party.

Colden Park Homeowner's Association on April 8, 2015 from 7:30 to 9:30.

Wendy Hadden's conflict on April 28 will be worked out by Commissioner Grecco.

Fire Battalion Drill on April 19

Blood Drive on April 25.

A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to approve Mike Keenan's request for March 22. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to approve Mike Wirth's request for April 12. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to approve the Colden Park Homeowner Association's request for April 8. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to have Commissioner Grecco work out the Hadden date conflict of March 28. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobowitz and seconded by Commissioner Decker to approve the Fire Company requests for April 19 and April 25. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Public Discussion

None.

Committee Reports

Space Committee and Surplus List:

Safety Committee: Nothing to report.

Mack Restoration Committee: Nothing at this time.

Old Business

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Physicals: Commissioner Keenan advised the board that about half of the physicals were completed. The next date is March 15 at Dr. Basri's office. A letter will be sent to the Fire Company stating that physicals must be completed by April 13. Firefighters will be placed in inactive status if not done by then.

Driver Qualification/Active Duty Criteria: The next work session is for March 28, 2015 from 10AM to 2PM. Commissioner Keenan advised the board that he might not be able to attend due to work obligations. Commissioner Decker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to cancel the meeting if all cannot attend. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

LOSAP/Service Awards: Commissioner Keenan stated that he still needs the training reports from the Chiefs to make sure the training gets reported correctly on the LOSAP paperwork.

Workstations: Nothing at this time.

Kick plate for the Trophy Case: Nothing at this time.

Fuel Audit: Commissioner Keenan will have the fuel audit through December 2014 for next month's meeting.

RFP's for Electrician, Plumber and General Maintenance: Commissioner Besser left printed comparisons for the RFP submitters. Commissioner Jacobowitz mentioned his concern to possibly awarding two contracts to the same company. Commissioner Decker stated that these contracts are for one year and the company will be held to the contract for which they are awarded. Failure to provide services in the contract can be cause for termination and/or litigation. For the Electrical contract a motion was made by Commissioner Grecco and seconded by Commissioner Keenan to award the Electrical contract to Ruggiero Plumbing and Heating. The board was polled as follows: Commissioner Jacobowitz – no, Commissioner Decker – yes, Commissioner Grecco – yes and Commissioner Keenan – yes. With a vote of 3 ayes, 1 nays, the motion was carried.

The Plumbing Service providers were compared and a motion was made by Commissioner Grecco and seconded by Commissioner Keenan to award the contract to Ruggiero Plumbing and Heating. The board was polled as follows: Commissioner Keenan – yes, Commissioner Grecco – yes, Commissioner Jacobowitz – yes and Commissioner Decker – yes. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

The Light Construction (General Maintenance) provider was reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to award the contract to LT Construction. The board was polled as follows: Commissioner Jacobowitz – yes, Commissioner Decker – yes, Commissioner Grecco – yes and Commissioner Keenan – yes. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

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Building Repair: Commissioner Decker and Commissioner Jacobowitz will be the building committee. Commissioner Keenan suggested that they contact past Commissioner Garofalo, who started this project and might have some information. He also suggested looking into a way to avoid the ice dams on the roof.

New Fire Apparatus Committee: Commissioner Besser submitted the following names for this committee based on their positions and their interest: Chief Draiss, Assistant Chief Hunt, Commissioner Keenan, Past Chief Mike Keenan, Captain Mike Keenan Jr and Past Chief Walt Miller. Commissioner Keenan stated that he would like to see the addition of another name so there would be an odd number of people on the committee.

Commissioner Decker advised the board that he did not sign up because he isn't able to commit to traveling from show to show because of work obligations. Commissioner Grecco stated that she feels that the committee should consist of those knowledgeable with fire apparatus and how they use them. Commissioner Jacobowitz suggested that Second Lt Junior Grade Erik Keenan be added to the committee. Commissioner Keenan thought that having 4 members of the committee in the Keenan family might be an issue to some. Assistant Chief Hunt felt that Erik Keenan would be a good addition to the committee, regardless of what people will say. He also stated that most of that committee is interior qualified, drives the truck and uses the truck. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to establish the new fire apparatus committee as follows: Chief Frank, Assistant Chief Matt, Commissioner Joe, Past Chief Mike, Captain Mike, Past Chief Walt and 2nd Lt Erik. The secretary polled the board: Commissioner Jacobowitz – yes, Commissioner Decker – yes, Commissioner Grecco – yes, Commissioner Keenan – abstained. There being 3 ayes, 0 nays and 1 abstain, the motion was passed.

Kaba Keys and Locks: Nothing at this time.

Surplus Gear: Commissioner Decker advised the board that the surplus gear has been picked up by the St Regis Falls Volunteer Fire Department. A letter was received from Chief Wilbur Bailey, stating that they do not hold Coldenham Fire District liable and that they are aware that the referenced gear is outdated according to local standards and the manufacturer's date.

New Business

Commissioner Keenan stated that we are trying to get life insurance for the active firefighters. The list that Commissioner Keenan has doesn't identify active members. He gave a copy to Chief Draiss and President Aigner and asked them to identify the active members so Commissioner Keenan can submit those firefighters to the insurance people.

American Alarm: Commissioner Keenan advised the board that fire detectors in the back building do not work. The problem is the snow plows took out the telephone wires to the building. The alarm is silenced and there is nothing we can do until the snow disappears. He asked if someone could call Verizon to get it fixed and to check the two fax lines and get that fixed too. Linda Miller will contact Verizon. Commissioner Decker feels that the

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commissioners should have their own fax.

FDIC: Fire Department Instructor Course will be in Indianapolis in April and Commissioner Besser would like to know if anyone is interested in attending. Commissioner Keenan stated that there are other shows coming up that are less expensive, i.e. Harrisburg and Baltimore. Chief Draiss doesn't know of anyone who would like to go to FDIC at this time.

Reimbursement for Katelyn Gasperetti: Katelyn Gasperetti submitted her gym expenses. The district policy is to cover one half of the gym expenses at Gold's gym which is \$390. A motion to reimburse Katelyn Gasperetti for her gym expenses in the amount of \$195 was made by Commissioner Jacobowitz and seconded by Commissioner Decker. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Painting of Hall: Commissioner Grecco received quotes from Claus Dieter Schulz for labor only in the amount of \$3795.00 and from Terence McKenna/Tim Willis in the amount of \$2000. See attached. A motion was made by Commissioner Grecco, seconded by Commissioner Decker to award the job to Claus Dieter Schulz for labor only in the amount of \$3795. The board will purchase the paint from Scott's Corner Hardware and Mr Schulz will pick it up. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Replace (2) 2008 Chief Trucks: The board discussed replacing the two chief trucks. They will see if they can get one here to inspect in person.

Chief's Report

Membership

- New members: 1 Caryn Bartley as a Social Member
- Qualified drivers: 0
- New Drivers Requested: 0
- Drivers dropped: 0
- Physicals: On going
- Members passing probation: 0
- Members reinstated: 1 Eric Doughty
- Members dropped: 0
- Social Members dropped: 0
- Status switch: 0
- Members suspended: 0
- Members resigned: 0

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobowitz and seconded by Commissioner Decker to acknowledge Caryn Bartley as a Social member. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to

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reinstate Eric Doughty as an active firefighter pending his passing his physical and pending clarification on a background check. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Further Information from the Chief

- Chief Draiss advised the board that we had less than 10 member sign up for the CPR class.
- Chief Draiss would like to have a MCI drill on April 19, 2015 using the bus out back and invite surrounding companies.
- Chief Draiss advised the board that it is time for the annual hose testing. Reliant Fire Hose Testing submitted a proposal in the amount of \$2731.05. This will cover 12005 ft of hose at a rate of .21 per foot and 14 suction hoses at a cost of \$15 per foot. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to have Reliant Fire Hose Testing do the annual hose testing at a cost of \$2731.05. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.
- Chief Draiss received a quote from JTD Services to replace and/or fix tarps on E-204, E-203 and E-205 at a cost of \$1100. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to have JTD Services replace and/or fix the tarps on the three engines. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.
- Chief Draiss would like permission for 2 of our members to attend Westchester Women Firefighting Day on April 25 and April 26. They would also like permission to bring 2 members from another department in our vehicle if needed. They will need to bring their equipment and would like to use the pick-up truck. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to allow the use of the equipment and pick-up to attend the event and to allow them to transport members from another department. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Further Information from the Commissioners

Commissioner Keenan proposed that all applicants to the fire department need to pass a pre-employment physical and background checks. Discussion followed. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz that effective immediately all applicants to the fire department need to pass a pre-employment physical and background checks. Secretary polled the board: Commissioner Jacobowitz – yes, Commissioner Decker – yes, Commissioner Grecco – yes and Commissioner Keenan – yes. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried. The secretary will send notification to the department.

Information from the Treasurer/Secretary

Treasurer Miller advised the board that we received \$152,868.39 from the Town of Newburgh and \$365,048.41 from the Town of Montgomery. We received \$4000 from Vails Gate for fire protection. Still waiting on PILOT.

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Treasurer Miller would like to move \$350,000 to the money market from the general fund. A motion was made by Commissioner Grecco seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to move \$350,000 from the general fund to the money market. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Approved Expenditures

Treasurer Training	\$ 75.00
Katelyn Gasperetti	195.00
Claus Dieter Schulz	3795.00
Reliant Host Testing	2371.05
JTD Services	1100.00

Public Discussion

None.

Bills Signed

Commissioner Jacobowitz made a motion to pay bills if found correct, seconded by Commissioner Grecco. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) by those in attendance was received. Motion carried.

Executive Session

Commissioner Decker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Grecco to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Meeting reconvened at 10:50. The matter was discussed with the Chief, who will follow-up on the issue.

Emergency Work: Commissioner Keenan advised the board that about three weeks ago the pipes in the Firemen’s Room burst and Chief Draiss came in and fixed it. He feels that we should be able to compensate him for his emergency supplies and work. Discussion ensued so Commissioner Grecco will go to her source and get an answer for next month. Commissioner Decker made a motion seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to reimburse Chief Draiss, if legal and authorized for his emergency supplies. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Since all regular business was completed, Commissioner Decker moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) by those in attendance was received. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Keenan
Secretary