

Coldenham Fire District
Board of Fire Commissioners
August 10, 2015

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Coldenham Fire District was held on August 10, 2015 at the Coldenham Fire House. Commissioner Besser opened the meeting with the pledge to the flag.

Roll Call

Commissioners present: Tim Besser, Anita Grecco and Warren Decker. Joe Keenan and Wayne Jacobowitz were out of town and excused.

Also present: Linda Miller, Treasurer
Frank Draiss, Chief
Matt Hunt, First Assistant Chief

Secretary Keenan was out of town and excused.

Acceptance of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Grecco and seconded by Commissioner Decker to dispense with the reading of the monthly meeting minutes of July 13, 2015 and accept them as written. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Communications

- We received a postcard from the Association of Fire District of Orange County advising of the next meeting on August 25, 2015 at the Chester Fire House at 7:30.
- We received a package from The Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York advising us that there is a Fall 2015 Workshop and Vendor Expo on October 29 through November 1. The registration paperwork is included along with an exemption certificate that Treasurer Miller will keep.
- Commissioner Besser advised the board that we received official notification regarding the dividends from the Safety Group even though we already received the check.
- He also advised the board that we received another copy of the foil request from the Times Herald Record not properly addressed. Commissioner Decker stated that he had talked to other members from Battalion III and Vails Gate and it seems like whatever it is that the Record is looking for, they seem to be digging deep. Commissioner Besser said that he sent the original information to them three weeks ago and requested that they confirmed the receipt. He sent another e-mail requesting confirmation. He received no confirmation that they've received anything. He did send the information to the address they provided. He will call them.
- Commissioner Besser stated that we also received our monthly LOSAP investment statements, auto pay and payouts etc.

Hall Requests

- The Fire Company on October 24, 2015 for the Childrens' Halloween Party.

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A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to approve the use of the Fire House for the Childrens' Halloween Party on October 24, 2015. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Public Discussion

None.

Committee Reports

Space Committee and Surplus List: Treasurer Miller advised the board that she received the check from Robert Stoll in the amount of \$109. She will give a receipt to Assistant Chief Hunt to give to Mr Stoll when he picks up the demo saws.

Safety Committee: Nothing to report at this time.

Mack Restoration Committee: Nothing to report at this time.

Building Repair Committee: Commissioner Grecco advised that the work has been completed by our general contractor on the chair closet. He requests an additional \$200 because he had to replace one of the boards and as there were no 2x4's to screw the boards to, he had to purchase glue to hang the boards. Commissioner Besser stated that it seemed reasonable. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to increase the cost of the job from \$3750 to \$3950 to include the additional \$200 for the added supplies. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried. Commissioner Grecco will see what the general contractor can get done for us, for example, the handicap bathroom lock, gutters, straighten the door into the hall from the band closet side. She also met with the electrician who suggested that the connection box be above ground. She had John DeGroat come out and he said that the excavation would be about \$5000. Ralph, the electrician said that after he completes the work, we need an electrical engineer to inspect the work due to the diesel and gas pumps. A second quote will be needed for the excavation. Commissioner Besser would like to have all the quotes by the next meeting. Commissioner Besser advised the board that Commissioner Keenan spoke with a paver who estimates that to mill and resurface the parking lot would be about \$70,000. Commissioner Decker said that there is a company called Jet Black that did a good job for his neighbor. Commissioner Besser suggests that we patch and repair the spots that need it and plan to mill and resurface the parking lot next year.

Truck Committee: Nothing to report at this time.

Old Business

Physicals: Commissioner Besser advised the board that there is nothing new on physicals.

Driver Qualification/Active Duty Criteria: Commissioner Besser would like to schedule a workshop to finalize the policy manual, but he doesn't want to make a date that isn't

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good for all the Commissioners.

LOSAP/Service Awards: Commissioner Besser state that all reports were filed.

Fuel Audit: Nothing to report at this time.

Kaba Keys and Locks: Commissioner Besser stated Commissioner Jacobowitz talked with the guys on Stone Castle Road.

Replace (2) 2008 Chief Trucks: Commissioner Besser advised the board that the Command Vehicle is here. Commissioner Besser thanked Assistant Chief Hunt for riding down to Long Island with him to pick it up. Commissioner Besser registered it and gave the insurance card to Assistant Chief Hunt today. Radios will be installed tomorrow, then it can be put in service. Commissioner Grecco asked what we were going to do with Assistant Chief Hunt's old vehicle. Commissioner Besser suggested that we declare it surplus and put it out for bid. Commissioner Decker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Grecco to declare the 2008 Ford Expedition currently operated by Assistant Chief Hunt as a surplus vehicle out for sealed bid next month. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried. Commissioner Besser will get with Assistant Chief Hunt to go over the vehicle and asked if anyone had time to remove our name from the vehicle. Commissioner Besser will advertise it on Craig's List and send an e-mail to Vinny to disseminate to anyone interested. Vehicle will be sold "as is" and if it is going to a fire department, we'll leave the lights on it, if not, we will remove them.

Life insurance for Active Members: Nothing to report at this time.

Furniture for meeting room and office: Commissioner Besser advised the board that the furniture for the conference room and office is here. Commissioner Decker wanted to thank whoever put it together. Chief Draiss and Commissioner Besser put it together. There are still 4 desks to be put together.

Ice Machine: The ice machine is here and installed. Commissioner Besser thanked Chief Draiss for installing it. Chief Draiss thanked the board for purchasing it. Commissioner Besser advised the board that the ice machine was \$1582 from the same company that we got the refrigerator and freezer from, from another company it was \$1781 and from Granger it was \$3780. So just shop around before running to Granger.

Capital Asset Policy: The policy just states that we are going to maintain a list of assets that cost more than \$20,000 including installation or the cost of repairing or renovating the assets was \$20,000 or more. The Fixed Asset Capitalization Policy is attached. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to adopt the Fixed Asset Capitalization Policy as attached. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

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New Business

New Chief Vehicle: Commissioner Decker would like to start the process to acquire a new chief vehicle as the car that Assistant Chief Gasperetti uses has been costing us a lot to maintain.

Website: Commissioner Besser advised the board that we received a \$650 invoice from Tony Donato for the maintenance of our website. He also told Commissioner Besser that he put in a claim with the FCC over our original address. The \$650 included mail server hosting and forums, which we never use. It would save us \$150 to delete them. So our annual payment would be \$500. A motion was made by Commissioner Grecco and seconded by Commissioner Decker to make this change to the website to reduce the cost from \$650 annually to \$500 annually. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Budget Workshop: Commissioner Besser would like to schedule a Budget Workshop for Monday, August 31, 2015 at 7:00 PM. The secretary will put the notice in the paper.

Chief's Report

Membership

- New members: 1 Michael W Kennedy Senior Firefighter
- Qualified drivers: 0
- New Drivers Requested: 1 Marc Beach
- Drivers dropped: 0
- Physicals: On going
- Members passing probation: 0
- Members reinstated: 0
- Members dropped: 0
- Social Members dropped: 0
- Status switch: 0
- Members suspended: 0
- Members resigned: 0

Commissioner Besser asked for the reason that a person would join our company when we are the 4th fire house available to him. Assistant Chief Hunt said that in a time when the fire service is in need of member, we should tell him that the first complaint that we receive about him will be the end of his membership here. Commissioner Besser felt that he would be willing to give him a chance if the officers will abide by Assistant Chief Hunt's suggestion. Commissioner Besser made a motion to accept the application of Michael Kennedy, seconded by Commissioner Decker with the understanding that both Chief Draiss and Assistant Chief Hunt will end his membership if we receive any complaints. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nay) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to accept the application of Joe Sangricoli Jr that was brought up last month. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

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Further Information from the Chief

- Chief Draiss advised the board that flow testing was done today and four packs failed. They were sent to AAA for repair along with a few masks that were damaged in the fire.
- Chief Draiss advised the board that the foam system on the rescue is out of service. We are waiting for the vendor to repair it.
- Chief Draiss advised the board that the quick call is not working. The box is not being tripped by the county. Commissioner Besser noticed that the red light was not on. Commissioner Besser stated that we either need to get NYCOMCO to fix the box or maybe put a better antenna up. The Chief will call NYCOMCO if needed.
- Chief Draiss advised the board that there is a recall on 201 for faulty airbags (R25/NHTSA 15V-313) and an issue with the rear axle pinion nut (P77/NHTSA 14V-796). The parts are not in at this time. They will contact us again with a follow-up recall notice when the remedy parts are available.
- Chief Draiss advised the board that they have three parades this month. Montgomery, Buchanan and the Orange County Parade in Highland Mills. He would like permission to take district vehicles to the parades. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to allow the Chief to take apparatus to Montgomery, Buchanan and Highland Mills for parades. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.
- The Air Guard asked us to help them at the air show to stand-by with a tanker and the 6 wheeler on August 29 and 30. A motion was made by Commissioner Grecco and seconded by Commissioner Decker to allow the Chiefs to detail 203 and 200 (our 6 wheeler) to the air show on August 29 and 30. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Further Information from the Commissioners

Commissioner Besser asked the Chief to schedule repairs for 270.

He also informed Chief Draiss that there is a vendor that will be coming to Walden to do their pump test and could bring the equipment to our firehouse afterward to do our pump test. Chief Draiss will contact Larry at Walden to see when they are scheduled to make arrangements to schedule ours too.

Wanda Besser asked if there will be more than one or two radio on the Fire Police vehicles. Chief Draiss stated that the batteries are coming tomorrow.

Commissioner Grecco asked when we would need to replace the air tanks. Chief Draiss stated that they were just replaced in 2017 and need to be replaced again in 2019. She suggested that we start looking for grant money. Commissioner Besser advised the board that right now each bottle costs about \$700 and we would need between 60 and 70 bottles.

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Information from the Treasurer/Secretary

Treasurer Miller asked President Aigner about an outstanding check for the Benevolent Association. He will check with Andy.

Treasurer Miller advised the board that we have a CD maturing and when it rolls over it will earn .05% interest and the estimated amount will be \$33,749.51.

We received the new bill from Marangi and it will be going from \$116.88 to \$125 per month for garbage pick-up. Commissioner Decker advised the board that he called them about three or four weeks ago because they are coming between 3:30 and 4:30 in the morning and wake the neighbors. The woman said that she would try to rearrange the driver's route to have them come at 5:15. Treasurer Miller will call them again.

Treasurer Miller needs to move \$50,000 from the money market to the general fund checking. A motion was made by Commissioner Grecco and seconded by Commissioner Decker to move \$50,000 from the money market to the general fund checking. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Approved Expenditures

None.

Public Discussion

None.

Executive Session

Commissioner Decker made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation and a personnel issue. Commissioner Grecco seconded the motion. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried. Commissioner Besser asked the Chiefs to join them.

The meeting was reconvened. On the personnel issuer the Commissioners approved the total and permanent disability application for an active firefighter to the fire district by a 3 ayes, 0 nays vote. (The application was supported by documentation.)

Bills Signed

Commissioner Decker made a motion to pay bills if found correct, seconded by Commissioner Grecco. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) by those in attendance was received. Motion carried.

Budget to Actual Report

Commissioner Besser advised the board that we received the budget to actual report from the Treasurer and it was reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Grecco and seconded by Commissioner Decker to approve the Budget to Actual Report. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

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Additional dates requested by the Fire Company for the use of the hall

October 9, 2015 for Fire Prevention
June 11, 2016 for the Vacation Club

Commissioner Grecco will add them to the calendar.

Adjournment

Since all regular business was completed, Commissioner Decker moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Grecco. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) by those in attendance was received. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Keenan
Secretary