

JULY 14TH, 2022

REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
Held at 40 Mill Road  
Eastchester, NY 10709

PRESENT: Chairman Commr. Paul Carlo  
Commr. Paul Ranellone  
Commr. Anthony Lore  
Commr. Brian Keating  
Commr. Thomas Roche

IN ATTENDANCE:  
Chief Brian Tween  
Secretary Marissa Isang Smith

MOTION by Commr. Carlo and unan. Carried to open the meeting to the public, followed by a salute to the flag.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jamie Hedstrom was not in attendance. Commr. Carlo reviewed Hedstroms' submitted Treasurer report, mainly discussing the Motions presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 89, 2022

MOTION by Commr. Ranellone seconded by Commr. Lore to pay the bills and vouchers as presented. The Board has been supplied with two sets of bills and one credit card bill for Board approval. Chief Tween has reviewed all prior to the meeting, except certiorari claims and those specifically marked as reviewed by the Treasurer. The Treasurer has requested the Board approve the following:

Warrant 1- 7/14/22 - \$146,497.88

Warrant 2- 7/14/22 - \$240,368.69

Credit Card -7/18/22 - \$1,466.89

Total \$388,333.46

Commr. Lore	-	Aye
Commr. Ranellone	-	Aye
Commr. Keating	-	No
Commr. Roche	-	Abstain
Commr. Carlo	-	Aye

MOTION CARRIED \*\*\*\*\*

RESOLUTION NO. 90, 2022

Motion by Commr. Lore seconded by Commr. Ranellone to transfer funds to general ledger account 2413.1 Overtime-Firefighters, which is predicted to exceed its currently budgeted amount, from general ledger account 3410.15 Uniformed Firefighters Salary, in the amount of \$200,000.00.

- Commr. Lore - Aye
- Commr. Ranellone - Aye
- Commr. Keating - No
- Commr. Roche - Abstain
- Commr. Carlo - Aye

MOTION CARRIED \*\*\*\*\*

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Tween proceeded to share the following report:

Alarm activity: 342  
 Fire: 8  
 EMS/Rescue: 174  
 Mutual Aid Received 1 (NRFD)  
 Mutual Aid Given: 2 (FDMV)

- 1) Vehicle maintenance continues through the use of outside vendors.
- 2) Tim Dalton's weekly reports for June were emailed to the Board on July 13<sup>th</sup>.
- 3) Fire Prevention and Code Enforcement activities continue with numerous plan reviews and inspections and their report was been emailed to the Board on July 13<sup>th</sup>.
- 4) Currently two members are out on long term absence. One member is on unpaid leave.
- 5) On July 15<sup>th</sup>, six of our probationary members will graduate from the Westchester County Career Chiefs Fire Academy. They will work one week of day tours for orientation and will be assigned to their Groups as of July 25<sup>th</sup>.
- 6) On July 12<sup>th</sup>, the Board was emailed a quote for a vehicle. The vehicle will be for the Assistant Chief if the position is filled, and if not, it will go to the Fire Prevention office. Chief Tween requested that the Board authorize him to purchase a 2022 Chevrolet Tahoe from DeNooyer Chevrolet 127 Wolf Road Albany, NY for the price of \$45,575.00. The price is based on the Village of Endicott NY Police Department's accepted request for bids. Cheryl Sacco, the

District Counsel has confirmed we may piggyback onto this contract for purchase.

- 7) On July 12<sup>th</sup>, the Board was emailed a quote for a Pierce Enforcer tower ladder to replace the 2003 American La France tower ladder. The lead time for delivery is currently 18 months which would put the delivery in 2024 and the cost is \$1,852,000.00. The current tower ladder will be 21 years old and cost more to maintain. Chief Tween recommended the Board approve the purchase and discuss how they would prefer to pay the cost. Money could be added to the 2023 and 2024 budgets, possibly the Board would prefer to bond the purchase, or choose another method.
- 8) The floor at the Bronxville Firehouse has been evaluated and a conclusion was provided by Highland Associates. Unfortunately, the news is not good. The floor as designed, even if repaired, cannot support Engine 29 that is stationed there. We tried to remove 400 feet of hose and it was still overweight. Currently, E-29 is the spare vehicle being stored at Fire HQ and E-28 has been put in service as it does not overload the floor rating. Chief Tween recommended the Board discuss if they would like to repair the damaged section of floor or strengthen the whole floor as the District is doing in the Chester Heights firehouse.
- 9) Finally, Chief Tween requested to add at the September meeting, a promotional and award ceremony. The scheduled promotional and award ceremony in December was canceled due to Covid-19. There are numerous promotions and commendations to be awarded since the last ceremony. Chief Tween estimated the ceremony would add approximately 45-60 minutes to the meeting.

Commr. Roche inquired about the price for the vehicle for Assistant Chief. Chief Tween advised he does not have a quote yet for the vehicle.

Commr. Ranellone commented on the situation concerning Bronxville Firehouse and recommended that the District completes the entire apparatus floor.

Chief Tween advised that the floor would need to be addressed since rigs will become heavier in the future. Commr. Roche inquired about the situation around the safety of the apparatus floor and agreed with Commr. Ranellone on strengthening the whole floor.

Commr. Keating recommended the Chief take care of the entire station 3 floor. Commr. Lore agreed with the other Commissioners to take care of the entire floor.

RESOLUTION NO. 91, 2022

MOTION by Commr. Carlo seconded by Commr. Roche to authorize Chief Tween to purchase a 2022 Chevrolet Tahoe from DeNooyer Chevrolet 127 Wolf Road Albany, NY for the price of \$45,575.00.

Commr. Lore	-	Aye
Commr. Ranellone	-	Aye
Commr. Keating	-	Aye
Commr. Roche	-	Aye
Commr. Carlo	-	Aye

MOTION CARRIED \*\*\*\*\*

Discussion continued around the Pierce Enforcer tower ladder, and how to proceed. Chief Tween recommended waiting for Treasurer Jamie Hedstrom to be in attendance to discuss financing options. The Board moved to table the purchase of the ladder truck for the following meeting. The discussion continued around funds being put into a reserve fund and other options. Chief Tween confirmed he could proceed with the engineering company to design a floor plan for station 3.

SECRETARY REPORT

Secretary Isang Smith submitted the following report:

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- 1) Coordination support for Fire Prevention and American Red Cross partnership for the Eastchester Day event on June 18th.
- 2) 11 Social Media Posts on Eastchester Fire District Social Media Platforms:
  - a) Facebook: Eastchester Fire District
  - b) Instagram: @eastchesterfiredistrict
  - c) Twitter: @EastchesterFD
- 3) Website management and monthly graphic design page updates
- 4) Outline for EFD Monthly Newsletter to initiate July 2022

FOIL OFFICER

- 1) 3 FOILs received and processed

## RECORD MANAGEMENT OFFICER

- 1) Eastchester Fire District has been tentatively awarded a grant in the amount of \$39,038.00 as part of the records digitization project for the LGRMIF awards.
- 2) Review, meetings with NYSA and coordination of resources for grant funding of records management project.

## GRANT WRITING

- 1) Continued prep work on SAFER Grant through AFG for Fall 2022 application.
- 2) Continued research on grant application options for equipment and capital projects.

## MISC.

- 1) Created OML Document for June Meeting
- 2) Initiate process for canvass of candidates for invitation to CPAT and Fall Academy
- 3) Initiate process for bid for Chester Heights
- 4) Continued work on June 2022 Regular Meeting and Special Meeting Minutes
- 5) Updated 2022 resolutions spreadsheet
- 6) Regular office tasks as needed including scheduling, billing, customer service, and staff support.

Commr. Ranellone discussed adding a firefighter position and his plans for the year 2023 to add two firefighters to the roster to add an extra firefighter in each group. Commr. Ranellone shared that the department could only operate with a captain, two lieutenants, and 14 firefighters in a group. The goal is to get to 15 firefighters and to have three firefighters on each apparatus.

RESOLUTION NO. 92, 2022

MOTION by Commr. Carlo seconded by Commr. Lore to create the position of Firefighter and direct Jamie Hedstrom to submit to Civil Service a request and any other paperwork necessary to create this position effective immediately with a salary as per the existing negotiated CBA.

Commr. Lore	-	Aye
Commr. Ranellone	-	Aye
Commr. Keating	-	No
Commr. Roche	-	Abstain

Commr. Carlo - Aye

MOTION CARRIED \*\*\*\*\*

Chief Tween presented Monsignor Luke Sweeney with an Eastchester Fire District Badge and thanked him for his guidance along with the Board. Monsignor Sweeney thanked the Commissioners and hoped for continuing wisdom and prudence when making decisions to make the community safer.

Commr. Roche discussed the Fire Prevention Bureau email submitted to the Board and suggested opening a civil service position for a fire prevention inspector. Commr. Lore asked where the funding would come from. Commr. Roche indicated that the Town would benefit from the fire inspector's office and brought up the idea of appealing to the Town to supplement the salary. Commr. Roche suggested creating a committee to approach Town and other requirements for this proposed position. Commr. Roche discussed the request by Chief Tween to pay the overtime for Fire Prevention. Commr. Carlo shared his thoughts that the overtime budget line for Fire Prevention was minimal. Union President Ranellone suggested the Board discuss with legal counsel this proposed position as traditionally, the fire prevention position was bargained for by the union. Discussion continued regarding the fire prevention inspector position.

Commr. Carlo discussed the permissive referendum item. Commr. Carlo believed funds could be pulled from the general fund to complete the Chester Heights project. Commr. Roche agreed with Commr. Carlo's position on the matter.

Commr. Carlo discussed Chester Heights updates and the drainage system and concrete pouring tasks. Chief Tween provided updates as well for Chester Heights and explained how the drainage system would work. Discussion continued amongst the Commissioners and the Chief regarding Chester Heights updates.

Commr. Roche discussed the Eastchester Fire District newsletter and options for collecting emails. Secretary Isang shared options with the Board for collecting emails and ways to expand community outreach. Commr. Roche shared the secretary email for

the public to reach out should they have interest in receiving the monthly newsletter: [secretary@eastchesterfd.com](mailto:secretary@eastchesterfd.com)

Commr. Roche discussed the false alarms statistics shared on the website and newsletter. Chief Tween clarified that false alarms could be coded by Captains in response to accidental alarms, rather than a someone calling in a false event. Commr. Ranellone discussed improvement on false alarms with the removal of the call boxes. Chief Tween recommended the continued response for False Alarms as there is a safety benefit for the community.

Commr. Roche introduced a resolution that the Board creates a committee to investigate, read and determine if the District must re-write the rules and regulations of the 1935 red book.

RESOLUTION NO. 95, 2022

MOTION by Commr. Roche seconded by Commr. Ranellone to create a committee to investigate, review and determine if the Board must re-write the rules and regulations of the department from 1935.

- Commr. Lore - No
- Commr. Ranellone - Aye
- Commr. Keating - No
- Commr. Roche - Aye
- Commr. Carlo - No

MOTION FAILED \*\*\*\*\*

LOCAL 916

Union President Steven Ranellone - no comment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike Parici inquired after the lights around Chester Heights and who is going to grade the property after construction. Mike Parici asked who was going to clean out the inside of the firehouse after construction. Chief Tween believed Vinco would address those items. Discussion continued around specific items for Chester Heights.

Tony Fiore congratulated Monsignor Sweeney and thanked the Board for the use of the utility truck at the Mamaroneck parade.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commr. Lore shared his congratulations to the Probationary Firefighters and their graduation and to Monsignor Sweeney. Commr. Lore thanked the Chief and the Board for the use of the rig at the parade.

Commr. Ranellone shared he enjoyed marching in the Mamaroneck parade. Commr. Ranellone shared he observed the work taking place at Station 4 - Chester Heights, including the concrete pouring.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Commr. Carlo seconded by Commr. Lore and unanimously carried that this meeting adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Marissa "Isang" Smith  
SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF  
FIRE COMMISSIONERS