

November 10th, 2022

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

PRESENT: Chairman Commr. Paul Carlo
Commr. Paul Ranelone
Commr. Anthony Lore
Commr. Thomas Roche

ABSENT: Commr. Brian Keating

IN ATTENDANCE:
Chief Brian Tween
Treasurer Jamie Hedstrom
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

The following report was submitted by Treasurer Jamie Hedstrom:

The financials as of October 31, 2022 present a net budget surplus of approximately \$1.1M. However, certain GL accounts will require budget transfers where the YTD 2022 expenditures have exceeded or will exceed the amount budgeted for the line item. While we will continue to monitor for any items that may need immediate attention, at this time I recommend holding off on additional budget transfers until year end when we have a complete picture of the spending by category. At that time I will also make recommendations on surplus allocations for 2023 expenditures (e.g., tower ladder purchase, future construction, etc.) for the Board's consideration. The budget transfer of an additional \$100,000 to Firefighter overtime that was approved at the October 18, 2022 meeting has been made.
Station 4 Construction

We continue to use our capital reserve fund to fund the work being conducted at Station 4. Below is a summary of the capital reserve spending for this project and the anticipated future spending:

Authorized Amount Per Permissive Referendum \$ 745,000.00
 8/16/2021 \$ (15,627.50)
 11/22/2021 \$ (85,110.50)
 1/24/2022 \$ (46,778.00)
 2/22/2022 \$ (19,000.00)
 4/21/2022 \$ (125,357.25)
 6/14/2022 \$ (124,979.30)
 8/11/2022 \$ (125,710.79)
 8/29/2022 \$ (138,793.63)
 Remaining from Permissive Referendum as of Current \$ 63,643.03
 Vinco Original Contract Sum \$ 561,500.00
 Change Order #5- Approved May 2022 \$ 133,454.31
 CO #1 Removal of Coal Shoot and Garbage Shed \$ 22,842.55
 CO #2 Rock Removal at Foundation to Accommodate
 Waterproofing \$ 1,092.60
 CO #3 Reconnect Circuits Removed in the Slab \$ 48,237.50
 CO #4 Dewatering Cost for Excess Water Infiltration \$ 4,240.30
 Allowance #3 Electrical \$ 40,000.00
 CO #6 \$ 26,200.00
 CO #7 \$ 14,907.50
 Revised Contract Total \$ 852,474.76

At this time, the known revised Vinco contract costs exceed the amount of the permissive referendum, Per the direction of the Board, the general fund will be used to cover any costs over the initial estimate of \$745,000.

As of September 7, 2022, the Board has authorized a second expenditure from the capital reserve in the amount of \$760,000 for the next phase of the Chester Heights project. The permissive referendum period has expired and the expenditure was not contested.

Other:

Budget Encumbrances- Purchases initiated in 2021 that won't be complete until

2022

Water rescue equipment- purchased June 2022

10,096.38

Turnout gear- purchased June 2022

63,977.40

Bailout system- purchased 4/8/22

50,050.80

VHF Radios (approx)- partially purchased as of June 2022

100,000.00

Total Budget Encumberances

224,124.58

Treasury Direct Investments

As of November 7, 2022, we have \$11,000,000 invested in 4-week Treasury bills through our Treasury Direct account. The current interest rates have increased to around 3.6%, and interest earnings to date are approximately \$100K. Our investment in Treasury Direct will be reduced as we move into November and our NYSLRS payment and other year-end expenses become due.

Other Items

- NYSHIP- We are still waiting on NYSHIP to publish the 2023 rates, at which time we will notify contributing employees and those retirees paying the District directly (vs. through a pension deduction) of any changes.
- Medicare Part B reimbursements will be issued to eligible retirees in December. The 2022 standard Medicare Part B premium is \$170.10/month, or \$2,041.20 per individual for the calendar year.
- JPMorgan additional fraud protection steps- per our discussion last month, I have added positive pay to our checking account, and am working with JPMorgan to add ACH blocks to all bank accounts

- NYSLRS- Prepayment due by 12/15/22 to take advantage of 2% discount. Final invoice is not yet available; estimated invoice broken down as follows, net of 2% discount:

PFRS \$2,639,886

ERS \$8,160

Total \$2,648,046

Note that this exceeds the budgeted amount of \$2,625,000.

I would ask that the Board add a bill payment motion to the November 30th special meeting for this invoice as well as any additional invoices that are received in the interim, as the next regular Board meeting is not scheduled until the end of December.

MOTION by Commr. Ranellone seconded by Commr. Lore to pay the bills and vouchers as presented. The Board has been supplied with one set 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- 12/14/22 - \$772,795.74

Credit Card - 12/18/22- \$4,314.62 **Total** \$778,110.36

Commr. Lore - Aye

Commr. Ranellone - Aye

Commr. Keating - No

Commr. Roche - No

Commr. Carlo - Aye

MOTION CARRIED *****

CHIEF REPORT

Chief Tween submitted the following report:

Alarm activity: 402

Fire: 7

EMS/Rescue: 224

Mutual Aid Given: 1 (Scarsdale FD)

- 1) Vehicle maintenance continues through the use of outside vendors.
- 2) Tim Dalton's weekly maintenance reports for October were emailed to the Board earlier today.

- 3) Fire Prevention and Code Enforcement activities continue with numerous plan reviews and inspections. October 9th through October 15th was Fire Prevention week and Captain Thomas Pintavalle and the members visited nine schools reaching over 1,300 children to spread fire safety information.
- 4) Currently two members are out on long term absence.
- 5) We have two live fire training days coming up next week on Wednesday and Thursday where the members will be conducting training in the six-story building at the fire WC training center.
- 6) Captain Yozzo and Lt. Castiello have been conducting FF mayday training with the members and utilizing a floor collapse prop that they built in house. This training was posted on our social media sites by the Secretary.
- 7) Lt. DiRienzo and Lt. Olivier have been conducting high angle rope training off the roof of 100 Columbus Ave. in Tuckahoe. This is a ten-story apartment building that the members are simulating the rescue of a victim off the side of the building. This training was posted on our social media sites by the Secretary.
- 8) We took delivery of the John Deere gator this week. I will contact the insurance company to get it insured and then I can register it with NY State DMV. At a future meeting I will have proposals for installing emergency lights and decals to identify it as EFD.
- 9) I am working with our attorneys to finalize the proposal from Highland Associates for the repair of the Bronxville firehouse apparatus floor.
- 10) Our attorneys and engineer for the Chester Heights project next phase have finalized the AIA contract and should have sent it to the winning bidder for signing, so hopefully the bathrooms, HVAC, and ADA accessibility work will begin soon.
- 11) Vinco Builders, LLC has advised they are hoping to finish their phase of the Chester Heights project in the next few weeks.

Respectfully submitted November 10, 2022
by Chief Brian Tween

SECRETARY REPORT

The following report was submitted by Secretary Marissa Isang Smith:

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- 1) 12 Social Media Posts in October on Eastchester Fire District Social Media Platforms
- 2) Website Metrics:
 - a) 492 Visits
 - b) Fire Commissioners - Top Performing Page
- 3) November Newsletter created and sent out November 7th

FOIL OFFICER

- 1) 4 FOILs were received and 3 processed

RECORD MANAGEMENT OFFICER

- 1) Received \$19,519.00 for records digitization project of the **\$39,038**. Continued work on onboarding materials for temporary staff and work plan.

GRANT WRITING

- 1) DHSES research of BRIC and FMA due January 2023
- 2) SAFER Grant research
- 3) Continued research on grant application options for equipment, staffing, and capital projects.

MISC.

- 1) OML Document for November Meeting
- 2) Continued work on Fire District Election:
 - a) 700 Absentee Ballots to be mailed out on November 23rd
 - b) The goal is to have 35 - 40 Inspectors with a new shift added for additional support to count absentee ballots
 - c) One candidate is verified and on the ballot -
Reminder: The deadline for Nomination Petitions is November 23rd at 4 PM.
- 3) Meeting Minutes updated and posted to the website
- 4) Updated 2022 resolutions spreadsheet
- 5) Regular office tasks as needed including scheduling, billing, customer service, and staff support.

RESOLUTION NO. 121, 2022

MOTION to pay the bills and vouchers as presented. The Board has been supplied with one set 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- 11/10/22 - \$324,756.94

Credit Card - 11/18/22- \$1,678.01// **Total** \$326,434.95

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

MOTION CARRIED *****

RESOLUTION NO. 122, 2022

MOTION to pay the New York State and Local Retirement System invoice due December 15, 2022 in order to take advantage of the 2% prepay discount, in the amount of \$2,648,046.

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

MOTION CARRIED *****

RESOLUTION NO. 123, 2022

We received correspondence from the Manager of the Bronxville Cemetery David Weir, asking us to clarify three proposed corrections from the meeting minutes from the meeting on November 1, 2022. Please have tonight's minutes reflect the following clarifications:

"1. My title is the "Manager of the Bronxville Cemetery."

2. The Bronxville Cemetery is owned by the Ridgefield Park Reformed Presbyterian Church, Inc. of Ridgefield Park, New Jersey. I myself do not own the Cemetery. (Why the church in NJ and the Cemetery in Bronxville? The church was located in Manhattan back in 1852 when the cemetery was founded here in Bronxville, and then the church migrated with its people over 170 years, ending up in Ridgefield Park, north of the Meadowlands. But (thankfully) the cemetery did not move!)

3. To make the minutes simpler, it seems OK to say that the Bronxville Cemetery is repairing the stone wall, especially when the religious corporation behind the cemetery is correctly identified in the earlier paragraph. I myself am not making the repairs to the wall, nor am I paying for them."

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

MOTION CARRIED *****

Paper Folder

Motion to purchase the United Automatic paper folder machine at the price of \$798.00 for the election absentee ballots.

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

MOTION CARRIED *****

PERMA LETTER

The item was closed and decided not to send it to the general counsel on behalf of PERMA

WEBSITE STIPEND

Motion by Commr. Roche had no second to increase the Secretary's salary to \$84,000.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike Parici checked in on the Chester Heights updates.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commr. Ranellone provided his monthly activity report, touching on the recent rope training by the members and the comparison of live rescue by FDNY recently.

Commr. Lore requested moment of silence for Peter Iodice. He wished a Happy birthday to Marine Corps, and reminded the public of Veterans Day and shared a ceremony was happening at Lake Isle. Commr. Lore also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Commr. Roche thanked the Union President for posting the mass conference course on social media and the FF who allowed his image to be used. Commr. Roche asked about the agenda item regarding the Assistant Chief interviews and how Commr. Carlo did not want it on the agenda.

Discussion occurred between the Commissioners regarding the Assistant Chief Position and scope of responsibilities.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

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

DRAFT