

**MINUTES**  
**Promotional & Awards Ceremony**  
**Regular Meeting of the Eastchester Board of Fire Commissioners**  
**Location: Eastchester Town Hall**  
**(Thursday, May 11, 2023)**

**Board Members Present:**

Chairman Paul Carlo  
Commissioner Paul M. Ranellone  
Commissioner Anthony J. Lore, Sr.  
Commissioner Tony Cerasi

**Board Members Absent:**

Commissioner Brian E. Keating

**In Attendance:**

Assistant Chief Bruce Yozzo  
Treasurer Jamie Hedstrom  
Secretary Marissa “Isang” Smith

**1. Call to Order**

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**Action: 1.1 - Meeting called to order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Chairman Carlo.

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**2. Salute to the Flag**

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**3. Promotional & Awards Ceremony**

The following Letters of Commendation were submitted by Chief Tween and read by Assistant Chief Yozzo:

On Thursday December 29, 2022 at approximately 1006 hours, the Eastchester Fire Department was dispatched to NY Sports Club, 696 White Plains Road, Scarsdale, for a male not breathing. E-31 staffed with Lieutenant Eric Castiello, Firefighter John Rabijs, Firefighter JohnCarl Navaretta, and Firefighter Louis Monaco IV, and Car 2102 staffed by Firefighter John Vernazza and Captain Robert Pintavalle, responded to the scene.

Upon arrival the crews found an approximately 60-year-old male patient lying on the ground where a civilian had initiated CPR and shocked the patient with an AED. CPR was taken over by Eastchester Police Department Officers Bryson and Tiso who also shocked the patient with an AED. Eastchester FD members arrived on scene and continued CPR and shocked the patient an

additional time with an AED, while EVAC Medic 1 and 2 began ALS intervention. The efforts of all the members on scene ultimately got the patient back with a heartbeat and the patient began breathing on his own. The patient was transported to the Hospital emergency department and was ultimately discharged from the hospital. If not for the swift professional actions of the civilian in the gym, the EFD firefighters, the Eastchester police officers, the EVAC Paramedics, and the EVAC crew, the victim would not have survived this situation. These Fire Officers and Firefighters acted in the finest traditions of the Fire Service.

The following Members are recognized for their actions.

EMS CLASS II CITATION

Captain Robert Pintavalle

Lieutenant Eric Castiello

Firefighter John Rabijs

Firefighter John Vernazza

Firefighter JohnCarl Navaretta

Firefighter Louis Monaco IV

On Thursday October 27, 2022 at approximately 1113 hours, the Eastchester Fire Department was dispatched to the Iona University Baseball Field, 171 White Plains Road for a male having a seizure. E-27 staffed with Lieutenant John O'Leary and Firefighter Robert Federico, and Car 2102 staffed by Firefighter Mark Cleary and Captain Bruce Calby, responded to the scene. Upon arrival the crews found an approximately 19-year-old male patient lying on the ground with no pulse and not breathing. CPR was begun by the Eastchester FD members as EVAC deployed a defibrillator to monitor the patient. Firefighters applied the Lucas chest compression device, and the EVAC Paramedic defibrillated the patient. EVAC transported the patient to NY Presbyterian Westchester Hospital for further treatment and was ultimately discharged from the hospital with zero defects. If not for the swift professional actions of the firefighters, Bronxville police officers, EVAC Paramedic and the EVAC crew, the victim would not have survived this situation. These Fire Officers and Firefighters acted in the finest traditions of the Fire Service.

The following Members are recognized for their actions.

EMS CLASS II CITATION

Captain Bruce Calby

Lieutenant John O'Leary

Firefighter Mark Cleary

Firefighter Robert Federico

4. **Adjourn for 15 minutes**
5. **Open Regular Meeting**

The regular meeting of the Eastchester Board of Fire Commissioners opened at 7:40 PM.

6. **Treasurer Report**

Treasurer Jamie Hedstrom submitted the following report:

The financials as of April 30, 2023 present a net budget surplus of approximately \$540K.  
Construction Projects:

Location Vendor Description Cost Remainder Funding  
Station 4 Vinco Apparatus Floor \$ 852,474.76 \$ 5,800.00

Split- remainder  
General Fund

Station 4

Guglielmi  
Plumbing Water Line Repair \$15,000.00 \$15,000.00 General Fund  
Station 4 B&B Heating & ADA Compliance \$ 639,900.00 \$ 639,900.00 Capital Reserve  
Station 3

Highland  
Associates

Apparatus Floor-  
Architectural Only \$ 34,500.00 \$ 34,500.00 General Fund

Current Balance in Capital Reserve: \$1,121,914.87  
Remainder after Station 4 Permissive Referendum (\$760,000): \$361,914.87  
Other:

Tax Collection

We received our full tax levy from the Town, in the amount of \$19,816,022.50. Prior to this receipt, our current balance across all accounts (including the capital reserve) was approximately \$3.5M, of which approximately \$1.1M is the reserve.

Treasury Direct Investments

We will resume our investments in 4-week Treasury bills through our Treasury Direct account in \$3M increments. The current interest rates are approximately 5.4%.

Year-End Audit

Our auditors, BST & Company, have completed their work papers and the drafts are under review. BST has filed our AUD with New York State.

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## 7. Chief Report

Assistant Chief Bruce Yozzo read the following report submitted by Chief Tween:

Alarm activity: 382

Fire: 8

EMS/Rescue: 183

Mutual Aid Given: 5 (FDMV-2, NRRFD-1, Scarsdale FD -1, Yonkers FD-1)

Mutual Aid Received: 3 Departments during one incident (FDMV-1, NRRFD-1, Scarsdale FD -1)

- 1) On Thursday April 6<sup>th</sup>, the members of Group 4 under the direction of Captain John Debitetto, responded to a house fire on Hemlock Road. The members were able to quickly knock down and attic fire and placed tarps over furniture to minimize the damage to the home. All the members did a great job.
- 2) Vehicle and equipment maintenance is being done in house as much as possible by part-time mechanic Hank Henninger. His report was emailed to the Board on 5/10/23.
- 3) Tim Dalton's weekly maintenance reports for March were emailed to the Board on 5/10/23.
- 4) Fire Prevention and Code Enforcement activities continue with numerous plan reviews and inspections. The Fire Prevention reports were emailed to the Board on 5/2/23.
- 5) Currently there are four members are out on long term absence.
- 6) The five probationary firefighters in the Career Chiefs Firefighter Academy are doing well.
- 7) The four Eastchester HS seniors participating in the WISE internship and the Tuckahoe HS Senior doing his Senior internship have all reported and are riding in apparatus with Supervisors.
- 8) B&B Contracting Group is in the process of hiring subcontractors to begin the next phase of construction at the Chester Heights firehouse.
- 9) The water service line has been replaced into the Chester Heights firehouse and final interior connections should be completed soon.
- 10) The Stryker LUCAS 3 Chest Compression System has been put in service on E-31, we now have two units in service.
- 11) Congratulations to Assistant Chief Yozzo and Captain Dan Olivier on their promotions, and job well done to the ten members receiving commendations for the two lifesaving EMS calls. The ten members as well as four members previously recognized in September for their lifesaving actions, have been nominated for lifesaving awards from the Westchester Regional EMS Council. I will notify the members if their awards are approved.

Respectfully submitted May 10, 2023  
by Chief Brian Tween

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## **8. Secretary Report**

Secretary Marissa "Isang" Smith submitted the following report:

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

- 1) Website Metrics:

- a) 589 Visits - April 2023
- b) Hiring Process - Top Performing Page
- 2) April Social Media: 3 Posts:
  - a) Instagram: @EastchesterFireDistrict
  - b) Facebook: Eastchester Fire District
  - c) Twitter: EastchesterFD
- 3) May Newsletter is being sent out Monday, 5/15

#### FOIL OFFICER

- 1) 2 FOILs were received in April

#### RECORDS DIGITIZATION

- 1) New shelving units installed at Station 3
- 2) The consultant delivered our Need Assessment Report and Recommended Manual. Based on their findings and recommendations, I will send the Board an overview of the requested action items for consideration.
- 3) The search continues for an inventory clerk after the recent one withdrew their proposal due to scheduling conflicts. I have received three proposals and hope to find one that can start work this summer.
- 4) Thank you to the members for assisting with the Station 3 records room project. A special thank you to Tim Dalton for beautifying the space by painting and cleaning it. Before and after pictures will be provided once the records boxes are in the new area.
- 5) Continued work discarding, organizing, and sorting files at headquarters.

#### OFFICE - GENERAL

- 1) OML Document for May Meeting
- 2) Minutes have been updated and posted to the website
- 3) Updated 2023 resolutions spreadsheet
- 4) Regular office tasks as needed, including scheduling, billing, customer service, and staff support.

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### 9. Business Office Recommendations

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#### **Action: 9.1 - Payment of Bills**

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Fire Commissioners approves to pay the bills and vouchers as presented. The Board has been supplied with two sets of bills and one credit card bill. 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- 5/11/23 - \$68,473.39

Warrant 2 - 5/11/23 - \$53,813.66

Credit Card – 5/18/23- \$3,608.55

Total \$125,895.60

Motion by Chairman Carlo, seconded by Commr. Ranellone

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Commr. Cerasi, Commr. Lore, Commr. Ranellone, Commr. Carlo

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**10. Other Business**

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**11. Future Meeting Dates**

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**Action: 9.1 - June 8, 2023 - Eastchester Town Hall - Regular Meeting**  
Information

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**12. Comments from Local 916**

Lt. Joseph Costanzo thanked the District for the Promotional and Awards Ceremony, congratulated Assistant Chief Yozzo, Captain Olivier, and the ten members who received life saving awards as well as members of EVAC and the police department who helped.

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**13. Comments from the Public**

A member of the public shared information on the Volunteer Firefighters Memorial Services for Sunday, May 21st, at ICS at 8:00 AM.

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**14. Comments from the Commissioners**

Commr. Ranellone praised the members for their work and was pleased to see them acknowledged for saving lives.

Commr. Lore - Congratulated Captain Olivier, Assistant Chief Yozzo, and the other members for their awards and promotions. Commr. Lore reminded the public about the Memorial Day Parade services on Monday, May 29th, and Volunteer Firefighter Memorial Services on Sunday, May 21st.

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**15. Adjournment**

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**Action 14.1 - Motion to Adjourn**

Motion by Chairman Carlo, unanimously agreed upon

Final Resolution: Motion passed

Yes: Commr. Carlo, Commr. Cerasi, Commr. Lore, Commr. Ranellone

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM .

DRAFT