

EASTCHESTER FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE EASTCHESTER BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Eastchester Board of Fire Commissioners held on Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., at Eastchester Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York.

Board Members Present:

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

In Attendance:

Chief Brian Tween
Treasurer Jamie Hedstrom
Secretary Marissa “Isang” Smith

● **CALL TO ORDER**

Action: 1.1 - Meeting called to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Carlo

● **SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

● **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Fire Commissioners approves to adopt the following meeting minutes:

- July 9, 2024 - Special Meeting
- July 11, 2024 - Regular Meeting
- July 23, 2024 - Special Meeting
- July 31, 2024 - Special Meeting
- August 8, 2024 - Regular Meeting

Motion by Chairman. Carlo, seconded by Commr. Ranellone
Aye: Commr. Cerasi, Commr. Ranellone,
Abstain: Commr. Lore, Commr. Keating, Chairman. Carlo
Final: Motion Failed

4 . Treasurer Report

Treasurer Jamie Hedstrom submitted the following report to the Board:

September 12, 2024

To: Board of Fire Commissioners, Eastchester Fire District
 From: Jamie Hedstrom, Treasurer
 Subject: Actual vs. Budget Comparison, August 2024

The financials as of August 31, 2024 present a net budget deficit of approximately \$140K.

At this time, budget transfers are recommended for certain GL accounts where we have exceeded the budgeted amount, as follows:

From:	To:	Amount
9040.8 Workers Compensation	1150.5 Insurance	\$ 20,000.00
3410.47 Professional Consultants fees	3210.3 Vehicle Maintenance	\$ 15,000.00
3410.47 Professional Consultants fees	3240.3 Bldg/Prop Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 25,000.00
3410.47 Professional Consultants fees	3160.4 Fire Training	\$ 10,000.00
3090.2 Certiorari	3416.1 Terminal Leave	\$ 107,000.00
3090.2 Certiorari	3030.2 Hoses & Nozzles	\$ 20,000.00
3410.81 Disabled Firemen salary -207A's	3410.2 Fire Equipment and Capital Outlay	\$ 30,000.00
3410.465 Consultant Fees- Engineers	3410.2 Fire Equipment and Capital Outlay	\$ 12,150.00
		\$ 42,150.00
Total Budget Transfers		\$ 239,150.00

It is expected that the budgeted amount for GL 3413.1 Overtime-Firefighters will be exceeded by the end of October, and that a budget transfer will be necessary. This account will be monitored for a future transfer, or a potential allocation of unbudgeted earnings (Treasury Direct interest).

Funds allocated to 2024

Below is the current list of budget encumbrances for 2024:

Budget Encumbrances- Purchases initiated that won't be complete until 2024

Coats, Boots, Helmets- fully expended as of June 2024	\$69,000.00
Radio Equipment- partially expended May 2024	\$75,294.65
Hoses and Nozzles – fully expended Feb 2024	\$22,210.00
Fire Equip and Capital Outlay- Cruisers Division – fully expended as of August 2024	\$120,000.00

Fire Equip and Capital Outlay- Ladder Truck- expended March 2024	\$400,000.00
Total Budget Encumbrances	\$686,504.65

The ladder truck has been delivered and paid for as of March 31st. The additional funding required of \$515,163.38 was appropriated from the unreserved surplus available.

Construction Projects:

Current Balance in Capital Reserve: \$373,569.93

Location	Vendor	Description	Cost	Remainder	Funding
Station 4	Vinco	Apparatus Floor	\$ 852,474.76	\$ 5,800.00	Split- remainder General Fund
Station 3	Highland Associates	Apparatus Floor- Architectural Only TO BE REVISED	TBD (was \$34,500)	TBD (was \$34,500)	General Fund

Other:

Treasury Direct Investments

We have resumed our Treasury Direct Investments, in \$3M increments. Interest rates are currently around 5.0%.

2025 Budget Updates and Factors

As with 2024, no carryover will be available for purposes of the 2% tax cap. Based on currently available data, we could increase the budget approximately 2.6%, or approximately \$540,000, without exceeding the tax cap. Based on the budget factors discussed below, the Board will likely need to exceed the tax cap for the upcoming budget.

Budget Factors

- At this time, we do not have a negotiated contract for 2025 and beyond. This will impact the budgeted amounts for various salary and benefit lines.
- The Board has indicated that it is considering increasing membership by 4 positions in 2025.
- GL accounts that will require increases in the 2025 budget based on 2024 spending and trends include:
 - 3413.1 Overtime- Firefighters
 - 9060.1 Hospital
 - 1150.5 Insurance
 - 3060.2 Fuel & Electric
 - 3240.3 Bldg/Prop Repairs & Maintenance

○ 3416.1 Terminal Leave

- The budget includes \$500,000 for the Pierce Enforcer Pumper that the Board has previously committed to purchase and anticipates receipt of in late 2025/early 2026. The budget does not include any additional funds for future apparatus purchases.
- The budget does not include any funds for future capital improvements. The Board is contemplating bonding a 2025 renovation to Station 3.
- NYSLRS rates are increasing in 2025 by approximately 5.5% for Tier 2 and Tier 5 members, and over 17% for Tier 6 members. Based on these increased rates, our NYSLRS contribution due in 2025 is expected to be \$350K higher than our 2024 contribution.
- NYSHIP premium rates for 2025 will not be released until after the October Budget Hearing. It is unknown at this time what the percentage increase will be, but it is assumed to be at least 12%. Rate increases from 2023 to 2024 were approximately 10% for non-Medicare plans and over 20% for Medicare primary plans.
- The Chiefs have requested the purchase of a transport van and a new vehicle for Fire Prevention, estimated at \$110,000, and the addition of a third training day to the Overtime-Training budget.

Budget Timeline

The proposed budget must be adopted by September 24th.

Eastchester, NY Fire District
Budget vs. Actuals: FY2024 - FY24 P&L
January- August 2024

	Total			
	Actual	Budget	over Budget	% of Budget
Income				
Use of Capital Reserve	188,847.00	188,847.00		
Appropriated Fund Balance	495,163.38	495,163.38		
Budget Encumbrances	1,546,849.08	1,546,849.08	0.00	100.00%
1001 Real Property Taxes	20,866,263.00	20,866,263.00	0.00	100.00%
2401 Interest Earnings	284,498.97		284,498.97	
2705 Miscellaneous Income	7,254.00		7,254.00	
2770 Workers Comp - Reimbursement	22,100.18	14,000.00	8,100.18	157.86%
Total Income	\$ 23,410,975.61	\$ 23,111,122.46	\$ 299,853.15	101.30%
Gross Profit	\$ 23,410,975.61	\$ 23,111,122.46	\$ 299,853.15	101.30%
Expenses				
1110.5 Outside Services	8,489.49	8,000.00	489.49	106.12%
1120.5 Fire Prevention	1,775.00	1,000.00	775.00	177.50%
1140.5 Payroll Processing Expense	7,754.43	7,333.36	421.07	105.74%
1150.5 Insurance	164,261.82	145,000.00	19,261.82	113.28%
1170.5 Other Miscellaneous Expenses	551.95	8,000.00	(7,448.05)	6.90%
1180.5 Education & Travel	2,356.73	3,333.36	(976.63)	70.70%
1200.5 Recruitment	0.00	3,333.36	(3,333.36)	0.00%
3010.2 Coats, Boots, Helmets	89,269.69	119,000.00	(29,730.31)	75.02% BE
3020.2 Tank Refills, Testing & Rep	4,885.23	13,333.36	(8,448.13)	36.64%
3030.2 Hoses & Nozzles	59,570.72	35,543.36	24,027.36	167.60% BE
3040.2 Tires	13,588.13	10,666.64	2,921.49	127.39%
3050.2 Gasoline, Oil, Grease, Etc.	22,822.96	33,333.36	(10,510.40)	68.47%
3060.2 Fuel & Electric	94,408.45	53,333.36	41,075.09	177.02%
3070.2 Telephone	9,677.59	36,666.64	(26,989.05)	26.39%
3090.2 Certiorari	24,445.98	133,333.36	(108,887.38)	18.33%
3105.4 Uniforms	45,173.45	55,000.00	(9,826.55)	82.13%
3110.4 Shop Equipment & Tools	2,312.80	3,333.36	(1,020.56)	69.38%
3115.4 Emergency Equipment	83,776.60	100,000.00	(16,223.40)	83.78%
3120.4 EMS Supplies and Services	10,764.17	13,333.36	(2,569.19)	80.73%
3125.4 Computers, Software & Internet	45,172.37	44,133.36	1,039.01	102.35%
3130.4 Office Supplies	4,589.84	5,333.36	(743.52)	86.06%
3135.4 Postage	304.96	1,000.00	(695.04)	30.50%
3140.4 Subscriptions	245.00	800.00	(555.00)	30.63%
3145.4 Association Dues	1,330.00	1,000.00	330.00	133.00%
3150.4 Elections & Referendums	1,812.00	0.00	1,812.00	
3155.4 Sewer Tax	12,994.04	14,000.00	(1,005.96)	92.81%
3160.4 Fire Training	36,000.00	26,000.00	10,000.00	138.46%
3210.3 Vehicle Maintenance	56,077.82	46,666.64	9,411.18	120.17%
3220.3 Radio Equipment & Maintenance	62,942.98	70,000.00	(7,057.02)	89.92% BE
3230.3 Ladder & Pump Testing		2,666.64	(2,666.64)	0.00%
3240.3 Bldg/Prop Repairs & Maintenance	146,588.14	86,666.64	59,921.50	169.14%

3410.11 Fire Chief salary	143,424.00	144,000.00	(576.00)	99.60%
3410.12 Assistant Fire Chief salary	126,878.40	116,666.64	10,211.76	108.75%
3410.13 Fire Captains salary	555,611.20	580,000.00	(24,388.80)	95.80%
3410.14 Fire Lieutenants salary	844,432.40	866,666.64	(22,234.24)	97.43%
3410.15 Uniformed Firefighters salary	3,817,744.92	3,866,666.64	(48,921.72)	98.73%
3410.16 Maintenance Workers salary	49,048.40	49,883.36	(834.96)	98.33%
3410.17 Mechanics salary	29,100.00	33,333.36	(4,233.36)	87.30%
3410.18 Treasurer/Secy/PT Asst salary	112,507.40	117,466.64	(4,959.24)	95.78%
3410.2 Fire Equipment and Capital Outlay	2,201,147.72	2,138,997.72	62,150.00	102.91% CAP/BE
3410.42 Accountants / Auditors fees	13,500.00	17,500.00	(4,000.00)	77.14%
3410.44 Year-End fees		0.00	0.00	
Total 3410.42 Accountants / Auditors fees	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 17,500.00	\$ (4,000.00)	77.14%
3410.46 Consultants fees	1,500.00		1,500.00	
3410.465 Consultant Fees- Engineers	28,380.85	43,333.36	(14,952.51)	65.49%
3410.47 Professional Consultants fees	4,934.50	60,000.00	(55,065.50)	8.22%
Total 3410.46 Consultants fees	\$ 34,815.35	\$ 103,333.36	\$ (68,518.01)	33.69%
3410.49 Payroll Clearing account	26,451.10		26,451.10	
3410.81 Disabled Firemen salary -207A's	106,137.96	134,000.00	(27,862.04)	79.21%
3411.1 Holiday Pay	248,031.60	280,000.00	(31,968.40)	88.58%
3413.1 Overtime - Firefighters	685,540.00	553,500.00	132,040.00	123.86%
3413.12 Overtime- Training	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3413.13 Overtime- Sick Incentive	24,737.98	66,666.64	(41,928.66)	37.11%
3413.2 Overtime - Fire Prevention	26,653.14	26,666.64	(13.50)	99.95%
3414.1 EMT Training	13,343.00	13,333.36	9.64	100.07%
3416.1 Terminal Leave	306,694.62	200,000.00	106,694.62	153.35%
9010.8 NYS Retirement		0.00	0.00	
9020.8 Social Security	535,523.69	519,333.36	16,190.33	103.12%
9030.8 Payroll Tax - MTA	23,801.41	25,882.00	(2,080.59)	91.96%
9040.8 Workers Compensation	225,425.00	255,000.00	(29,575.00)	88.40%
9045.8 Life Insurance - Local 916	42,661.13	43,000.00	(338.87)	99.21%
9050.8 Physician / Medical costs	20,538.50	40,000.00	(19,461.50)	51.35%
9060.81 Hospital	2,521,788.16	2,338,533.36	183,254.80	107.84%
9060.82 Dental	140,000.00	140,000.00	0.00	100.00%
9060.83 Optical Plan - Local 916	48,000.00	45,000.00	3,000.00	106.67%
Total Expenses	\$ 13,937,479.42	\$ 13,796,573.24	\$ 140,906.18	101.02%
Net Operating Income	\$ 9,473,496.19	\$ 9,314,549.22	\$ 158,946.97	101.71%
Net Income	\$ 9,473,496.19	\$ 9,314,549.22	\$ 158,946.97	101.71%

Eastchester, NY Fire District
Budget vs. Actuals: FY2024 Budget - FY24 P&L
 January - December 2024

	Actual	Appropriated for 2025	Actual + Appropriated	Budget- with Modifications	Total		over Budget	% of Budget
					Original Budget	Budget Encumbrances from 2024 & Mods		
Income								
Use of Capital Reserve	188,847.00		188,847.00	188,847.00	0.00	188,847.00	0.00	100.00%
Appropriated Fund Balance	495,163.38		495,163.38	495,163.38	0.00	495,163.38	0.00	100.00%
Budget Encumbrances	1,576,197.34		1,576,197.34	1,623,341.27	0.00	1,623,341.27	(47,143.93)	97.10%
1001 Real Property Taxes	20,866,263.00		20,866,263.00	20,866,263.00	20,866,263.00	0.00	0.00	100.00%
2401 Interest Earnings	304,604.52		304,604.52			0.00	304,604.52	
2680 Insurance Recoveries			0.00			0.00	0.00	
2701 Refund of PY Expenditure			0.00			0.00	0.00	
2705 Miscellaneous Income	7,254.00		7,254.00			0.00	7,254.00	
2770 Workers Comp - Reimb	22,100.18		22,100.18	21,000.00	21,000.00	0.00	1,100.18	105.24%
Total Income	\$ 23,460,429.42	\$ -	\$ 23,460,429.42	\$ 23,194,614.65	\$ 20,887,263.00	\$ 2,307,351.65	\$ 265,814.77	101.15%
Gross Profit	\$ 23,460,429.42	\$ -	\$ 23,460,429.42	\$ 23,194,614.65	\$ 20,887,263.00		\$ 265,814.77	101.15%
Expenses								
1110.4 Archiving Services & Exp	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
1110.5 Outside Services	8,489.49		8,489.49	12,000.00	12,000.00	0.00	(3,510.51)	70.75%
1120.5 Fire Prevention	1,775.00		1,775.00	9,000.00	9,000.00	0.00	(7,225.00)	19.72%
1140.5 Payroll Processing Exp	8,569.18		8,569.18	11,000.00	11,000.00	0.00	(2,430.82)	77.90%
1150.5 Insurance	164,261.82		164,261.82	145,000.00	145,000.00	0.00	19,261.82	113.28%
1170.5 Other Miscellaneous Expenses	551.95		551.95	12,000.00	12,000.00	0.00	(11,448.05)	4.60%
1180.5 Education & Travel	2,356.73		2,356.73	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	(2,643.27)	47.13%
1200.5 Recruitment	0.00		0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	(5,000.00)	0.00%
3010.2 Coats, Boots, Helmets	91,560.44		91,560.44	144,000.00	75,000.00	69,000.00	(52,439.56)	63.58%
3020.2 Tank Refills, Testing & Rep	4,885.23		4,885.23	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	(15,114.77)	24.43%
3030.2 Hoses & Nozzles	59,570.72		59,570.72	42,210.00	20,000.00	22,210.00	17,360.72	141.13%
3040.2 Tires	13,588.13		13,588.13	16,000.00	16,000.00	0.00	(2,411.87)	84.93%
3050.2 Gasoline, Oil, Grease, Etc.	22,822.96		22,822.96	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00	(27,177.04)	45.65%
3060.2 Fuel & Electric	94,408.45		94,408.45	80,000.00	80,000.00	0.00	14,408.45	118.01%
3070.2 Telephone	9,677.59		9,677.59	55,000.00	55,000.00	0.00	(45,322.41)	17.60%
3090.2 Certiorari	24,445.98		24,445.98	200,000.00	200,000.00	0.00	(175,554.02)	12.22%

Eastchester, NY Fire District
Budget vs. Actuals: FY2024 Budget - FY24 P&L
 January - December 2024

	Total					Budget Encumbrances from 2024 & Mods	over Budget	% of Budget
	Actual	Appropriated for 2025	Actual + Appropriated	Budget- with Modifications	Original Budget			
3105.4 Uniforms	45,173.45		45,173.45	75,000.00	75,000.00	0.00	(29,826.55)	60.23%
3110.4 Shop Equipment & Tools	2,382.78		2,382.78	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	(2,617.22)	47.66%
3115.4 Emergency Equipment	85,831.60		85,831.60	150,000.00	150,000.00	0.00	(64,168.40)	57.22%
3120.4 EMS Supplies and Services	10,764.17		10,764.17	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	(9,235.83)	53.82%
3125.4 Computers, Software & Internet	45,379.73		45,379.73	66,200.00	66,200.00	0.00	(20,820.27)	68.55%
3130.4 Office Supplies	4,589.84		4,589.84	8,000.00	8,000.00	0.00	(3,410.16)	57.37%
3135.4 Postage	304.96		304.96	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	(1,195.04)	20.33%
3140.4 Subscriptions	245.00		245.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00	(955.00)	20.42%
3145.4 Association Dues	1,330.00		1,330.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	(170.00)	88.67%
3150.4 Elections & Referendums	1,812.00		1,812.00	10,500.00	10,500.00	0.00	(8,688.00)	17.28%
3155.4 Sewer Tax	12,994.04		12,994.04	14,000.00	14,000.00	0.00	(1,005.96)	92.81%
3160.4 Fire Training	36,000.00		36,000.00	26,000.00	26,000.00	0.00	10,000.00	138.46%
3210.3 Vehicle Maintenance	56,248.82		56,248.82	70,000.00	70,000.00	0.00	(13,751.18)	80.36%
3220.3 Radio Equipment & Maintenance	62,942.98		62,942.98	135,294.65	60,000.00	75,294.65	(72,351.67)	46.52%
3230.3 Ladder & Pump Testing	0.00		0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00	(4,000.00)	0.00%
3240.3 Bldg/Prop Repairs & Maintenance	146,588.14		146,588.14	130,000.00	130,000.00	0.00	16,588.14	112.76%
3410.11 Fire Chief salary	151,392.00		151,392.00	216,000.00	216,000.00	0.00	(64,608.00)	70.09%
3410.12 Assistant Fire Chief Salary	133,927.20		133,927.20	175,000.00	175,000.00	0.00	(41,072.80)	76.53%
3410.13 Fire Captains salary	588,917.60		588,917.60	870,000.00	870,000.00	0.00	(281,082.40)	67.69%
3410.14 Fire Lieutenants salary	893,892.40		893,892.40	1,300,000.00	1,300,000.00	0.00	(406,107.60)	68.76%
3410.15 Uniformed Firefighters salary	4,033,001.72		4,033,001.72	5,800,000.00	5,800,000.00	0.00	(1,766,998.28)	69.53%
3410.16 Maintenance Workers salary	51,933.60		51,933.60	74,825.00	74,825.00	0.00	(22,891.40)	69.41%
3410.17 Mechanics salary	30,918.75		30,918.75	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00	(19,081.25)	61.84%
3410.18 Treasurer/Secy/PT Asst salary	119,110.60		119,110.60	176,200.00	176,200.00	0.00	(57,089.40)	67.60%
3410.2 Fire Equipment and Capital Outlay	2,201,147.72	500,000.00	2,701,147.72	2,658,997.72	520,000.00	2,138,997.72	42,150.00	82.78%
3410.42 Accountants / Auditors fees	13,500.00		13,500.00	17,500.00	17,500.00	0.00	(4,000.00)	77.14%
3410.46 Consultants fees	1,500.00		1,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	

Eastchester, NY Fire District
Budget vs. Actuals: FY2024 Budget - FY24 P&L
 January - December 2024

	Total							
	Actual	Appropriated for 2025	Actual + Appropriated	Budget- with Modifications	Original Budget	Budget Encumbrances from 2024 & Mods	over Budget	% of Budget
3410.465 Consultant Fees- Engineers	28,380.85		28,380.85	65,000.00	65,000.00	0.00	(36,619.15)	43.66%
3410.47 Professional Consultants fees	4,934.50		4,934.50	90,000.00	90,000.00	0.00	(85,065.50)	5.48%
3410.48 Labor Consultants	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total 3410.46 Consultants fees	\$ 34,815.35	\$ -	\$ 34,815.35	\$ 155,000.00	\$ 155,000.00	\$ -	\$ (120,184.65)	22.46%
3410.49 Payroll Clearing account	17,266.34		17,266.34			0.00	17,266.34	
3410.81 Disabled Firemen salary -207A's	112,381.34		112,381.34	201,000.00	201,000.00	0.00	(88,618.66)	55.91%
3411.1 Holiday Pay	248,031.60		248,031.60	560,000.00	560,000.00	0.00	(311,968.40)	44.29%
3412.1 Retroactive Salary	0.00		0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	
3413.1 Overtime - Firefighters	750,874.45		750,874.45	830,250.00	830,250.00	0.00	(79,375.55)	90.44%
3413.12 Overtime- Training	0.00		0.00	96,965.00	96,965.00	0.00	(96,965.00)	0.00%
3413.13 Overtime- Sick Incentive	26,917.30		26,917.30	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00	(73,082.70)	26.92%
3413.2 Overtime - Fire Prevention	28,819.85		28,819.85	40,000.00	40,000.00	0.00	(11,180.15)	72.05%
3414.1 EMT Training	13,343.00		13,343.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	(6,657.00)	66.72%
3416.1 Terminal Leave	306,694.62		306,694.62	200,000.00	200,000.00	0.00	106,694.62	153.35%
9010.8 NYS Retirement	0.00		0.00	3,250,000.00	3,250,000.00	0.00	(3,250,000.00)	0.00%
9020.8 Social Security	565,359.22		565,359.22	779,000.00	779,000.00	0.00	(213,640.78)	72.57%
9030.8 Payroll Tax - MTA	25,127.45		25,127.45	38,823.00	38,823.00	0.00	(13,695.55)	64.72%
9040.8 Workers Compensation	225,425.00		225,425.00	255,000.00	255,000.00	0.00	(29,575.00)	88.40%
9045.8 Life Insurance - Local 916	42,661.13		42,661.13	46,000.00	46,000.00	0.00	(3,338.87)	92.74%
9050.8 Physician / Medical costs	20,538.50		20,538.50	60,000.00	60,000.00	0.00	(39,461.50)	34.23%
9060.81 Hospital	2,500,665.20		2,500,665.20	3,507,800.00	3,507,800.00	0.00	(1,007,134.80)	71.29%
9060.82 Dental	140,000.00		140,000.00	140,000.00	140,000.00	0.00	0.00	100.00%
9060.83 Optical Plan - Local 916	48,000.00		48,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00	(2,000.00)	96.00%
Total Expenses	\$ 14,344,213.12	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 14,844,213.12	\$ 23,192,765.37	\$ 20,887,263.00	\$ 2,305,502.37		61.85%
Net Operating Income	\$ 9,116,216.30	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 8,616,216.30	\$ 1,849.28			\$ 8,614,367.02	492960.30%
Net Income			\$ 8,616,216.30	\$ 1,849.28				0.00%

NOTES: Chairman Carlo inquired about the date that the Approved Budget must be adopted by. Secretary Isang Smith confirmed that it was on November 4, 2024, and reiterated that the meeting and budget hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, October 15, 2024

- **Chief Report**

Chief Tween submitted the following report:

Alarm Activity: 359

Fire: 11

EMS/Rescue: 161

Mutual Aid Given: 1 (NRFD)

Mutual Aid Received: 2 (NRFD)

1) On Tuesday August 6th , Captain Debitetto and the members of Group 4 responded to a house that was struck by lightning which caused a fire in the attic. On Tuesday August 20 th Captain Tomasini and the members of Group 2 responded to a house fire that began when a plumber was soldering pipes. About 30 minutes after the plumber left, the homeowners smelled smoke in the house. After an investigation, the members found smoldering insulation in a wall. Kitchen cabinets were carefully removed and the kitchen floor and walls were exposed so the smoldering insulation could be extinguished. The members careful attention to the resident's property minimized the damage to the home. Thank you also to the NRFD engine and truck that provided mutual aid coverage in the District during the incident. A great job was done by both Groups at the incidents in August.

2) The five probationary firefighters began the Career Fire Academy on Tuesday September 10th. They will attend the Academy for the next 20 weeks and will graduate in mid-January 2025.

3) Vehicle and equipment maintenance is being done in house as much as possible by part-time mechanic Hank Henninger. Hank Henninger's mechanic report for August was emailed to the Board on 9/5/2024.

4) Tim Dalton's weekly maintenance reports for August were emailed to the Board on 9/5/2024.

5) Fire Prevention and Code Enforcement activities continue with numerous plan reviews and inspections. The Fire Prevention reports for August were emailed to the Board on 9/4/2024.

6) Currently there are three members are out on long term absence and one member is assigned to light duty and is working with Isang on digitizing the Fire Prevention records.

7) I ask the Board to authorize the purchase of Paratech Struts and related equipment to be used for vehicle stabilization and trench rescue. The Board was emailed a quote on 8/28/24 from Strategic Safety Dynamics for \$33,851.35 at the NY State HIRE contract pricing.

8) NY State Fire Administrator James Cable has asked Fire Departments to consider supporting a proposed amendment to the NY State Residential Building Code that would require the installation of a fire sprinkler system in all new one-family and two-family homes, and townhomes. The NFPA reports that 64% of fire deaths occur in one-family and two-family homes. I request the Board to authorize me to write a letter of support for the proposed amendment in the Residential Building Code requiring sprinklers in all new one-family and two-family homes, and townhomes.

9) I ask the Board to close tonight's meeting with a moment of silence to honor the victims of the September 11th 2001 terrorist attacks.

Respectfully submitted September 12, 2024 by Fire Chief Brian Tween

- **Secretary Report**

Secretary Marissa “Isang” Smith submitted the following report:

Monthly District Secretary Report - September 2024

FIRE DISTRICT ELECTION

- Fire District Election resolutions have been prepared for the Board for tonight’s meeting.
- Fire District Election materials will be updated and available on the Eastchester Fire District website (EastchesterNYFD.gov) early next week.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Social Media

- August Activity: 5 posts
- Community Forms: Continued work for After the Fire pamphlet project for website and for handouts.

Website and Notices

- Ongoing updates to the website and review of social media records retention options.
- Collaborating with Chief Tween on an updated annual report for 2024 for the Eastchester Fire District.
- Meeting with Logically regarding options for email address transfer to .gov. We are waiting on a quote for their services.

FOIL OFFICER

- **August Activity:** Received 2 FOIL requests

RECORDS MANAGEMENT OFFICER

- **Records Relocation:** Previous conversations at Board meetings indicate that Station 3 may be renovated in the near future. Continued preparation for the relocation of the records room with Chief Tween.
- **Ongoing Projects:** Continued work on organizing loose records and scanning projects

OFFICE - GENERAL

- Prepared the OML document for the September meeting.
- Updated and posted minutes on the website.
- Updated the 2024 resolutions spreadsheet.

- Performed regular office tasks including scheduling, billing, customer service, and staff support.

Business Office Recommendations

Subject **7.1 - Payment of Bills**

Recommended Action BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Fire Commissioners approves to pay the bills and vouchers as presented. The Board has been supplied with one set 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- 9/12/24- \$445,291.39
 Credit Card – 9/18/24 - \$3,232.92
Total: \$448,524.31

Motion by Chairman. Carlo, seconded by Commr. Lore
 Aye: Commr. Cerasi, Commr. Lore, Commr. Ranellone, Commr. Keating
 Chairman. Carlo
Final: Motion Carried

Subject **7.2 - Budget Transfers**

Recommended Action BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Fire Commissioners approves the budget transfers for those GL accounts where the 2024 expenditures exceeded the amount budgeted for the GL account, as follows:

From:	To:	Amount
9040.8 Workers Compensation	1150.5 Insurance	\$ 20,000.00
3410.47 Professional Consultants fees	3210.3 Vehicle Maintenance	\$ 15,000.00
3410.47 Professional Consultants fees	3240.3 Bldg/Prop Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 25,000.00
3410.47 Professional Consultants fees	3160.4 Fire Training	\$ 10,000.00
3090.2 Certiorari	3416.1 Terminal Leave	\$ 107,000.00
3090.2 Certiorari	3030.2 Hoses & Nozzles	\$ 20,000.00
3410.81 Disabled Firemen salary -207A's	3410.2 Fire Equipment and Capital Outlay	\$ 30,000.00
3410.465 Consultant Fees- Engineers	3410.2 Fire Equipment and Capital Outlay	\$ 12,150.00
		\$ 42,150.00

Total Budget Transfers	\$ 239,150.00
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Motion by Chairman. Carlo, seconded by Commr. Ranellone
 Aye: Commr. Cerasi, Commr. Lore, Commr. Ranellone, Commr. Keating,
 Chairman. Carlo
Final: Motion Carried

OTHER BUSINESS

Subject **8.1 - Paratech Strut**

Meeting September 12, 2024 - Regular Meeting

Recommended Action BE IT RESOLVED: That the purchase of Paratech Struts and related equipment to be used for vehicle stabilization and trench rescue. The Board was emailed a quote on 8/28/24 from Strategic Safety Dynamics for \$33,851.35 at the NY State HIRE contract pricing.

Subject **8.2 - Fire District Election - 2024**

Meeting September 12, 2024 - Regular Meeting

Recommended Action **RESOLUTION APPOINTING BOARD OF ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN**

WHEREAS, Section 175-a of the Town Law provides for a system of registration for Fire District Elections; and

WHEREAS, a register of eligible Fire District voters must be prepared prior to the Fire District Election; and

WHEREAS, such register shall be prepared from names of persons who have registered with the Westchester County Board of Elections;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following resident electors of the Eastchester Fire District are hereby appointed to constitute the Eastchester Fire District BOARD OF ELECTIONS for the 2024 Annual Fire District Election:

CHAIRMAN OF ELECTIONS MARISSA ISANG SMITH

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Fire District’s CHAIRMAN OF ELECTION be compensated in the amount of \$100 for her services; that the Board of Elections be compensated in the amount of \$100 for their services in preparing the registration records; and that the following be appointed as Election Inspectors at the Fire

District Election to be held on Tuesday, December 10th, 2024 and that they be compensated in the amount of \$100.

LIST OF INSPECTORS – ANNUAL FIRE DISTRICT ELECTION

The County of Westchester Board of Elections will supply a list of approved election inspectors to utilize the electronic voting machines on Election Day.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in case any of the members appointed herein are unable or refuse to assume or perform the duties required of them, this Board of Fire Commissioners or Election Chairman may appoint alternates who are resident electors and re-assign location as needed.

RESOLUTION FOR PREPARATION OF REGISTRATION ROLLS

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Eastchester Fire District, having heretofore appointed a Board of Elections to comply with the registration and voting procedures set forth in Section 175 and 175-a of the Town Law, does hereby designate on or about the 25th day of November 2024, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. as the date and time of the meeting of the Board of Elections to prepare registration rolls for the Annual Election of the Eastchester Fire District. The Fire District Election will be held on Tuesday, December 10th, 2024, between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. at the following locations:

Leroy Gregory American Legion Post #979, 40 Bell Road, Scarsdale

Tuckahoe Community Center, 71 Columbus Avenue, Tuckahoe, New York

Bronxville Village Hall, 200 Pondfield Road, Bronxville, New York

Eastchester Public Library, 11 Oakridge Pl, Eastchester, New York

LEGAL NOTICE

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a Legal Notice informing the resident electors of the Eastchester Fire District of this meeting be published one time by the Fire District Secretary in the official newspapers of the Eastchester Fire District between; November 6 - 13, 2024.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF ANNUAL ELECTION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Annual Election of the Eastchester Fire District will take place on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, between the hours of 2:00 pm and 9:00 pm at the following locations for the purpose of electing one (1) fire district commissioner for a five-year term commencing January 1, 2025, and ending on December 31, 2029.

Only those persons who have registered with the Westchester County Board of Elections on or before the 18th day of November 2024, and have resided in the Fire District for at least thirty days prior to the date of the election, shall be eligible to vote.

Candidates for district office shall file written petitions subscribed by at least 25 qualified voters with the Secretary of the Fire District at 255 Main St, Eastchester, New York no later than **November 20, 2024 by 4:00 pm. Petition forms shall be made available by the Secretary upon request.**

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Board of Fire Commissioners has divided the Fire District into ten election districts, and that the locations of such election districts and the polling place for each such election district is as follows:

No. 1 – Shall consist of Town Election District Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 27 and 34, and the polling place shall be the Leroy Gregory Post 979, 40 Bell Rd, Scarsdale, NY.

No. 2 – Shall consist of Town Election District Nos. 5, 23, 29 and 36, and the polling place shall be the Leroy Gregory Post 979, 40 Bell Rd, Scarsdale, NY.

No. 3 – Shall consist of Town Election District Nos. 6, 8, 26, 30 & 38, and the polling place shall be the Eastchester Public Library, 11 Oakridge Pl, Eastchester, NY.

No. 4 – Shall consist of Town Election District Nos. 7, 9 and 39, and the polling place shall be the Eastchester Public Library, 11 Oakridge Pl, Eastchester, NY.

No. 5 – Shall consist of Town Election District Nos. 24, 25 28 and 37, and the polling place shall be the Eastchester Public Library, 11 Oakridge Pl, Eastchester, NY.

No. 6 – Shall consist of Town Election District Nos. 10, 11, 32 and 33, and the polling place shall be the Tuckahoe Community Center, 71 Columbus Ave, Tuckahoe, NY.

No. 7 – Shall consist of Town Election District Nos. 12, 13 and 14, and the polling place shall be the Tuckahoe Community Center, 71 Columbus Ave, Tuckahoe, NY.

No. 8 – Shall consist of Town Election District Nos. 15, 31 and 35, and the polling place shall be Eastchester Public Library, 11 Oakridge Pl, Eastchester, NY.

No. 9 – Shall consist of Town Election District Nos. 16, 17 and 18, and the polling place shall be the Bronxville Village Hall, 200 Pondfield Rd, Bronxville, NY.

No. 10 – Shall consist of Town Election District Nos. 19, 20, 21 and 22, and the polling place shall be the Bronxville Village Hall, 200 Pondfield Rd, Bronxville, NY.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Board of Fire Commissioners has provided for absentee ballots for fire district elections. An applicant for an absentee ballot shall submit an application setting forth:

- (1) his or her name and residence address, including the street and number, if any, or town and rural delivery route, if any;
- (2) that he or she is or will be, on the day of the election, a qualified voter of the district in which he or she resides in that he or she is or will be, on such date, over eighteen years of age, a citizen of the United States and has or will have resided in the district for thirty days next preceding such date;
- (3) that he or she is registered in the town;
- (4) that he or she will be unable to appear to vote in person on the day of the election for which the absentee ballot is requested because he or she is, or will be on such day:
 - (a) a patient in a hospital, or unable to appear personally at the polling place on such day because of illness or physical disability or
 - (b) because his or her duties, occupation or business will require him or her to be outside of the county of his or her residence on such day,
 - (c) because he or she will be on vacation outside the county of his or her residence on each day; or,
 - (d) absent from his or her voting residence because he or she is detained in jail awaiting action by a grand jury or awaiting trial or is confined in prison after conviction for an offense other than a felony; and
- (5) All other information as required by law.

Such application must be received by the district secretary at least **seven days** before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter or his or her agent.

**BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FIRE DISTRICT, TOWN OF EASTCHESTER, NEW YORK**

**PAUL CARLO
CHAIRMAN
EASTCHESTER BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

**RESOLUTION TO USE AND TRANSPORT WESTCHESTER COUNTY
ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES**

The Fire Board Chairman is authorized to execute all documents provided by the Westchester County Board of Election and authorized vendors for the use and transportation of the electronic voting machines for the December 10, 2024, annual Fire Commissioners election.

RESOLUTION FOR SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

Polling election officials who come to the swearing-in ceremony at the Tuckahoe Community Center on Monday, December 9 at 7 pm will be paid the amount of \$50.00. Co-election officials will be paid \$25.00 for setting up and polling officials' pay on Election day will be \$100.00.

Motion by Chairman. Carlo, seconded by Commr. Ranellone
Aye: Commr. Cerasi, Commr. Lore, Commr. Ranellone, Commr. Keating
Chairman. Carlo

Final: Motion Carried

Subject	8.1 - CPAT - November 2, 2024
Meeting	September 12, 2024 - Regular Meeting
Recommended Action	BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Fire Commissioners authorizes Treasurer Jamie Hedstrom, to request the Resident certification list from the Westchester County Department of Human Resources to send invited candidates to the November 2, 2024 CPAT with Westchester County and.BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Eastchester Board of Fire Commissioners authorizes Secretary Marissa Isang Smith to canvass the nominating certification list for candidates with a score of 95 or above in order to send invited candidates to the November 2, 2024 CPAT and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Eastchester Board of Fire Commissioners authorizes Chief Tween to proceed with a blind resume process and make recommendations to the Board for candidates to send to CPAT.

Motion by Chairman. Carlo, seconded by Commr. Lore
Aye: Commr. Cerasi, Commr. Lore, Commr. Ranellone, Commr. Keating
Chairman. Carlo

Final: Motion Carried

Future Meeting Dates

**9.1 - October 16, 2024 - Budget Hearing & Regular Meeting - Fire
Headquarters**

Comments from Local 916

No Comments Provided

Comments from the Public

No Comments Provided

Comments from the Commissioners

Commr. Ranellone read the following speech:

From Wednesday, September 12th, 2001, through Sunday, September 16th, the Eastchester Fire Department sent a fully manned engine and ladder company to cover Bronx firehouses or to standby at Yonkers Raceway for deployment. I was at Station 1 and remember feeling worried for these mutual aid companies, not knowing what might happen to them.

On Thursday, September 13th, Mount Vernon Fire Department Local 107, in conjunction with the Westchester Professional Firefighters Coalition, was able to contact officials in New York City in order to organize a relief effort. After getting approval to do so, they contacted all the professional firefighters unions in Westchester. In a matter of a few hours, 120 firefighters from all over Westchester met at MVFD Station 3. Included in that number were 10 firefighters from Eastchester. Two EFD members were able to get 3 buses at no cost.

Shortly before 7:00 pm, the 3 buses left Mount Vernon with a state police escort to Manhattan. Almost from the time we turned onto the West Side Highway, people lined both sides of the street with signs and flags, many thanking us and cheering. Signs read, "God Bless You" and "You're Our Heroes."

The buses parked off of Hudson Street on Beach Street. Upon arrival, all firefighters were organized into 10 man companies with either a lieutenant or captain in charge. I took command of the Eastchester contingent.

We walked from the buses to the staging area, one block from what has become known as Ground Zero. Along the way, people on the sidewalks clapped and thanked us, offered us water, food, gloves, masks, and anything else we might need to do our work.

Walking along we could see and smell the smoke from what was once the World Trade Center. At the staging area, we saw an engine and ladder truck on a side street. The truck's aerial was mangled and bent over the cab. The engine was unrecognizable only by the front part of the cab where the driver and officer would sit. Everything else had been crushed to about 5 feet high. On the officers door, someone had written in memory of the Lt. and firefighters who had apparently all been killed.

After getting permission to proceed, we passed a parking lot filled with burnt out cars. We stood in front of 3 World Financial Center, now used as a rest and rehab station. Construction workers cut the fallen North Bridge in preparation to move it out of the way in order to gain access to the main area of debris behind it with heavy equipment. We walked between 3 and 4 World Financial Center to the front entrance on West Street. From this point, we got an obstructed view of the massive destruction. From this entrance to 2 World Trade Center, a distance of about 400 feet, were steel box beams lying parallel about 3 feet apart on top of 10-15 feet of concrete and other pulverized debris. There were several hundred rescuers in about a dozen bucket brigades removing debris from the 7 story stump of the tower and passing it down to the front of the

Financial Center where it was dumped and the empty buckets returned to the front of the line. Iron workers cut up steel beams which would be passed down the line and thrown on the pile. We filled in on several of these lines, balancing ourselves on the box beams. In some areas you could look through the rubble and see the remains of a fire truck or ambulance. Several of our firefighters attempted to tunnel beneath the box beams in order to look for victims below us. Every so often, someone would yell to be quiet. The generators and power tools would be shut down and everyone would stop working and just listen for any sounds from the debris pile. After a minute or so, work would continue. Looking up and around from the middle of Ground Zero, gave a clear view of the destruction. Every window facing the Twin Towers had been blown out and chunks of buildings had been gouged out from falling debris. The sides of the remaining buildings were covered in a thin coat of powder that could be seen floating in the air through the glow of flood lights. It was several inches thick for many blocks around the site. Despite the hard work early Friday morning, it got noticeably cooler and about 2:00 am, it started to rain, a drizzle at first. Suddenly, it started getting heavy making footing treacherous and since we were working in t-shirts, the rain just made us wetter and more uncomfortable.

An FDNY chief officer called off operations and our chief officers decided it was time to go back, so we picked up our gear and headed back to the buses. On the buses, we were tired, cold, and wet. There was little if any talking on the return trip to Mount Vernon. I began to wonder what we had accomplished by going down there. We moved perhaps a couple of tons of debris, a literal drop in the bucket of estimated 1.2 million tons of rubble. We had saved no lives, only one body had been recovered. Yet for 8 hours we had been willing participants of a piece of history, something people will talk about long after we are gone.

We were the first group of firefighters to go down to Ground Zero but not the last. Two shifts of Westchester firefighters, Eastchester included, per day responded to the World Trade site over the course of the next several days. The only reason this effort was discontinued was the FDNY went to a 24 hour schedule with half of their personnel working at any one time. Meaning, they had enough manpower to send to the site and man their firehouses.

Whatever needed to be done, or whatever we were asked to do, we would not have hesitated on this new day of infamy, September 11, 2001.

Respectfully submitted, Paul M. Ranellone

EFD Personnel September 13th, 2001: Lt. Paul Ranellone, FF Quinton Baker, FF Joseph Pinto, FF Steven Ranellone, FF James Rockhill, FF Ken Simonides, FF Glen Strawbridge, FF Brian Tween, FF Vincent Spadaro, FF William Wiegelman

Starting on September 11th, and continuing for days, weeks and months afterwards, ordinary people, organizations and businesses donated money, food, water and clothing to victims and rescuers.

A couple of weeks later, Local 916 had a fill the boot fund raised at the intersection of Mill Road and WPR and collected over \$30,000 for the FDNY widows and children's fund.

One week after 9/11, an estimated 6,000 people filled the property outside Town Hall for a memorial service with political representation from Eastchester, Tuckahoe, and Bronxville. The clergy of almost every faith that has membership in the Town offered words of blessings and comfort to all. The 3 police departments, the FD and EVAC were all well represented.

Weeks later, the FD and police department played a charity basketball game.

Local 916 sponsored the coalition at the funeral for Fire Marshall and Tuckahoe resident Ronald Bucca at Concordia College, which is now Iona University.

Members attended numerous funerals. Thanks to retired FDNY Lt. Bill Spinelli and as a direct result of our sales of the FDNY 343 hats, George Glover Jr and I were invited to attend the FDNY Memorial Services held inside Madison Square Garden in October 2002. Although it was a cold and rainy day about 30,000 firefighters from across the country and around the world marched in a parade prior to the services.

It is amazing what can be accomplished when people put aside their differences, get together and work for the common good.

I just want to add personal remarks now: since on 9/11, nearly 3,000 innocent people were killed that day, including 343 NYC Firefighters, 26 police officers. Since then, firefighter deaths have more than doubled, police officer deaths have gone up tenfold, and an additional 6,000 lives have been lost to 9/11 related diseases, including 69 cancers. For the last 4 years, I have been getting annual physicals at Mt. Sinai Hospital in Manhattan. They administer the World Trade Center Health Program. In July 2022, I was diagnosed with prostate cancer. After 45 sessions of radiation treatments performed between November 30 and February 1st, 5 days a week, and 8 checkups, I am cancer free. At the September 11th 2023 Memorial Ceremony at Kensico Dam, an additional 74 names of Westchester residents were added to the Memorial. And I'm sorry I don't know how many were added again this year. Included were 2 Eastchester Firefighters: Captain Philip Pinto, Jr. and Volunteer Deputy Chief Vincent Spadaro.

I announced this at the last meeting, but the Tunnel to Towers Foundation, which is sponsoring along with the Eastchester Rotary, is sponsoring the 9/11 Trailer. It is a mobile museum coming to Lake Isle on September 23rd and 24th, open 9am to 4pm. The students at each of the 3 highschools will be attending it at some point on those 3 days, and the public is invited to attend as well. Please, it is a very worthwhile exhibit. This is a brand new truck that opens up to 1400 square feet, it is fully enclosed, and there are numerous exhibits inside pertaining to what happened on 9/11. I hope that as many residents as possible will attend it.

If anyone would like to donate to the Tunnel to Towers Foundation, you can go on the website: T2T.org. And that will give you information on what they do, which is a lot. 95% of the donations go directly to victims and victims families. There is also a website T2T.org/911neverforget, and that will give you videos and emotional perspectives of families impacted that day.

Commissioner Lore shared that there is a closing ceremony at 5:00 pm on the 24th up at Lake Isle. Commissioner Ranellone shared that they would be reading the names of the Town residents who were killed on that day (9 town residents) plus an additional number that passed away in the last 23 years. Chief Tween advised the service is at 3:00pm on the 2nd day. Commissioner Ranellone shared that the exhibit is open 9am - 4pm.

Chairman Carlo asked for a moment of silence for the 9/11 victims.

Adjournment

There being no further commissioner comments, Chairman Carlo adjourned the meeting at 7:43pm.

**EASTCHESTER FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE EASTCHESTER BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 12, 2024**

Minutes prepared by:
Marissa “Isang” Smith
Secretary to the Board of Fire Commissioners

DRAFT