

EASTCHESTER FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE EASTCHESTER BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Eastchester Board of Fire Commissioners held on Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., at Station 1 Fire Headquarters - 255 Main Street, Eastchester, NY 10709

Board Members Present:

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

Board Members Absent:

Commissioner Brian Keating

In Attendance:

Chief Brian Tween
Secretary Marissa “Isang” Smith

1. Call to Order

Action: 1.1 - Meeting called to order

The special meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM by Chairman. Carlo

2. Salute to the Flag

3. Public Session - Other Business

Subject

3.1 - Adopt Proposed Budget

Recommended Action

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Fire Commissioners adopts the proposed budget for 2025 with total Fire District expenditures of \$23893423 and a tax levy of \$23872423. The proposed tax increase is 14.14% and includes salary and benefits for 83 paid officers and firefighters. The proposed budget will exceed the tax cap. The Board will conduct a Public Budget Hearing on 1, October 2024 at

6pm, 2024, in the evening at Fire District Headquarters. At the conclusion of the Public Hearing, the Board may move for final budget adoption.

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

Commr. Ranellone: Hopefully, overtime will be reduced as the probationary firefighters complete their training at the academy.

Treasurer Jamie Hedstrom provided insights on the budget, particularly regarding capital projects and the potential for increasing the roster. Hedstrom also explained the budget process, outlining the steps and timeline required to move forward effectively.

Subject

3.2 - Assistant Chief - Provisional

Recommended Action

Motion to reappoint Assistant Chief Bruce Yozzo, Badge #124, to the provisional position of Assistant Chief, with a start date of September 30, 2024. This position is provisional, and under Westchester County Civil Service is a competitive position. The appointed candidate must test and be reachable on the next Civil Service list to be considered for promotion.

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

4. Comments from Local 916

Union President Joseph Costanzo congratulated Tomasini on his retirement and expressed hope that a lieutenant will be promoted to captain promptly. He also extended his congratulations to Assistant Chief Yozzo.

5. Comments from the Public

No Comments.

6. Comments from the Commissioners

Commissioner Ranellone: The budget increase is unfortunate, largely due to decisions made by previous boards. They exhausted the capital reserve through past budgets and delayed necessary expenditures, including firehouse projects. As a result, this board has been constrained by those earlier financial decisions. While we've made significant investments in equipment, it's important to note that without the actions of previous boards, these challenges wouldn't be as severe.

7. Adjournment

Motion by Chairman Carlo, unanimously agreed upon.

The meeting adjourned at 6:17 PM

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

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