

## **Minutes of Regular Meeting March 9, 2005**

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**PRESENT:** Commissioners Barlyn, Constantine, Murray, Nappi and Chairman Woehrle  
Treasurer Lagan, Attorney Hayner and Secretary Ostrander  
Also present: Chief Colvin Guests: Capt. Fritz, NPFA President S. Sweet, GBFC  
President D. Elliott, Capt. Smith, Lt. Lingenfelter and Lt. Congdon.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. under the direction of Chairman Woehrle.

Chairman Woehrle noted an error in the February Minutes. In the Apparatus & Equipment Report, the minutes should read that the plow for the new pickup would be ordered locally.  
Motion/ Barlyn, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Murray: The minutes of the February 9, 2005 Regular Meeting be approved as amended. Passed 5-0.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Fire District Affairs Bulletin for February/March 2005.
- Copy of the scope of the Firefighter/Paramedic exam from Schenectady County Civil Service.
- The listing of Service Awards points for 2004 from the GBFC.
- Notice from Utica National Insurance Group that Claim No. 1060906 dated 8/11/04 remains unsettled.
- Notice from the Association of Fire Districts of the Capital Area of a Regular Meeting scheduled at Thomas Corners Fire Dept. on Saturday, 3/12 at 10:00 a.m.
- Copy of a letter sent to Schenectady County Civil Service notifying them of the new FF/Paramedic appointments.
- Copy of a letter sent to the NYS Comptroller's Office advising that Consolidated Fire Dist. No.1 currently has a defined contribution service awards program as provided for in Article 11-A of the General Municipal Law.
- Letter from G.B.F.Co. notifying the Board that Mark Weekes of 1126 Eastern Ave. has been voted as a new member pending results of a complete physical exam, drug screening, and arson background check.
- GBFC Fire and EMS Call Report for January 2005
- Minutes from the Schenectady County Fire Advisory Board meeting of 2/23/05.
- Notice from the Association of Fire Districts of the State of NY of their Annual Meeting and banquet on 5/2/05 in Melville, NY.

## **BILLS:**

Motion/ Murray, 2nd/ Constantine: That Bills #2005-111 through 2005-168, totaling \$66,785.34, be paid as presented. Passed 5-0.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- Treasurer Lagan submitted the Financial Report for February 2005.
- The entire tax levy has been received from the Town.
- There were no unusual expenses in February.
- Our Money Market account had been dormant so it did not accrue interest. This has been addressed at the bank.
- The annual report has been filed with the State.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**FINANCE:** No report.

**INSURANCE:** Commissioner Nappi reported that the new insurance cards have been received for all of the District vehicles.

He also reported that he has attempted to contact Utica National Insurance Group to find out what the unsettled claim notice is for, but they have not returned his calls.

**MEDIA RELATIONS:** Commissioner Constantine reported that there were recently two articles in The Gazette concerning the District.

**APPARATUS & EQUIPMENT:** No report.

**COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION SERVICES:** No report.

**EMS & EQUIPMENT:** Captain Fritz reported to the Board that the three new Zoll AED's are in service. He also reported that bodywork for A-41 would be looked into.

**FACILITIES:** No report

**ELECTIONS:** No report.

**PROTECTIVE GEAR & UNIFORMS:** No report.

**SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM:** Commissioner Nappi reported that we would obtain quotes for a new service provider in the near future.

**INSPECTION & INSTALLATION:** Commissioner Constantine reported that the date has been set for next year. The Inspection/Installation Dinner will be held on January 28, 2006 at the Mohawk Golf Club.

## **REPORT OF THE CHIEFS:**

Chief Colvin reported that he is obtaining quotes for emergency equipment for the new pick-up and the new chief's car.

Chief Colvin also reported that seventeen (17) more pagers were needed to replace the remaining old pagers. He will obtain written quotes for the next meeting.

Chief Battiste submitted a written report since he was unable to attend the meeting.

- Item 1 of the report addressed our ISO rating evaluation. The potential for losing a level on our rating is there and he listed several possible solutions. Commissioner Nappi asked about mutual aid and about automatic paid response. Commissioner Murray asked if a 3 rating lowered the residential insurance rates. Lt. Lingenfelter explained ISO in more detail and answered the questions concerning mutual aid agreements, automatic callback and the ISO scoring.
- Item 2 of the report addressed the concept of Town-wide EMS and how it would impact the residents of Niskayuna. Commissioner Murray asked members of the NPFA who were present at the meeting if they had any thoughts on Town-wide EMS. Lt. Lingenfelter, Capt. Smith and Lt. Congdon stated that there are many issues both pro and con and it should be properly investigated. Commissioner Constantine asked if the Board should have Attorney Hayner draft a letter to the Commissioners and Chiefs of the other Districts asking their opinion from their perspective on Town-wide EMS. Commissioner Barlyn agreed with Commissioner Constantine and stated that our Board should meet with commissioners from the other Districts and sit down and discuss all aspects of Town-wide EMS. Attorney Hayner stated that the letter should be sent to the Chairmen of the other boards and signed by Chairman Woehrle.

Motion/ Barlyn, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Constantine: To send a letter to the Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners of both Stanford Heights Fire District and Niskayuna Fire District No.2 and ask for their opinion of the concept of Town-wide EMS. Passed 5-0.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Woehrle reported that all of the tax exemption application forms from the District's volunteers have been turned over to the Town Assessor's office.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Chairman Woehrle reported that there were no challenges to the Service Award Points awarded for 2004 and confirmed this with Chief Colvin.

Motion/Constantine, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Murray: To approve the 2004 Service Awards Points list as posted. Passed 5-0.

Chairman Woehrle reported that Lt. Breault needs overtime coverage approved in order to attend a training course for a Schenectady County Critical Stress Debriefing Team. On Saturday, March 12, 2005.

Motion/ Constantine, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Nappi: To approve overtime coverage to allow Lt. Breault to attend the training on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Passed 5-0.

Motion/ Nappi, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Murray: To add Mark Weekes, of 1126 Eastern Avenue, to the roles. Passed 5-0.

### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

Lt. Lingenfelter has initiated paperwork for a Federal Grant for new radio equipment for all District vehicles. He estimated that we may be able to receive anywhere from \$30,000 to \$50,000 from the Grant.

Captain Fritz reported that he is currently looking into purchasing a fire extinguisher filling system for the River Road Station. He will be getting quotes for both new and used equipment. He also reported that some of the fire extinguishers on our apparatus are beginning to hit their expiration dates and can no longer be recharged. He will begin to replace them as needed.

NPFA President Sweet reported that he is looking into new t-shirts and sweats for the new hires as well as some replacements.

GBFC President Elliott reported that the Fire Company has voted to purchase three digital cameras for the ambulances as gifts to the District.

Motion/ Murray, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Constantine: To adjourn to Executive Session at 7:58 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the Chief's evaluation. Passed 5-0.

The meeting was returned to Regular Session at 8:28 p.m. by Chairman Woehrle

Motion/ Nappi, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Murray: To adjourn at 8:28 p.m. Passed 5-0.

➤ **The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 13, 2005, at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Ostrander III  
Fire District Secretary