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## Minutes of Regular Meeting February 15, 2006

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**PRESENT:** Commissioners Barlyn, Constantine, Murray, Nappi and Chairman Woehrle  
Secretary Ostrander, Also present: Acting Chief Lingenfelter, 1<sup>st</sup>. Assist.  
Chief Cottrell, and several guests.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. under the direction of Chairman Woehrle.

Motion/ Barlyn, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Murray: To approve the minutes of the January 11, 2006 Regular Meeting as distributed. Passed 5-0.

Motion /Barlyn, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Constantine: To approve the minutes of the January 23<sup>rd</sup> and January 26<sup>th</sup> Special Meetings as distributed. Passed 5-0.

Sealed bids were opened for the surplus 1998 Ford Expedition. The bids were:

- Amanda Test, 2073 The Plaza for \$3,495.00.
- Harry Granato, 279 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham for \$2,500.00.
- Chuck Connelly, 1029 Palmer Ave. for \$2,025.00.
- Thomas Cannizzo, 949 N. Ravine Road for \$5,555.00,
- Andrew Hall, 505 Hillside Ave, Syracuse, for \$3,505.00.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Letter from the G.B.F.Co. stating that the following members have resigned:
  1. Brian Flynn, of Park Ave., Sch'dy has accepted a position on SFD.
  2. Ann Connor, of Millington Rd., Niskayuna did not met requirements of her probation and decided to resign.
  3. Ivano Iaia, of Knollsvie Rd., Niskayuna did not met requirements of his probation and decided to resign.
  4. Mark Weekes, of 1126 Eastern Ave. resigned due to a work conflict.
  5. Sean Whitney, of Cheshire Pl., Niskayuna, resigned due to a work conflict.
- Letter from the G.B.F.Co. stating that Scott Briggs has been voted as a member at the January 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Minutes from the Schenectady Fire Advisory Board meeting on February 1, 2006.
- Certificate of liability insurance for the parking lot owned by Niagara Mohawk and used by the Fire District.
- Notarized copy of the Notice of Meeting Change as it appeared in The Gazette on February 4, 2006.

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- Notarized copy of the Notice To Bidders as it appeared in The Gazette on February 6, 2006.
- Letter from The Gazette stating that effective March 1, 2006, they will provide 1 affidavit for proof of publication and additional affidavits will have a \$5.00 fee.
- Letter from Ted Congdon, President, NPFA notifying The Board of the 2006 representatives: President–Ted Congdon; Secretary–Dick Fritz; and Treasurer–Art Breault. Also Attorney Tom Jordan is the primary contact for contractual issues and Attorney John Black is secondary for specific issues as needed.
- Letter from Shane Sweet requesting an amended W2 Form for 2005 under the 207A-Law for Workers Compensation. On October 31, 2005, he sustained an injury on the job and has not been able to return to work. Under advisement of his Attorney, he is requesting an amended W2 Form for 2005 to submit with his State and Federal Taxes for 2005.
- A note of Thanks from Rit Ruzzo from the Mohawk Golf Club for serving our Installation / Inspection Dinner there.
- A note of Thanks from Retired Chief Battiste to The Board of Fire Commissioners for the many years of support, hard work, and dedication which made his job easier and rewarding.
- Fire District Affairs bulletin for January/February 2006.
- Letter of thanks from John A. Nuzback, Schenectady County Fire Coordinator, for inviting him and his wife to the annual award ceremony and dinner.
- Letter from McNeil and Co. requesting the 2005 LOSAP Census by 3/31/06.

## **BILLS:**

Motion/ Nappi, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Constantine: That Bills #2006-074 through 2006-135, totaling \$58,374.61 be paid as presented. Passed 5-0.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- Treasurer Lagan submitted the Financial Report for January 2006 and also submitted a written report.
- She has changed the format of the overtime hours on page 16 which now reflects the number of overtime hours processed and the number of overtime hours saved to comp time.
- She will be adding more detailed budget lines for training, equipment, etc.
- MVP rates went up 3.3% vs. a budgeted 15%. There was no change in the dental rates.
- The annual report to the State is complete and will be electronically submitted prior to March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- We have begun to receive tax receipts from the town.
- We did receive a check from Schenectady County for the overtime from last year.
- She also requested the Board to make a motion for the following budget transfers for the year ending 12/31/2005: From Contractual Other to:
  - Personal Service      \$28,346.10
  - Equipment                \$20,969.67

The 2006 budget had anticipated a carry-over of \$132,000. It actually is \$88,802.19, a difference of \$43,197.81.

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## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**FINANCE:** Motion/ Murray, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Barlyn: To make the budget transfers as requested by Treasurer Lagan. Passed 5-0.

**INSURANCE:** Commissioner Nappi reported that we received insurance money for the River Road Station door.

**MEDIA RELATIONS:** Chairman Woehrle reported that a press release would be made for the new Chief.

**APPARATUS & EQUIPMENT:** Chairman Woehrle reported that the new Chief's car was in and had been lettered. Acting Chief Lingenfelter reported that there are some minor issues with air bubbles in the lettering, which are being addressed.

**COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION SERVICES:** Secretary Ostrander reported on a proposal to upgrade the services to the District Web Page.

**Motion/ Murray, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Constantine: To increase the number of email links by 20 at an additional cost of \$10.00 per month and to purchase 12 hours of Maintenance for \$890.00. Passed 5-0.**

**EMS & EQUIPMENT:** No report.

**FACILITIES:** Chairman Woehrle reported that the inspection went well and that there were some issues with outside lights at the River Road Station as well as with a crack in the building. He also said that he would like an energy audit of the River Road building.

**ELECTIONS:** No report.

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

**SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM:** Secretary Ostrander reported that he and Chief Lingenfelter were working on the 2005 points and that they would be posted shortly.

**INSPECTION & INSTALLATION:** No report.

**NEW FIRE STATION COMMITTEE:** Ted Congdon reported on the progress of the interviews of architect firms. The committee has narrowed the choices down to four. On March 1<sup>st</sup>, the two not yet seen by the Board would give presentations. The committee would then present their recommendation.

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## **REPORT OF THE CHIEFS:**

### **Acting Chief Lingenfelter:**

- Acting Chief Lingenfelter submitted a monthly report. He highlighted some of the points in his report. He also stated that he would like to have Treasurer Lagan involved in the paramedic re-imbusement.

**1<sup>st</sup> Assist. Chief Cottrell:** No report.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Assist. Chief Ostrander:** No report.

**OLD BUSINESS:** No Old Business

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Motion/ Nappi, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Barlyn: To sell the 1998 Ford Expedition to high bidder, Thomas J. Cannizzo, 949 N. Ravine Road for \$5,555.00. Passed 5-0.

Motion/ Nappi, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Barlyn: To authorize LaRosa Automotive to disable the strobe lights on the 1998 Ford Expedition. Passed 5-0.

Motion/ Nappi, 2<sup>nd</sup>/Barlyn: To accept the resignations from the Grand Boulevard Fire Company, as submitted. Passed 5-0.

Chairman Woehrle reported that Schenectady County Civil Service has informed him that we have four permanent Lieutenant/Paramedic career positions for the District. We need to amend the resolution for Lt. Vena and change the wording from "temporary position" to "permanent position".

Motion By Commissioner Nappi, Seconded By Commissioner Barlyn:

**WHEREAS**, Dale G. Lingenfelter has been appointed Fire Chief, thereby creating a vacancy in the position of Fire Lieutenant/Paramedic as of February 16, 2006; now therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that James S. Vena be and he hereby is appointed to the position of Fire Lieutenant/Paramedic, with an effective date of February 16, 2006, subject to a probationary term of twenty-six (26) weeks, and in accordance with the New York State Civil Service Law and the Classified Rules of the Schenectady County Civil Service Commission.

Commissioner Murray – Yes

Commissioner Nappi – Yes

Commissioner Barlyn – Yes

Commissioner Constantine – Yes

Commissioner Woehrle - Abstain

The resolution passed 4 to 0 with 1 abstaining.

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Chairman Woehrle also reported that he received a call from Schenectady County Civil Service asking if we wanted to participate in the County Firefighter exam in June and he agreed.

Commissioner Constantine questioned why the sign at the River Road Station had a statement supporting the Niskayuna School proposition. He stated that we should not be involve in supporting such things and should remain neutral.

Chairman Woehrle stated that this was Chief Battiste's last official day as an employee of the District wished to thank him for his many years of service to the Fire District.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:** No reports.

Motion/ Nappi, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Constantine: To adjourn to executive session at 8:09 p.m. to discuss probationary firefighter reviews; medical reports; and a personnel matter. Passed 5-0.

Chairman Woehrle returned the meeting to Regular Session at 8:52 p.m.

Motion/ Nappi, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Murray: To adjourn at 8:52 p.m. Passed 5-0.

➤ **The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 8, 2006, at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,



John E. Ostrander III  
Fire District Secretary