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Minutes of Regular Meeting January 16, 2008

PRESENT: Commissioners Weitz, Nappi, Murray, and Chairman Woehrle
Attorney Hayner, Secretary Ostrander, Chief Lingenfelter, 2nd Assistant Chief Elliott,
and several guests.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. under the direction of Chairman Woehrle.

Motion/ Weitz, 2nd/ Nappi: To approve the minutes of the December 12, 2007 Regular Meeting.
Passed 4-0.

Motion/ Weitz, 2nd/ Nappi: To approve the minutes of the January 3, 2008 Organizational Meeting.
Passed 4-0.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- An open competitive eligible list for Firefighter/Paramedic from Schenectady County Civil Service Commission established on 8/21/07.
- A letter from Gregg Pelliccia notifying the Board that he married and would like his wife added to the health insurance through the Fire District.
- A letter from Ellis Hospital Stroke Center acknowledging and commending excellent triage, accurate patient evaluation, and timely transportation provided to a stroke patient on 10/12/07 by AEMTs Congdon, Tietz, and Vena as well as members Hafner and Siler.
- Notarized copy of the legal notice announcing the Organizational Meeting.
- December Fire District Affairs bulletin.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: No one spoke from the floor.

BILLS:

Motion/ Murray, 2nd/ Nappi: To pay bills #2007-636 through 2007-695 and # 2008-001 through 2008-019 totaling \$53,770.08. Passed 4-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT: No report.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: Commissioner Murray reported that the year-end report showed that the overtime budget was only over by \$9,600 for 2007. Chief Lingenfelter stated that there might be Worker's Compensation payments that are not yet included in that total which will lower that number and could even place us under budget.

Commissioner Murray also reported that we were on track to have the audit completed by mid-March.

INSURANCE: No report.

MEDIA RELATIONS: Commissioner Weitz reported that a media event might be planned jointly with Ellis Hospital to promote the Lifepacks that are coming to NFD#1 and to educate the public on early access to the system. The new defibrillators are currently being manufactured and may take around sixty days for delivery.

APPARATUS & EQUIPMENT: Chief Lingenfelter reported that Car 428 was undergoing some significant repairs. The 4-wheel drive was repaired, transmission serviced and fuel system serviced for a cost of approximately \$1,200.

COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION SERVICES: No report.

EMS & EQUIPMENT: No report.

FACILITIES: No report.

ELECTIONS: No report.

PROTECTIVE GEAR & UNIFORMS: No report.

SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM: Chief Ostrander reported that he is working on the 2007 totals.

INSPECTION & INSTALLATION: Chief Ostrander reported that everything is in place for the inspection/installation dinner.

REPORT OF THE CHIEFS:

Chief Lingenfelter:

- Considering the current shortage of firefighter/paramedic candidates within Schenectady County and the expected demand in 2008, Chief Lingenfelter asked the Board to modify the residency requirements on our firefighter civil service announcement to modify the residency restriction on taking the exam to include all of New York State, and change the residency requirement for appointment to include Schenectady County and all counties contiguous to Schenectady County. This should increase the number of candidates available for appointment to future

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firefighter/paramedic positions in the department. The City of Batavia had advertised their exam statewide last year and still had difficulty finding suitable candidates.

- A meeting with a systems engineer from Omni computer is scheduled next week to assess our computer systems maintenance and repair options.
- Our two current portable fire pumps have become unreliable and after over 25 years of service are in need of replacement. Authorization is requested to purchase two gas powered portable pumps at a total cost of \$1,791.00.
- Request authorization to attend the bi-monthly Career Fire Chiefs meetings in 2008 not to exceed a cost of \$200 per meeting for dues, meals, and lodging expenses.

- Incident Report:

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
December Incidents:	163	172
EMS	120	137
Fire/Other	43	35
YTD Incidents:	1963	1725

Other Activities:	Emergency Callback:	12 hours
	Fire Prevention Details:	1 hour
	In-service Training:	123 hours
	Fire Company Drill:	171 hours

Chief Ostrander:

- Chief Ostrander reported that in the winter months, the Chiefs cars are always outdoors and subject to snow and ice build-up on the windshield which delays response to calls. He proposed purchasing remote car starters for the chiefs cars. Quotes have been received from two vendors and LaRosa Automotive, which is the lowest quote, is recommended since he does all electrical work on the district vehicles.
- Chief Ostrander also reported that volunteer firefighters Siler and Hafner have completed the State Firefighter1 course and also firefighter Rodd has completed EMT the EMT course.

Assist. Chief Elliott:

- 2nd Assistant Chief Elliott reported that the annual inventory and inspection of turnout gear has been started.

Report of the Niskayuna Permanent Fireman's Association: No report

Report of the Grand Boulevard Fire Company: Lt. Vena reported that the GBFC approved \$3,000 to purchase search and rescue ropes for apparatus and personal ropes for interior firefighters. This equipment is the GBFC gift to the District for the year.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Based on the resolution at the Organizational Meeting, the GBFC will be notified when to hold their special meeting for nomination of chiefs in 2008.
- The Chiefs met with Newkey Media Solutions to go over the new web page. Several items are to be delivered to them to get this project completed.

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- Chairman Woehrle spoke with the new Town Supervisor about purchasing fuel through the Town account. The Town and Fire District attorneys will meet and write an agreement to purchase gasoline from the Town.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Woehrle announced that the inspection of the stations would begin on Saturday, January 26, 2008 at 10:00 am at the Balltown Road Station.

Motion/ Nappi, 2nd/ Weitz: To authorize the Chief to attend the Career Chiefs Meeting in January. Passed 4-0.

Motion/ Nappi, 2nd/ Murray: To replace the portable pumps as reported at a cost of \$1,791.00. Passed 4-0.

Motion/ Nappi, 2nd/ Weitz: To purchase remote car starters for the Chiefs vehicles at a cost not to exceed \$300 each. Passed 4-0.

Motion/ Weitz, 2nd/ Nappi: To authorize the Chairman to enter an agreement with the Town of Niskayuna for the purchase of fuel for district vehicles. Passed 4-0.

Any Additional Business to come before the Board: None

Motion/ Nappi, 2nd/ Weitz: To adjourn to Executive Session to discuss personnel, interview results, Board issues, and negotiation issues at 7:50 p.m. Passed 4-0.

Chairman Woehrle returned the meeting to Regular Session at 8:57 pm.

Motion/ Nappi, Second/ Murray:

To appoint **Nicholas Persons** to the position of entry level Firefighter/Paramedic effective February 8, 2008 with a salary and benefits per the agreement with the NPFA and with a one-year probationary period as required by Schenectady County Civil Service. This appointment is dependent upon passing medical examination and arson background check.

Commissioner Robert Murray: Yes
Commissioner Vincent Daly: Absent
Commissioner Steven Weitz: Yes
Commissioner Thomas Nappi: Yes
Commissioner Edward Woehrle: Yes

The Resolution Passed: 4-0

Motion/ Nappi, 2nd/ Murray: To adjourn at 8:58 pm. Passed 4-0.

➤ **The next Regular Meeting is Wednesday, February 13, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

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John E. Ostrander III
Secretary