

## Minutes of Regular Meeting December 10, 2008

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**PRESENT:** Commissioners Murray, Nappi, Daly, Weitz and Chairman Woehrle  
Attorney Hayner, Secretary Versocki, Treasurer DeAngelus, Chief Lingenfelter  
Cpt. Congdon, Lt. Vena, S. Vena, Chief Elliott and N. Persons

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

Motion/ Nappi, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Murray: To approve the minutes of the November 19, 2008 Regular Meeting.  
Passed 5-0.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- A Newsletter from NYS Comptroller Thomas A. DiNapoli pertaining to The NYS Local Retirement System.
- A Christmas card from Pacheco Ross Architects.
- A pamphlet from The Utica Fire Academy announcing the graduation of 24 candidates including Shannon Powers and Robert Wessels of Niskayuna Fire Department.
- A copy of the Official Returns of Votes Cast at The Annual Election of Niskayuna Consolidated Fire District No.1 on December for one (1) member of The Board of Fire Commissioners for a one (1) year term commencing on January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009. Steven H. Weitz M.D. was duly elected to this office.
- A copy of the Official Returns of Votes Cast at The Annual Election of Niskayuna Consolidated Fire District No.1 on December for one (1) member of The Board of Fire Commissioners for a five (5) year term commencing on January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2013. Thomas A. Nappi was duly elected to this office.
- A letter from The Grand Blvd. Fire Company asking for the Board of fire Commissioners approval for the nominated Chief's to serve The GBFC for 2009. They are:  
Chief - Michael Colvin, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief - Dan Elliott & 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief David Dietrich.
- A letter from The Grand Blvd. Fire Company announcing the Social & Fire Line officers elected for 2009. They are: President – John Baker, Vice-President Al Connelly, Secretary – Bill Versocki, Treasurer – Ray Hull, Financial Secretary – Bob Kordrupel, Director – Larry Cottrell, Hudson Valley Co-Delegates – Al Connelly & Tom Nappi and Hudson Mohawk Delegate Bob Kordrupel. NYS Delegate is automatically the past Fire Captain – D. Dietrich. Peter Barber - Fire Captain, Kevin McGill – Fire 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. & Joshua Colvin Fire 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:** There was nothing from the floor.

**BILLS:**

Motion/ Murray, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Nappi: To pay bills from November 20 through December 10, 2008 totaling \$41,043.01. Passed 5-0.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- Treasurer K. DeAngelus reviewed the financial report as of November 30, 2008 with the Board. Payroll/Overtime estimates through the end of the year including coverage of vacant shift positions remain within payroll budget. Treasurer DeAngelus also reported that although the federal taxes for fuel were credited; New York State fuel tax refunds are due for the past 3 years and a request for that tax credit will be filed before the end of 2008. Commissioner Nappi asked about the sale of the 1996 pick-up truck. Treasurer DeAngelus reported that the \$4,800 payment was received on November 21, 2008 and deposited in the general fund as income.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**FINANCE:** Commissioner Murray discussed a 3-month irrevocable letter of credit that was received in October 2008. Commissioner Woehrle added that Secretary Versocki will provide bound copies of the 2009 budget for next year.

**INSURANCE:** No Report.

**MEDIA RELATIONS:** Commissioner Weitz thanked everyone for attending the Ellis Hospital dedication ceremony last month.

**APPARATUS & EQUIPMENT:** As was reported earlier by the Treasurer, Commissioner Woehrle mentioned the sale of the 1996 pick-up truck.

**COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION SERVICES:** Commissioner Woehrle reported that a representative from New Key Media came on December 2<sup>nd</sup> to review procedures for updating the District web page. Web page changes were suggested including a monthly breakdown of Fire & EMS calls. The secretary will be working on adding archive files of previous meeting minutes from 2004 to the present.

**EMS & EQUIPMENT:** Chief Lingenfelter discussed a proposal to standardize our BLS first aid bags in ambulances, chief's vehicles, Fire Apparatus and pick-up trucks (11 total) which was drafted by Lt. Vena. The cost to complete the standardization would be approximately \$2,000. This would allow our EMT's and Paramedics access to identically configured equipment regardless of which apparatus was present on any given scene. The funding is available in our 2008 EMS equipment budget. Therefore I am requesting authorization to purchase the necessary equipment bags not to exceed \$2,000.

**FACILITIES:** Chief Lingenfelter reported that the heater in the commissioners meeting room is not functioning. Mohawk Heating has been evaluated the problem and I am waiting a call from them. I would like authorization to get this fixed if it's reasonable.

**ELECTIONS:** Commissioner Daly congratulated Dr. Weitz and Tom Nappi for being re-election to terms as commissioners. He reminded each that they must take The Commissioner Training Class. A discussion took place as to whether Dr. Weitz needed the class or not since he took the class last year and is still holding the term vacated by Dr. Barlyn.

**PROTECTIVE GEAR & UNIFORMS:**

- Commissioner Daly reported that to the best of his knowledge all gear & uniforms slated for purchase have been ordered.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief Dan Elliott reported that a turnout and dress uniform inspection early next year.

**SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM:** No Report.

**INSPECTION & INSTALLATION:** Commissioner Woehrle reported that The Mohawk Club has been booked for January 31, 2009 and reported that the committee will be meeting on December 17, 2008 at 7 pm to discuss plans for this event.

**REPORT OF THE CHIEFS:**

**Chief Lingenfelter:**

- The Federal safety vest rules in effect since November 24, 2008 require that we provide high visibility safety vests to our personnel when working on federally funded roadways (most roads-utilize federal funds). To meet this requirement I am requesting authorization to purchase 60 vests at a cost not to exceed \$42.00 each totaling \$2,520. A discussion took place in which the commissioners asked why each member should get a vest and why this particular type. Chief Lingenfelter explained that since volunteers respond via personal vehicle to the scene it makes sense to have one in their cars; the reason for this particular vest is it fits over street clothes and turn out jackets and with multiple reflective points it gives optimum visibility . Chief Lingenfelter had a sample which he showed to everyone present.
- I have obtained a quote from B-Lann to purchase the last 6 Scott SCBA to outfit E-403. They are offering the same trade-in program as before but the caveat is that the purchase needs to occur before the end of 2008. After that date the price will increase 5% which equates to an increase of \$1,200 for 6.and after that date the trade in will not be available which equals a savings of \$2,850. We have the budgeted funds for these SCBA packs in 2009 and they won't be delivered until 2009. If they are ordered this year we will save approximately \$4,000. Therefore, I am requesting authorization to purchase 6 Scott SCBA from B-Lann on NYS contract PC61254 for a total of \$22,784.58.
- I will be working with officers to draft a proposal for purchasing firefighter emergency escape and self rescue systems to comply with NYS department of Labor requirements pursuant to section 800.7 of title 12 NYCRR. When asked for more details; Chief Lingenfelter explained that this is an unfunded mandate (implemented on November 1, 2008 with an expected compliance of 6 -

months) which provides each interior firefighter an escape mechanism – generally a length of rope with attached carabineers from which a trapped firefighter could use one time to escape from a burning building. Once I get more information about a cost effective escape devise I will make it available. This is just forewarning for everyone’s information.

- An EAP orientation and sexual harassment class has been scheduled for December 15, 2008 from 7-9pm in The Balltown Rd. meeting room. This training is **mandatory** for all Career and volunteer members as well as Commissioners and Niskayuna Consolidated Fire district No. 1 employees.

Department Activity:

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	
October Incidents:	140	158	
EMS	110	127	
Fire/Other	30	31	
YTD Incidents:	1,846	1800	(11/31)
Other Activities:	Emergency Callback:	18 hours	
	In-Service Training:	77 hours	
	Fire Company Drill:	178 hours	
	Outreach Training:	6 hours	

**Report of the Niskayuna Permanent Fireman’s Association:** No Report.

**Report of the Grand Boulevard Fire Company:** No Report.

**New Fire Station:**

- Commissioner Nappi reported the committee met last month and there was a good exchange of input. We will not be meeting again until after the holidays but we are not pushing for a bond vote at this time. I would like to add that GBFC Life Member Bob Saltzman is doing a great job assisting us with this project.
- Commissioner Woehrle discussed a Public Works Stimulus Bill which is to be proposed as soon as President elect Obama takes office on January 20, 2009. The suggested bill in its current form is exempting police & fire stations. I suggest that this board draft a letter and send it to federal officials asking to include fire Stations. I believe by explaining the circumstances the Fire District is in may help create support for inclusion.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Motion/ Daly, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Murray: To purchase 60 high-visibility safety vests for \$42 each for a total not to exceed \$2,520. Passed 5-0.**

Motion/ Murray, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Daly: purchase the remaining six (6) Scott Air Packs with the trade-in offer from B-Lann at the NYS contract PC61254 and utilizing funds allocated in the 2009 budget. The total cost not to exceed \$22,784.58. Passed 5-0.

Motion/ Nappi, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Murray: To authorize purchase of 11 BLS bags at a cost not to exceed \$2,000. Passed 5-0.

Motion/ Nappi, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Murray: To authorize Chief Lingenfelter to have the heater in The Commissioner's Office repaired within a reasonable cost. Passed 5-0.

Motion/ Nappi, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Daly: That the Board draft a letter and send it to federal officials asking that Fire Stations be included in the proposed Public Works Stimulus Package. Passed 5-0.

**Chairman Woehrle reminded the Commissioners and The Board Staff that the 2009 organizational meeting will be held on January 5, 2009 at 7 pm.**

**Any Additional Business to come before the Board: None**

Motion/ Nappi, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Murray: To adjourn to Executive Session at 7:57 pm. Passed 5-0.

Motion/ Murray, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Nappi: To return to regular session at 8:43 pm. Passed 5-0.

Motion/Nappi, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Daly: To adjourn at 8:44 pm. Passed 5-0.

**The next Regular Meeting is Wednesday, January 14, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Versocki  
Secretary