

Minutes of Regular Meeting May 12, 2010

PRESENT: Commissioners: Murray, Nappi, Weitz and Chairman Woehrle, Attorney Hayner Secretary Versocki, Treasurer Splendido, Chief Lingenfelter, Chief Colvin Chief Elliott, Cpt. Fritz and D. Pacheco.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. under the direction of Chairman Woehrle.

Motion/ Nappi, 2nd/ Murray: To approve the minutes of the April 14, 2010 Regular Meeting as read. Passed 4-0.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A notice from Guardian Insurance Company advising Niskayuna Fire District No. 1 of a requirement to post a revised copy of DB 120(Certificate of Disability coverage) and a copy was furnished for posting.
- A letter from The NYS Comptroller's office reminding NYS employers that distribution of members annual statements are expected to begin in late May or early June 2010. In addition they ask that precautions be taken to safeguard security breaches of employee's personal information.
- A letter from The Director of Workforce Development and Public Affairs for Schenectady County thanking firefighter/paramedic John Baker for his contribution to The Career EXPO 2010 held on Tuesday March 16, 2010 at Schenectady County Community College.
- An e-mail letter from firefighter/paramedic Alex Traina requesting extended sick leave.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: Nothing.

BILLS:

Motion Murray 2nd/ Nappi: To pay bills for corresponding check #'s 11227 - 11270 from April 15, 2010 thru May 12, 2010 - totaling \$62,890.02 as reviewed. Passed 4-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Treasurer Splendido first reviewed the comparison sheet for April 2009 & 2010, noting a 9.7% increase in salary due to retroactive pay from contract.
- He then reported on the 2010 budget versus actual expenses through April, 2010. He stated that all accounts are on budget targets except insurance which is over budget by 14.5% and the administrative budget which is under budget by 24%.

- The Reserve Accounts have been updated and the spreadsheet was reviewed.
- Treasurer Splendido also reported that he spoke to Verizon about our current cell phone plan and usage. Under the OGS rate in NYS we will pay for each call and based on usage there will be some savings.
- John further reported that the FSA plan compliance tested OK with no outstanding issues.
- Based on discussions with Fiscal Advisors and Marketing I have contacted TD Bank about short term financing for the bond and I have not heard anything to this date. I will give updates as needed.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT:

- Based on my communication with Niskayuna Town Attorney Scagnelli regarding The Niskayuna Zoning Requirements and it is my opinion that we go before the Town Planning Board and state our argument of not being subject to Town Zoning Requirements. Before this takes place there should be a meeting between Fire District representatives and Attorney Scagnelli. It was agreed that prior to a zoning board meeting Chief Lingenfelter and Attorney Hayner will ask to meet with Mr. Scagnelli to discuss the legal issues associated with the renovation/addition project.
- Regarding the pregnancy policy for Career members, Commissioner Woehrle will meet with PFA President Ted Congdon to discuss the issue in depth.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE:

Commissioner Murray reported that everyone should start thinking about the 2011 budget process.

INSURANCE:

Chief Lingenfelter reported:

- The 1994 Ford ambulance (old A- 942) was sold to Rotterdam EMS for \$4100. We have also received a letter from Schenectady Insuring verifying it’s removal from our insurance policy

MEDIA RELATIONS: No Report.

APPARATUS & EQUIPMENT:

Chief Lingenfelter Reported:

- Truck 405 is being scheduled for its annual Aerial testing and ground ladder testing for all apparatus.

COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION SERVICES:

Chief Lingenfelter Reported:

- A price quote has been provided by Northeast Information Systems to upgrade the phone system at the River Road station. The upgrade will allow continuation of voicemail services while the Balltown Road Station is being renovated and will also allow networking of the two station’s phone systems upon completion of the renovation/addition project. The phones will be interchangeable with the ones currently in use at the Balltown Road station.

Cost of the system on NYS Contract #77004 is \$4,946 which includes a two year warranty on the system to include our current paging system. Once installed the service contract will not be needed until the warranty expires and the savings will pay for the system in approximately 2 years.

It is my recommendation that the purchase be authorized.

EMS & EQUIPMENT: No Report.

FACILITIES:

Chairman Woehrle reported:

- The windows at River Rd. were originally installed when the building was built in 1982 and they are not energy efficient. In fact, during the colder weather you can feel a draft through them. I propose that replacing these windows be an item for the 2011 budget.

Chief Lingenfelter reported:

- The overhead door opener for the wash bay at River Road has failed and is beyond the point of cost effective repairs (\$500+ for a 28 y/o opener). A price of \$1710 was quoted for the replacement of the opener and installation of optical safety sensors for it.

It is my recommendation that the purchase be authorized.

ELECTIONS: No Report.

PROTECTIVE GEAR & UNIFORMS:

Chief Elliott reported he is in the process of outfitting Grand Blvd. Fire Company members with dress uniforms for Niska-day.

SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM: No Report.

INSPECTION & INSTALLATION: No Report.

FIRE STATION ADDITION/RENOVATION:

Chief Lingenfelter Reported:

- Currently investigating temporary office space for the continuation of operations plan while the project is in progress. To date the most favorable option would be to rent a 40' x 8' office trailer and place it adjacent to the River Road station. Power, Internet, and phone service can be tapped into the station.
- Options for storage of property not being needed during the project are being investigated. Warehouse storage, trailer storage, and PODs have been explored to date.

Dave Pacheco Reported:

- Geo-Technical's will be done this week.
- We have had a structural engineer looking at the existing structure and he will make a determination what it will take to hold the building up. There does seem to be an issue with the south Bay since that has been used to house the heaviest piece of apparatus.

Commissioner Nappi Reported:

- In the past month the sub-committee has met and we have laid out the plans to The Grand Blvd. Fire Company.
- If the schedule goes ahead as planned we need to vacate The Balltown Rd. station by September 1, 2010. Once cleared out any Haz-Mat will be abated and then we can begin renovating the current structure.
- Based on our discussion with the fire company, career staff and an e-mail sent out to everyone, a sub-committee roster has been established for common areas for the existing building and the addition.
Those areas include: The apparatus bay, kitchen, grounds, furniture & fixtures, exercise room, electrical & security, mechanical, career bunk/day room & kitchen, fire company recreation room/meeting room, pantry & storage as well as public relations, historical and continuation of operations planning.

REPORT OF THE CHIEFS:

Chief Lingenfelter:

- An application for the 2010 AFG grant has started. We will be requesting funding for gear washing and drying equipment as well as exercise equipment to enhance firefighter health & safety.
- Turnout gear evaluation has been completed.
- Re-programming of communications equipment has begun as requested by the county.
- Career retiree Frank Routa is permanently moving to Florida and since the retiree health HMO does not have coverage in Florida he was switched to the health plan for career members.
- **I am Requesting that the board declare the hose drying oven located at the River Road station surplus and authorize the method of disposition to be determined by the Chief.**
- **I am Requesting that the board declare all wide band radio equipment and pagers surplus and authorize the method of disposition to be determined by the Chief.**
- **I am Requesting authorization to send Captain Ted Congdon to Montour Falls Fire Academy for Fire Instructor II certification which is required for appointment as Municipal Training Officer for the Fire District.**

Chief Colvin:

- The NYS Chief's convention will be held on June 10 – 12, 2010 at The Turning Stone Convention Center. I would like permission to utilize chief's vehicles for the convention.
- The Hudson Valley Volunteer Fireman's Convention will be held June 18 – 20, 2010 in Lake George. I would like permission to utilize chief's vehicles for the weekend and utilize an engine for the dress parade on June 19th. I am also asking for permission to utilize a fire district generator for the GBFC Mardi Gras float.

Chief Elliott: No Report.

Department Activity:

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	
April Incidents:	125	153	
EMS	96	110	
Fire/Other	29	43	
YTD Incidents:	572	598	(4/30)

Other Activities:

Emergency Callback:	6 hours
Fire/EMS/Codes In-Service Training:	58 hours
Fire Company Drill:	94 hours

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

Report of the Grand Boulevard Fire Company: Chief Elliott reported that the GBFC executive committee will be meeting to review fire company members call attendance records for the past 6 months.

OLD BUSINESS: Secretary Versocki reported that based on a recommendation from Chairman Woehrle, a letter was sent it to the Grand Blvd. Fire Company on May 10, 2010 informing them that the ICS-300 is a pre-requisite for future nominations of chief officers.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion/ Murray, 2nd/ Nappi: To declare the hose dryer as surplus and authorize the method of disposal to be determined by Chief Lingenfelter. Passed 4-0.

Motion/ Weitz, 2nd/ Nappi: To replace the overhead wash bay door opener at River Rd..at the quoted price of \$1,710.00 which includes safety sensors and installation. Passed 4-0.

Motion/ Nappi, 2nd/ Murray: To declare all wide band radio equipment and pagers surplus and authorize the method of disposal to be determined by Chief Lingenfelter. Passed 4-0.

Motion/ Weitz, 2nd/ Murray: To send Captain Ted Congdon to Montour Falls Fire Academy for Fire Instructor II certification Passed 4-0.

Motion/ Weitz, 2nd/ Nappi: To approve extended sick leave to firefighter/paramedic Alex Traina up to June 9, 2010. Passed 4-0.

Motion/ Nappi, 2nd/ Murray: To authorize the use of district chief's vehicles to attend The NYS Chief's Convention in Verona, NY on June 10, 11 &12 of 2010. Passed 4-0.

Motion/ Nappi, 2nd/ Murray: To authorize the use of district chief's vehicles to attend The Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemans Convention at Lake George, NY on June 18, 19 & 20 of 2010 and to authorize the use a district fire engine for The Hudson Valley Fireman's parade on Saturday June 19, 2010. Passed 4-0.

Motion/ Murray, 2nd/ Nappi: To upgrade the telephone system at River Rd. at the NYS contract # 77004 price of \$4,946.00 which includes a two year warranty on the system to include our current paging system.

The role was then called for a vote.

	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSTAINED</u>
Commissioner Murray	X	-----	-----
Commissioner Weitz	X	-----	-----
Commissioner Nappi	X	-----	-----
Commissioner Woehrle	-----	-----	X

The Motion Passed 3 yea's – 0 nay's – 1 abstained.

The commissioners discussed the correspondence letter from the Schenectady County Foundation career EXPO 2010 and the contributions of firefighter/paramedic John Baker. Chief Lingenfelter also praised John's yearly efforts with Niskayuna school children with respect to fire prevention classes. The commissioners asked the District Secretary to draft a letter of appreciation to John for all his efforts.

Motion Nappi/Second Murray: To adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Passed 4-0.

The next Regular Meeting is Wednesday, June 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Versocki

District Secretary