



MINUTES
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting – Tuesday, August 24th, 2021

ATTENDEES: Chairman Marc Komorsky
Commissioner Richard Sassi
Commissioner Stephen Piehler (*absent*)
EMS Admin Michael Benenati
Secretary Bria Le
Commissioner George Burns
Commissioner Anthony Pignataro
Chief Tim O'Connor
Treasurer Mark Pozniak

At 6:10 pm, Chairman Marc Komorsky called meeting of the LaGrange Board of Fire Commissioners to order for Tuesday, August 24th, 2021, and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed everyone and expressed his thanks for attending.

NEW EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT & OATH:

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Burns and SECONDED by Commissioner Sassi, the Board RESOLVED to appoint Cameron Tuller to the LaGrange Fire District as a Firefighter/EMT. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Secretary Le administered the Oath of Allegiance to newly appointed Firefighter Tuller. The Board and staff expressed their congratulation to Tuller. Short discussion followed regarding Tuller's start date and anticipated training schedule.

MINUTES: 8/10/21 Regular Meeting

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Sassi and SECONDED by Commissioner Burns, the Board RESOLVED to approve the minutes from the 8/10/21 Regular Meeting. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE: (*none*)

ROOM USE REQUESTS:

Sassi said he doesn't have anything official yet, but that the Dutchess Medical Reserve Board is looking for firehouses that can hold training. Komorsky asked if he could get a description and time frame for the classes and the Board would consider it.

REPORTS: (by officers present)

• **Treasurer –**

2021 BUDGET DISCUSSION: Treasurer Mark Pozniak said he has a high level summary, the budget calendar, and the tax levy for various increases for the Board to review. He noted that the tax cap for the year is 2.97% increase and that normally in a standard year a roughly 5% increase is needed to just carry on operations. He said the point of the current discussion is to discuss any major building improvements, any significant staffing changes, or any items that would have a budget impact that would not be included in normal operations. He asked the Board and the Chief to give input on items that he should include in a version of the budget and said that he would present several versions for the Board to review, some including the SAFER Grant and some not including it. Lengthy discussion

BoFC Regular Meeting 8/24/21

Please note that this meeting was conducted in person at 504 Freedom Plains Road in Poughkeepsie, NY AND open for public viewing and/or listening via the video conferencing platform Zoom, as per NYS Executive Order #202.1 (Continuing Temporary Suspension and Modification of Laws Related to the Disaster Emergency).



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followed pertaining to replenishing the reserves and the items that the Chief staff and the Board would like to be considered in the budget planning plus how the high amount of anticipated growth in the Town would affect the budget and whether builders can contribute to offset costs.

Chief Tim O'Connor noted that the Board should start budgeting for paramedic classes and noted that an opportunity for a class in Yonkers that starts in September was just brought to the staff's attention earlier in the day. Discussion followed regarding details about the class, whether there was currently anyone on staff interested in the class, and the uncertainty of future paramedic classes in the area. Tabled pending more information.

Further discussion followed regarding the needed building repairs and improvements for all three stations that should be considered in the budget preparation. Pozniak said that everything mentioned was good information so he can create a draft budget with everything included then the Board can look at the numbers to whittle down the costs.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pozniak said he had one outstanding personnel item for Executive Session.

Komorsky said he had an item before the Chief begins his report. He asked whether it was being considered to give volunteers a District vehicles to take home and use to respond on calls. The Chief said that the issue has been raised but a volunteer needs to be cleared to drive or tech on an ambulance before a District vehicle can be used. Sassi said he wanted to see a policy addressing vehicle use before any action is taken.

- **Chief –**

TRAINING: Chief O'Connor notified the Board that the staff intends to do some training at the property across the road from Station 3. He noted that the Town of LaGrange owns the property and has approved the Fire District to use it for training, provided that we add an insurance rider to have the Town as an Additional Insured on the District's insurance policy. Short discussion followed regarding a few items needed for training on the property and adding the insurance rider.

Upon a MOTION made by Sassi and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to authorize the Chief up to \$1500 to make improvements on safety issues to the building across from Firehouse #3. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye.

Motion Carried.

OLD 47-13: Chief O'Connor said the weight of the vehicle is 38,400 lbs and the price of scrap metal is \$0.11/lb so the amount to scrap the vehicle would be about \$4151.40 (38,400 minus weight of tires, times \$0.11). Short discussion regarding the cost of selling the vehicle. He recommended putting it on GovDeals for a minimum bid of \$4200 plus the seller's fee for 30 days, then scrap it if it doesn't sell.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: O'Connor said that he had one personnel item to discuss during Executive Session.

OLD BUSINESS: The Chief noted that he and the staff finally had a chance to visit TEK Medical Services and the facility was nice. Short discussion followed regarding the process to move the physicals to TEK.

Chief O'Connor said that he was just informed that one staff member is interested in attending the paramedic class and EMS Administrator Michael Benenati said that he was just waiting on an email to get the cost of the program. Benenati asked the Board for some direction to know whether to continue to pursue the class and work out the details at a later time. Komorsky, Sassi, Burns, & Commissioner Pignataro each said they were in favor of the one interested person attending the paramedic class.

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- **EMS Administrator** – *(no report)*
- **Department** – *(no report)*
- **Union** –
Union President Kyle Rancourt said in listening to the Budget discussion he was concerned that there wasn't enough conversation about manpower if the SAFER grant doesn't happen. Discussion followed regarding the need to budget for manpower and the previous meetings where manpower has been discussed.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Repairs and Repair Requests** – Discussed with 2022 budget. Short discussion held about the needed door repairs.
- **Recruitment & Retention** – Tabled for next meeting.
- **Old 47-13** – Discussed in Chief's report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Dutchess Overhead Doors** – Chief O'Connor said that the issue that caused the damage to the overhead door at Station 2 will be addressed through training.
Upon a MOTION made by Burns and SECONDED by Commissioner Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to repair the overhead door at Station 2 by Dutchess Overhead Doors for \$4200. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**
- **2022 Budget Discussion** – Discussed in Treasurer's Report.

ABSTRACT: \$102,948.51

Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to pay the bills for the month of August for the amount of \$102,948.51. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS: *(none)*

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 9:00 pm, upon a MOTION made by Sassi and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to go into Executive Session to discuss one personnel item from the Chief, one personnel item from Pozniak, and two personnel items from Sassi. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

At 10:26, Commissioner Sassi had to leave the meeting.

OPEN SESSION & MOTIONS:

At 10:58 pm, the Board resumed Open Session.

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Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to place Brendan Whalen on 207-a. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

ADJOURNMENT:

At 10:59 pm, upon a MOTION made by Burns and SECONDED by Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



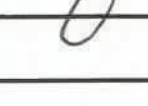
Bria Le – District Secretary

Approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners on 9/14/21

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VENDOR	Amount Due	PO #	Due Date	8/24/2021
A-1 Auto Supply ✓	\$ ✓ 15.96	10661		Washer fluid
Adams Power Equipment ✓	\$ ✓ 135.00	10662		Lawn tractor service
ADP ✓	\$ ✓ 743.55	10660		Payroll Charges
Ameritas ✓	\$ ✓ 6,313.64	10676		Dental Insurance September 2021
Bottini Fuel ✓	\$ ✓ 861.28	10663		Propane & diesel fuel deliveries
Central Hudson ✓	\$ ✓ 896.27	10664		Sta 2 & 3 Electricity charges
Dell Marketing LLP ✓	\$ ✓ 55.20	10681		HDMI cables
Dell Marketing LLP ✓	\$ ✓ 924.42	10682		Computer docking stations & mice
Dutchess Recreational Vehicles ✓	\$ ✓ 148.40	10665		Generator repairs
Dutchess Tire Center ✓	\$ ✓ 50.00	10666		Flat tire on tanker
Freihofer Ice & Springwater ✓	\$ ✓ 139.50			Water delivery July 2021
HAIX - USA	\$ ✗ 243.00	10639		Boots for new hire
HG Page & Sons ✓	\$ ✓ 45.80	10659		Building repair supplies
M & O Sanitation ✓	\$ ✓ 630.00	10667		Pump septic at Sta 2
Magna5 ✓	\$ ✓ 448.53	10668		Local & long distance services Sta 2 & 3
Mass Mutual ✓	\$ ✓ 1,630.50	10669		Career staff life insurance policies
Medical Warehouse ✓	\$ ✓ 843.70			Expendable medical supplies
Medical Warehouse ✓	\$ ✓ 819.42			Expendable medical supplies
Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital ✓	\$ ✓ 650.72	10636		Medical supplies
Mobile Life Support Services ✓	\$ ✓ 700.00	10658		Paramedic Refresher Course
Municipal Emergency Services ✓	\$ ✓ 805.64			Sensor, straps, & uniform items
Municipal Emergency Services ✓	\$ ✓ 1,070.05			Nozzle repairs
Municipal Emergency Services ✓	\$ ✓ 100.00			Uniform pants
Municipal Emergency Services ✓	\$ ✓ 498.60			Survivor lights w/chargers
Murphy's Sand & Gravel ✓	\$ ✓ 275.00	10652		Pump holding tank at Sta 2
NYSHIP ✓	\$ ✓ 80,416.18	10678		Health Insurance September 2021
Optimum ✓	\$ ✓ 148.84	10671		Sta 2 Internet service
Redemption Mechanical ✓	\$ ✓ 795.00	10679		Sta 2 a/c condenser fan motor replacement
Shelterpoint ✓	\$ ✓ 993.02	10670		Vision Insurance
Stars & Stripes Lawncare ✓	\$ ✓ 130.00	10680		Sta 3 lawn care July 2021
Stryker Sales Corp ✓	\$ ✓ 93.71	10603		Medical supplies
Superior Telephone ✓	\$ ✓ 486.45	10677		Sta 2 doorbox replacement
Town of LaGrange ✓	\$ ✓ 103.01	10672		Water/Sewer bill
Verizon Fios ✓	\$ ✓ 128.27	10674		Sta 2 internet service
Verizon Wireless ✓	\$ ✓ 28.00	10673		Lifepak modem lines
Verizon Wireless ✓	\$ ✓ 581.85	10675		Apparatus & cell phone service

TOTAL SUBMITTED	\$ 102,948.51	Date:	Commissioner Signatures:
changes listed:		08/24/21	
		8/24/21	
TOTAL APPROVED		8/24/21	
KEY:			
pre-paid			
Paid			