



MINUTES
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
Special Meeting – Tuesday, December 21st, 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 5:42 pm Chairman Marc Komorsky called the Board of Fire Commissioners' Special Meeting to order for Tuesday, December 21st, 2021. He then led the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed everyone in attendance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 5:43 pm, upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Pignataro and SECONDED by Commissioner Burns, the Board RESOLVED to go into Executive Session to discuss one personnel issue (lieutenant interviews). Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

At 9:11 pm, the Board resumed Public Session.

LIEUTENANT APPOINTMENT:

Komorsky thanked everyone that came in for the interviews and stated that they were all good candidates and the Board was proud to have them here. He said the Board made a decision that the promotion and appointment of the next lieutenant would be to Kyle Rancourt.

Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to appoint Kyle Rancourt as a lieutenant in LaGrange Fire District effective the next payroll period on Monday December 27th, 2021. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Secretary Le administered the Lieutenant Oath of Office to newly appointed Lieutenant Rancourt.

MINUTES: 11/23/21 Regular Meeting

Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on 11/23/21. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Abstain, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE

- Thank You Card & Donation from Duffy - \$500.00

Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to put the donation into the General Fund. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Abstain, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

- Notice from Dutchess County RE: Election Poll Site Inspections

ROOM USE REQUESTS: (*none*)

BoFC Special Meeting 12/21/21

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.



LAGRANGE FIRE DISTRICT

504 Freedom Plains Rd • Poughkeepsie, NY 12603



CORRESPONDENCE *(cont.)*

Komorsky said that he had one more item under Correspondence and that he was given a sealed envelope. He then handed copies out to the commissioners, the chief, and the secretary. He read the letter from Stephen Piehler (attached).

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Sassi and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to accept the resignation of Stephen Piehler. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Komorsky stated that it was a pleasure working with Commissioner Piehler and that he is dedicated to the LaGrange Fire District and that he was dedicated to being a commissioner. Komorsky said that he spoke to Piehler before the meeting and they discussed people that might be a good candidate to fill the seat. Komorsky said that Barry Ward was in the audience and would be interested in filling the seat and said he would put that out there to find out the rest of the Board's thoughts. Short discussion followed.

Upon a MOTION made by Sassi and SECONDED by Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to appoint Barry Ward to Stephen Piehler's vacancy. Burns – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Komorsky said that Ward would have to run and be elected if he wishes to continue being a commissioner after the next year.

Secretary Le administered the Commissioner Oath of Office to newly appointed Commissioner Barry Ward.

REPORTS: *(by officers present)*

- **Treasurer** – *(no report)*

- **Chief** –

NOTABLE INCIDENTS: Fire Chief Tim O'Connor said that they have had a couple of really big incidents over the last couple of weeks but he hasn't had a chance to put together a report. He briefly described the mine rescue in Dover and the multiple calls during the Santa Run.

TRAINING: Chief O'Connor said he had one out of county training but he wanted to wait until after Executive Session to discuss it.

VEHICLES: The chief said that Lt. Anthony Champion will have a report soon. O'Connor next said that they have a quote from Trailer King for a plow for 89, but is having a hard time getting one from Hudson River Truck & Trailer. Discussion followed about finding the plow on state bid.

PERSONNEL: Chief O'Connor said that Judy Coffin has continued doing her driver training on the ambulances. He said the Board held their first round of interviews that night for lieutenant and that he would like to set a date for the second round of interviews. He said the second part is that there is an academy that starts at the end of February or early March and the next academy is in April. Discussion followed regarding the firefighter candidates and potential transfers, conducting background checks and the potential timeline for the interview process.

SAFETY: The Chief said that COVID is ticking up and a reminder to the staff will probably go out within 24 hrs. He said the staff will have a meeting either next week or right after the first of the year. He noted that the Safety Committee is coming up and he has been working on the Mandatory Workplace Safety & Loss Program that needs to be done by the middle of February.

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GRANTS: Chief O'Connor said that the District has been approved for reimbursements associated with response to Tropical Storm Ida and he is working with FEMA to determine how much. Short discussion followed regarding reimbursable expenses.

TOWN PLANNING BOARD: O'Connor noted that is continuing to go to the Town Planning Board meetings.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Chief said he had three personnel items for Executive Session. Short discussion followed regarding the AFG grant and the lack of time to look into it.

- **EMS Administrator –**

EXECUTIVE SESSION: EMS Administrator Michael Benenati said he has two personnel items for Executive Session.

Short discussion followed regarding the increase of COVID in the area and the District procedures around it.

- **Department –** *(no report)*

- **Union –**

Union Treasurer Anthony Champion wished everyone on the Board and in the public a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season. He said they look forward to discussions in the new year.

Lt. Champion then gave the Board a report on the status of vehicle repairs.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Repairs and Repair Requests** – Komorsky said that the siding and gutter work at Station 3 has been completed. O'Connor said that there was a problem again with the boilers at Station 1 and a short discussion followed regarding the circulator pumps and whether it was a repeating problem. O'Connor brought up an issue with keeping track of all of the building projects that needed to be done and requested assistance from the Board to help with the work. Ward said he would work with the chief on them. Further discussion followed regarding repairs needed.
- **Recruitment & Retention** – *(no report)*
- **Physicals** –
Chief O'Connor said he is still waiting on a return phone call from Tek. Short discussion followed regarding a change in provider of employee physicals.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Conference Room Chairs** – Komorsky read the quote from Hudson Valley Office Furniture for new chairs for the conference room to replace the broken and uncomfortable ones. Benenati said that the quote was only for 6 chairs but he requested that the Board purchase 10 chairs, at the same price per chair, to have enough for everyone that sits at a table for the Board meetings. Short discussion followed regarding the warranty on the chairs and the state contract pricing.

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Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to purchase 10 Pembroke black high back chairs for an approximate total of \$3320. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

- **Troop 82 Charter Request** – Komorsky read the request from Troop 82 to have the fire district charter the troop. Ward said that he would like to see the District charter the organization. Sassi said he would like to get legal counsel's opinion on it and the District's attorney, Mike Hekle, said the Board should see their liability policy before committing to it. Discussion followed regarding the request and the District's role in chartering an organization. Tabled for further information.

ABSTRACT: \$101,124.08

Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to pay the bills for the month of December as per the abstract of \$101,124.08. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS: *(none)*

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 10:33 pm, upon a MOTION made by Sassi and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to go into Executive Session to discuss three personnel issues and two legal issues from Komorsky, one Board of Fire Commissioner's issue, three personnel items from Ward, two personnel items from Benenati, one personnel item from Pignataro, and one brief personnel item from Le. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

OPEN SESSION & TRAINING:

At 12:34 am, the Board resumed Open Session.

Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to send Nate Plambeck to Fire Officer I class from April 25th through May 5th. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Upon a MOTION made by Pignataro and SECONDED by Burns, the Board RESOLVED to send Nate Plambeck to Fire Instructor class from January 28th through February 6th. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

ADJOURNMENT:

At 12:36 am, upon a MOTION made by Sassi and SECONDED by Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting. Burns – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bria Le – District Secretary

Approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners on 1/25/22

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VENDOR	Amount Due	PO #	Due Date	12/21/2021
Association of Fire District of DC ✓	\$ ✓ 125.00			2022 Membership dues
Bottini Fuel ✓	\$ ✓ 890.76	10892		Dec 2021 Diesel Fuel delivery
Central Hudson ✓	\$ ✓ 36.40	10912		Nov Sta 3 Electric (light pole)
Central Hudson ✓	\$ ✓ 1,895.88	10893		Oct & Nov Sta 1 Electric
Central Hudson ✓	\$ ✓ 1,977.15	10894		Oct & Nov Sta 2 Electric
Everdixie USA ✓	\$ ✓ 65.56	10877		Medications
H.G. Page ✓	\$ ✓ 15.96	5225		Batteries & building supplies
Cryo Weld ✓	\$ ✓ 64.85	10895		Oxygen cylinder exchange
Honeywell Analytics University (Paid) ✓	\$ ✓ 71.09	10904		Balance due on Technician Course 07/2021
KoscoHeritage ✓	\$ ✓ 651.50	10913		Dec 2021 Sta 3 fuel oil delivery
KoscoHeritage ✓	\$ ✓ 489.93	10896		Dec 2021 Sta 1 fuel oil delivery
James Publishing ✓	\$ ✓ 164.00	10914		2022 NYS Fire District Officers Guide
Magna5 ✓	\$ ✓ 447.24	10908		Dec 2021 Sta 2 & 3 phone service
Medical Warehouse ✓	\$ ✓ 729.12			Medical supplies
NYALGRO ✓	\$ ✓ 50.00	10898		2022 Membership dues
NYS Academy of Fire Science ✓	\$ ✓ 216.00	10557		Instructor II course - Dec. 2021
NYS Academy of Fire Science ✓	\$ ✓ 216.00	10557		Fire Officer II course - Oct. 2021
Optimum ✓	\$ ✓ 613.94	10899		Dec. 2021 Cable & Internet services
Paychex of NY ✓	\$ ✓ 723.50	10907		Nov & Dec 2021 Payroll processing
Poughkeepsie Journal ✓	\$ ✓ 59.60	10874		Legal Ad - Notice of Commissioner Election
Precision Automotive ✓	\$ ✓ 822.37	5230		47-1 Front Brake repairs
Redemption Mechanical ✓	\$ ✓ 4,800.00	10905		Sta 3 oil water separator
Royal Carting ✓	\$ ✓ 407.62			Nov 2021 waste removal
Ruge's Ford ✓	\$ ✓ 997.71	10900		47-71 repairs
Security Mutual Life Ins. ✓	\$ ✓ 1,021.75	10897		Life Insurance premiums
Stryker Sales ✓	\$ ✓ 99.20	10867		EMS batteries
Stryker Sales ✓	\$ ✓ 1,128.60	10901		Lifepak service agreement
Vanguard Organization ✓	\$ ✓ 419.75	10906		Sta 2 roof repair over boiler room
Verizon ✓	\$ ✓ 139.00	10911		Sta 2 internet service
Verizon Wireless ✓	\$ ✓ 28.00	10910		Lifepak modem phone lines
Verizon Wireless ✓	\$ ✓ 581.60	10902		Nov. 2021 cell phone service
VFIS ✓	\$ ✓ 300.00	10903		Administrative fee
VFIS ✓	\$ ✓ 80,875.00	10915		LOSAP annual invoice 2022

TOTAL SUBMITTED	\$ 101,124.08	Date:	Commissioner Signatures:
<i>changes listed:</i>		12/21/21	
		12/21/21	
TOTAL APPROVED		12/21/21	
KEY:		12/21/21	
pre-paid			
Paid			

Stephen Piehler
53 Heritage Lane
LaGrangeville, NY 12540

December 21, 2021

Mark Komorsky-Chairman and
Board of Commissioners
504 Freedom Plains Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

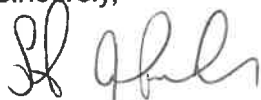
Dear Board of Fire Commissioners,

It has been an honor to work alongside all of you as a Commissioner of the LaGrange Fire District. Effective immediately, I will be resigning as a Commissioner from the LaGrange Fire District. I have learned so much from all of you.

My commitment to my job have has become increasingly time consuming and my work schedule is in direct conflict with the Commissioners meetings.

It has been a pleasure to serve as a Commissioner for the past six years. The residents of the Town of LaGrange are well served by this very professional organization.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Piehler', written over the printed name.

Stephen Piehler