



LAGRANGE FIRE DISTRICT

504 Freedom Plains Rd • Poughkeepsie, NY 12603



MINUTES BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS Special Meeting – Tuesday, October 17th, 2023

ATTENDEES: Chairman Marc Komorsky
Commissioner Anthony Pignataro
Commissioner Barry Ward
Deputy Chief Anthony Champion
Treasurer Mark Pozniak
Commissioner George Burns *(via Teams)*
Commissioner Rich Sassi
Chief Tim O'Connor
EMS Administrator Michael Benenati
Secretary Bria Le

At 7:28 pm, immediately following the 2024 Budget Hearing, Chairman Marc Komorsky called the Board of Fire Commissioners' Special Meeting to order for Tuesday, October 17th, 2023. He noted that they are going to forego the Pledge of Allegiance because they already did it at the beginning of the Budget Hearing.

Commissioner George Burns attended the meeting remotely and was not counted for voting purposes.

TRAINING REQUESTS:

- IFO Class in Ulster Co – Deputy Chief Anthony Champion said that one of the volunteers is requesting to use a district vehicle to attend an IFO (Instructor Fire Officer) class in Ulster County on Saturdays over the next couple of weeks.

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Ward and SECONDED by Commissioner Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to accept the request. Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

- CME Class in Goshen – DC Champion submitted a request for Seth Pierson to attend a two-day AMLS (Advanced Medical Life Support) course in Goshen, NY, as part of his medic recertification. Champion noted that since Pierson was currently in the fire academy he isn't able to attend the classes that LaGrange is holding with Arlington FD. He said the cost would be a \$250 course fee plus overtime for attending the class.

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Ward and SECONDED by Commissioner Sassi, the Board RESOLVED to accept the training request from Seth Pierson. Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Deputy Chief Champion informed the Board that he was putting together a luncheon for the Chief on his last day at Station 2.

2024 BUDGET:

- Resolution to Override the Real Property Tax Cap

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Pignataro and SECONDED by Commissioner Sassi, the Board RESOLVED to approve the Resolution to Override the Real Property Tax Cap (full resolution attached). ROLL CALL: Burns – Not counted for voting purposes, Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

BoFC Special Meeting 10/17/23

Please note that this meeting was conducted in person at 504 Freedom Plains Road in Poughkeepsie, NY and the Public Sessions of the meeting were open for viewing and/or listening via Microsoft Teams.



LAGRANGE FIRE DISTRICT

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- Resolution to Approve the 2024 Final Budget

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Ward and SECONDED by Commissioner Sassi, the Board RESOLVED to approve the Resolution to Approve the 2024 Final Budget (full resolution attached). ROLL CALL: Burns – not counted for voting purposes, Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Pignataro and SECONDED by Commissioner Sassi, the Board RESOLVED to go into Executive Session to discuss two personnel items from Commissioner Ward and one personnel item from Commissioner Pignataro. Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

OPEN SESSION & ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:56 pm the Board resumed Open Session. Brief discussion held about two recent former commissioners.

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Pignataro and SECONDED by Commissioner Sassi, the Board RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting. Pignataro – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Ward – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bria Le – District Secretary

Approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners on 10/24/23

BoFC Special Meeting 10/17/23

Please note that this meeting was conducted in person at 504 Freedom Plains Road in Poughkeepsie, NY and the Public Sessions of the meeting were open for viewing and/or listening via Microsoft Teams.

RESOLUTION TO OVERRIDE REAL PROPERTY TAX CAP FOR 2024 ONLY

LaGrange Fire District
in the Town of LaGrange
Dutchess County, New York

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the LaGrange Fire District (The Board) must adopt a proposed budget for 2024 which includes an estimate of fund balances in preparation for the annual fire district budget hearing and

WHEREAS, the board did adopt its proposed budget in preparation for the budget hearing, and

WHEREAS, the LaGrange Fire District held its annual fire district budget hearing on notice to the public on October 17th, 2023, wherein the Board considered the proposed budget and comments received for and against the proposed budget at said budget hearing, and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the fire district for 2024 needs to exceed the real property tax cap established pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c for that budget year due to financial considerations discussed by the board at its meeting in preparation of the budget, and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget for 2024 calls for a real property tax levy that will exceed the real property tax cap which allows a tax levy increase of no more than 3.7%; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c, the fire district may adopt a budget that requires a tax levy that is greater than the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year only if the board of fire commissioners first enacts a resolution, approved by a vote of sixty percent of the total voting power of such body, to override such limit for such coming fiscal year only.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Fire Commissioners approves this resolution to override the real property tax cap for the 2024 budget only, in order to permit an annual real property tax levy that will exceed the real property tax cap which permits only a 3.7% increase in said tax levy.

Motion to approve the Resolution - Pignataro
Second - Sassi

Roll Call:

Commissioner George Burns	<u>Not Counted for voting</u>)
Commissioner Anthony Pignataro	<u>Aye</u>)
Commissioner Richard Sassi	<u>Aye</u>)
Commissioner Barry Ward	<u>Aye</u>)
Chairman Marc Komorsky	<u>Aye</u>)

The resolution is thereupon duly declared to have been adopted.

Dated: October 24th, 2023
LaGrange, NY

RESOLUTION APPROVING FINAL BUDGET FOR 2024

LaGrange Fire District

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the LaGrange Fire District (The Board) must adopt a proposed budget for 2024 which includes an estimate of fund balances in preparation for the annual fire district budget hearing and

WHEREAS, the LaGrange Fire District held its annual fire district budget hearing on notice to the public on October 17th, 2023, wherein the Board considered the proposed budget and comments received for and against the proposed budget at said budget hearing, and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget for 2024 calls for a real property tax levy that will exceed the real property tax cap which allows a tax levy increase of no more than 3.7%; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c, the fire district may adopt a budget that requires a tax levy that is greater than the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year only if the board of fire commissioners first enacts a resolution, approved by a vote of sixty percent of the total voting power of such body, to override such limit for such coming fiscal year only.

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the fire district for 2024 needs to exceed the real property tax cap established pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c for that budget year due to financial considerations discussed by the board at its meeting in preparation of the budget, and

WHEREAS, preceding this resolution, the Board passed a resolution to override the real property tax cap for the 2024 Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approves the Final Budget for the LaGrange Fire District for 2024 attached hereto and made a part hereof in the amount of \$11,599,715 with a total tax levy of \$9,817,245.

Motion to approve the Resolution - Ward
Second - Sassi

Roll Call:

Commissioner George Burns	<u>Not counted for voting</u>	
Commissioner Anthony Pignataro	<u>Aye</u>)
Commissioner Richard Sassi	<u>Aye</u>)
Commissioner Barry Ward	<u>Aye</u>)
Chairman Marc Komorsky	<u>Aye</u>)

The resolution is thereupon duly declared to have been adopted.

Dated: October 24th, 2023
LaGrange, NY

LaGrange Fire District

2024 Final Budget

	Adopted 2023	Proposed 2024		Adopted 2024	
Estimated Revenues					
1001 · Real Property Taxes	9,225,000	9,817,245	6.42%	9,817,245	6.42%
10xx · Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	0	95,000	#DIV/0!	95,000	#DIV/0!
2401 · Interest and Earnings	10,300	16,488	60.08%	16,488	60.08%
2705 · Gifts and Donations	1,000	1,000	0.00%	1,000	0.00%
2771 · EMS Cost Recovery	250,000	419,500	67.80%	419,500	67.80%
3210 · Insurance Dividends	85,000	95,000	11.76%	95,000	11.76%
3500 · Reimbursement Income	10,000	5,000	-50.00%	5,000	-50.00%
3524 · Ref of Exp - Personnel Services	20,000	10,000	-50.00%	10,000	-50.00%
4389 · Federal Grant (SAFER)	1,150,000	1,140,482	-0.83%	1,140,482	-0.83%
Total Estimated Revenues	10,751,300	11,599,715	7.89%	11,599,715	7.89%
Appropriations					
1 · Personal Services					
7322 · Payroll	4,858,500	5,120,000	5.38%	5,120,000	5.38%
Total 7322 · Payroll	4,858,500	5,120,000	5.38%	5,120,000	5.38%
Total 1 · Personal Services	4,858,500	5,120,000	5.38%	5,120,000	5.38%
2 · Equipment & Capital Expenditures					
7000 · Equipment					
7010 · Equipment - Fire & Rescue	100,000	55,000	-45.00%	55,000	-45.00%
7019 · Equipment - IT & Admin	15,000	0	-100.00%	0	-100.00%
Total 7000 · Equipment	115,000	55,000	-52.17%	55,000	-52.17%
7020 · Capital Expenditures					
7021 · Land	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	#DIV/0!
7022 · Buildings	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	#DIV/0!
7023 · Apparatus	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	#DIV/0!
Total 7020 · Capital Expenditures	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	#DIV/0!
7030 · Transfers to Reserves					
7031 · Transfer to Land and Building Reserve	340,000	400,000	17.65%	400,000	17.65%
7032 · Transfer to Apparatus Reserve	510,000	600,000	17.65%	600,000	17.65%
7033 · Transfer to Equipment Reserve	50,000	210,000	320.00%	210,000	320.00%
Total 7020 · Transfers to Reserves	900,000	1,210,000	34.44%	1,210,000	34.44%
Total 2 · Equipment & Capital Expenditures	1,015,000	1,265,000	24.63%	1,265,000	24.63%
4 · Contractual & Other Expenses					
5000 · Blanket Accident Ins	100,000	100,000	0.00%	100,000	0.00%
5500 · Contingency	25,000	25,000	0.00%	25,000	0.00%
6000 · Buildings & Ground					
6020 · Fuel	45,000	47,500	5.56%	47,500	5.56%
6030 · Electricity	52,500	57,500	9.52%	57,500	9.52%
6040 · R & S Buildings and Grounds	160,000	175,000	9.38%	175,000	9.38%
Total 6000 · Buildings & Ground	257,500	280,000	8.74%	280,000	8.74%

	2023	2024		2024	
6010 · Travel and Training	65,000	66,500	2.31%	66,500	2.31%
6100 · R & S Apparatus	182,500	183,000	0.27%	183,000	0.27%
6200 · R & S Equipment	40,000	75,000	87.50%	75,000	87.50%
6220 · Gas, Diesel, Oil	50,000	51,000	2.00%	51,000	2.00%
6250 · Telephone	23,000	24,000	4.35%	24,000	4.35%
6330 · Office Supplies, Postage	22,000	22,500	2.27%	22,500	2.27%
6350 · Association Dues	3,000	3,100	3.33%	3,100	3.33%
6360 · Uniforms, Badges	35,000	36,000	2.86%	36,000	2.86%
6380 · Awards	500	500	0.0%	500	0.0%
6400 · Public Events	12,000	12,000	0.00%	12,000	0.00%
6420 · Publications of Notice	750	900	20.00%	900	20.00%
6430 · Maint Fire Alarm Systems	500	550	10.00%	550	10.00%
6510 · Payroll Fees	8,250	14,000	69.70%	14,000	69.70%
6511 · Legal	105,000	140,000	33.33%	140,000	33.33%
6512 · Audit & Accounting	25,000	25,000	0.00%	25,000	0.00%
6520 · IT Services	40,000	42,000	5.00%	42,000	5.00%
6530 · Professional Services	10,000	5,000	-50.00%	5,000	-50.00%
6540 · Physical exams	30,000	31,000	3.33%	31,000	3.33%
6560 · Miscellaneous	5,000	6,000	20.00%	6,000	20.00%
6600 · Expendable Supplies	45,000	46,500	3.33%	46,500	3.33%
6700 · Service Charge	250	260	4.00%	260	4.00%
6999 · Uncategorized Expenses	3,750	4,000	6.67%	4,000	6.67%
Total 4 · Contractual & Other Expenses	1,089,000	1,193,810	9.62%	1,193,810	9.62%
8 · Benefits					
6270 · Life Ins.Career	15,000	19,525	30.17%	19,525	30.17%
6280 · Life insur.Volunteers	21,000	22,050	5.00%	22,050	5.00%
7120 · Dental Ins Career	70,000	72,000	2.86%	72,000	2.86%
7130 · Vision Ins.-Career	10,000	11,000	10.00%	11,000	10.00%
7140 · Hospitalization	1,362,800	1,458,200	7.00%	1,458,200	7.00%
7210 · MTA	16,600	17,400	4.82%	17,400	4.82%
7500 · State Retirement System	1,075,700	1,068,000	-0.72%	1,068,000	-0.72%
7600 · Service Awards	84,000	88,200	5.00%	88,200	5.00%
7700 · Social Security	366,700	391,680	6.81%	391,680	6.81%
7800 · Workers Comp/VFBL	517,000	542,850	5.00%	542,850	5.00%
7900 · Transfer to SAFER Surplus	250,000	330,000	32.00%	330,000	32.00%
Total 8 · Benefits	3,788,800	4,020,905	6.13%	4,020,905	6.13%
9 · Debt Service					
BAN Principal	0	0		0	
BAN Interest	0	0		0	
Total 9 · Debt Service	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	#DIV/0!
Total Appropriations	10,751,300	11,599,715	7.89%	11,599,715	7.89%
Appropriations Less Estimated Revenues	0	0		0	
Appropriated Fund Balance	0	0		0	