

504 Freedom Plains Rd • Poughkeepsie, NY 12603



# MINUTES BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS Regular Meeting – October 8, 2024

ATTENDEES: Chairman Marc Komorsky

Commissioner Barry Ward Commissioner Anthony Pignataro

Michael Heckle (via Teams)

Secretary Bria Le

Commissioner Richard Sassi Commissioner Robert Taft Chief Anthony Champion

Treasurer Mark Pozniak (via Teams)

At 6:09 pm, Chairman Marc Komorsky called the Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting to order for Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Chairman Komorsky immediately turned the meeting over to Chief Champion to have a recognition ceremony for the lifesaving efforts at two incidents. He introduced representatives from Congressman Ryan's office, Senator Rolison's office, and the Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response. There were also proclamations from Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino's office. He reviewed the incident at Warlock's Gym on August 12, 2024 involving a cardiac arrest incident and the lifesaving actions taken that day. The recipients of these awards are Heather Rancourt, Katie Koziol, Jose Lebron, Daniel Monahan, and Hanna Choi . A representative from the American Heart Association, Valerie Ubriaco expressed appreciation to those recipients for their lifesaving efforts and emphasized the importance of knowing CPR. Tom, who was the patient, made a few remarks and thanked everyone for their quick response.

Chief Champion stated the second incident was on June 22, 2024, for an unconscious man down. The staff arrived within four minutes and initiated CPR and use of the Lucas Device. They were Lieutenant Joseph Kile, Firefighter/Paramedic Nate Herring-Trott, Firefighter/Paramedic Matthew Bourne, Firefighter/Paramedic Sean Hatfield, Firefighter/Paramedic Dave O'Dell, Firefighter/Paramedic Michael Henry, Lieutenant Kyle Rancourt, Firefighter Michael Mendez. Due to all of their efforts, there was a successful outcome and the patient was revived and is now home with his family. They were all awarded various acknowledgements from the District and County Executive Serino's office.

At 6:31 pm, the Board took a brief recess for a small reception.

MINUTES: - 9/24/24 Regular Meeting and 9/30/24 & 10/1/24 Special Meetings

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Pignataro and SECONDED by Commissioner Ward, the Board RESOLVED to approve the 9/24/24 Regular Meeting minutes, the 9/30/24 Special Meeting minutes, and the 10/1/24 Special Meeting minutes. Sassi – Aye, Ward -Aye, Taft – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.** 

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#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- There was a check received from Merrill Lynch for a donation on behalf of James L. McPhee in the amount of \$250.00.

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Taft and SECONDED by Commissioner Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to deposit the check from Merrill Lynch for \$250.00 into the General Fund. Sassi – Aye, Ward -Aye, Taft – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.** 

#### **ROOM USE REQUESTS:**

None.

#### **OLD BUSINESS/UNRESOLVED ITEMS:**

- <u>Station 1 Building Update</u> Commissioner Ward stated there was a meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> to review the plans.
- <u>Station 3 Storage Room</u> Commissioner Ward stated there is no update at this time.
- Station 2 Brick Pointing Commissioner Ward stated there is no update at this time.
- Staffing Community Events Chief Champion expressed his appreciation for the support from the Board in the recognition event tonight. He stated this month they have Safety Day, which is this Saturday from 11 until 3 PM. The LaGrange Fall Festival is scheduled for October 20 from noon until 4 PM. There is one more football standby for later in the month as well. Chairman Komorsky asked if there was a committed group to go to the Fall Festival and Chief Champion said Lieutenant Demilto will be asking people and the Chief will be sending out an e-mail to the volunteer staff and Firefighter Henry is in charge of public relations and will be at the event as well. Commissioner Pignataro stated there was one football event that was not with Arlington teams and the Board had asked the Chief to ask them to seek other coverage. He asked how that was resolved. Chief Champion stated he did know the school had two events that day and LaGrange was dispatched to respond to them. He is unaware as to whether or not they hired additional coverage for that day. He did instruct them that, due to staffing constraints, they would not be able to take care of that Saturday coverage. They were appreciative that the Chief did reach out and inform them of that and they did not push back any. Chairman Komorsky stated that the Festival of Lights Parade should be coming up soon as well. Chief Champion stated that he has not been approached about it yet.
- Commissioner Pignataro asked what the status of the Unionvale ambulance was. Chief Champion stated he just received some pictures of the international and is hoping to put it online later this evening. The new one has been in service for the last couple of months.
- ESO Reporting status update Chief Champion stated he met with Commissioners Ward and Pignataro. They have a web meeting with Alpine Software, who is the parent company of Red MNX. They are the ones who are speculatively going into contract with Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response. The Chief has also received quotes from First Due as well. He does believe those are the two final competitors for LaGrange moving forward. He has included both of those quotes in the Teams file for tonight's meeting. Commissioner Pignataro stated he thought there

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was an upcoming meeting with Bill Edwards from Alpine. The Chief stated he does believe that is on the 11th. Commissioner Ward stated they need to meet first. Chief Champion stated he will try to get a meeting with First Due this week. Commissioner Pignataro stated the Alpine meeting went very well. They just need to do the same thing with First Due. Secretary Le stated the annual renewal with ESO is November 1st. There is no possible way to switch completely to a new vendor by that date. That is just something to take into consideration. It is approximately \$7,000 for just the fire side of it. The scheduling part is separate. Chairman Komorsky asked if it was prorated if they cancel it before the end of the contract and Secretary Le stated it is an annual renewal. It is for the fire, activities, personnel portion. She can reach out to ESO to see if it can be prorated. Commissioner Sassi stated Proclaim pays for the EMS side. Commissioner Pignataro asked what happens if they are no longer part of the equation. Commissioner Ward stated they will be continuing to use ESO for the EMS part. Chief Champion stated First Due has the ability to cover E-PCR's, which ESO is doing. If they go with First Due it could fall to them because they are NIMS compliant. If they go with Red MNX, there is not an E-PCR aspect so they would retain the current E-PCR vendor, which in this case is ESO. They did have a conversation to see how Proclaim would interact with the new company. Commissioner Pignataro stated everyone's questions seemed to be answered this morning. Chairman Komorsky asked if the Board should send a letter, on behalf of the district, to Dana Smith on his retirement. Chief Champion stated that would be a nice gesture.

- Grant update Chief Champion stated the MIG grant for the ballistic wear is moving forward as armor and associated items are on order. They should be in soon. He is continuing to work on the SAFER Grant and has just started working on the Fly Car Grant through the County Executive's office. The due date is October 11th. He hopes to have something completed by then. Commissioner Sassi asked if the Chief decided what they were going to put in for and Chief Champion stated it will at least be an AED to go on the fly cars. They are cycling through the AEDs so this will hold them for the next 10 years.
- <u>Diesel Tank Accessories</u> Chief Champion said this is still a work in progress.
- HIPAA Compliance The Chief stated that he, Commissioner Sassi, and Jeff Lenkowski met and had a good conversation. They will regroup and meet again at the end of the month.
   Commissioner Sassi stated that is for the information services one. They are still going to meet to go over the rest of the documents. Mr. Lenkowski was looking for an NDA as he will be looking at sensitive material.
- Overhead Doors Painting Chief Champion stated this is a work in progress.
- Policy Manual/Software Review Chief Champion stated this is also a work in progress
- <u>Fire Police</u> Commissioner Sassi stated he has nothing to add since the last meeting, and this can be taken off of the old business agenda. The course is scheduled and several people have been signed up. Swearing in at the Town Hall has been going well. When the class is done they will look to get everyone filed with the State.

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- Station 1 & 3 Fuel Oil Tanks Chief Champion stated this situation has been rectified.
   Redemption Mechanical installed an extension on the fill and there was no issue at Station 3. It was a miscommunication. Chairman Komorsky stated this can be removed from the agenda.
- Station 1 Concrete Commissioner Ward stated this should be moved to when they do their final budget plan and get some rough sizing because it's been outstanding for 15 years. Commissioner Sassi asked if it was a safety issue and Commissioner Ward stated that was the blacktop at the apron. Chairman Komorsky stated he spoke to an architect/engineer about the issue so they have contact information when they are ready to move forward. Commissioner Ward stated this will be a major project and should be moved to capital projects. Commissioner Pignataro said it could be looked at as a future project. Commissioner Ward stated it should be prioritized in with the capital projects to see what type budget cost they would be looking at and how soon it would need to be done.
- <u>Building Repairs/Repair Requests</u> Chairman Komorsky asked if anybody had anything that they had not already spoken about.

#### **NEW BUSINESS: -**

None.

#### **REPORTS:** (by officers present)

- Treasurer Pozniak - Treasurer Pozniak was not present, so there was no report at this time.

#### - Chief Anthony Champion

- OSHA Fire Brigade Standard Chief Champion stated at the last meeting he spoke about the changes in the fire brigade standards in emergency response. There will be a Public Hearing on November 12th. He has submitted a request to speak at that. Commissioner Pignataro asked if that was relative to the new OSHA standards and the Chief said yes. Commissioner Pignataro stated he would like to work with the Chief on what he will say. Commissioner Sassi stated he would also assist from the position of a volunteer. Commissioner Pignataro thanked the Chief for putting in to speak at that.
- In County Training Chief Champion stated there are three members enrolled in the Fire Police class being held this month. LaGrange has been invited, along with the City of Poughkeepsie, to work with Arlington Fire District for a trench exercise they are hosting. It is Monday – Thursday of this week. There will be some members participating on Thursday.
- Out of County Training Chief Champion stated there is a request for an individual to attend a Confined Space Recon Training in Albany County for October 21 -24 in Clarksville. They will need a car. There is a 24-hour shift that will need to be covered in their absence. The member is Tyler Edgar and he will also need lodging for that time.

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Taft and SECONDED by Commissioner Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to allow Firefighter Edgar to attend a Confined Space Training class in Clarksville, NY October 21-24 with the use of a

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vehicle and lodging. Sassi – Aye, Ward -Aye, Taft – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Komorsky - Aye. **Motion Carried.** 

- Mechanical Status Updates Chief Champion stated in the Teams folder for tonight's meeting there is an update on the mechanical status by Sean Brandt. The Chief, Lieutenant Demilto, and Lieutenant Zittel sat down with Mr. Brandt two weeks ago and worked out a better schedule. He will be here from Monday Wednesday from 7 AM to 3 PM. Commissioner Ward asked if he was working more towards 40 hours a week and the Chief stated there were a few weeks it was close, but he's staying closer to the 20 hours a week now. Commissioner Sassi stated they have to stay within the NYS Civil Service Guidelines.
- o Mutual Aid Chief Champion stated there is nothing to discuss on this item at this time.
- EMS Chief Champion stated Lt. Merritt has coordinated with the Medical Director to set up a call audit for the latter part of November. That will be the first time he is in house. The surplus ambulance will be on GovDeals before the end of the week. Chairman Komorsky asked if there was a price set on it and Chief Champion said no, but it will be competitive.
- o <u>Incidents of note</u> Chief Champion stated there are no incidents of notice at this time.
- Davyd Bullock has completed all of his return-to-work assignments and tasks. The Board had previously made a motion to appoint him, pending that action, so Monday morning he was sworn in, and he is now officially a Lieutenant and MTO. His schedule is a 10-hour day, Monday through Thursday. It is in person, in house, not remote. Chairman Komorsky asked if the Chief was going to monitor and oversee this, and Chief Champion said yes. Commissioner Sassi stated he needs to meet with the volunteers as well, as there are some bridges to be built there as well.
- Chief Champion stated Lieutenant Lopes retirement day was effective October 6th. The Chief texted him and congratulated him on 25 years of service and thanked him for his dedication. Chairman Komorsky said they should memorialize that in a letter from the Board of Fire Commissioners and district thanking him. Chief Champion stated that will go well with the award on behalf of the district thanking him for his 25 years of service. Commissioner Sassi asked if they need a motion to accept his retirement.

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Sassi and SECONDED by Commissioner Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to accept the retirement of Lieutenant Lopes effective October 6, 2024. Sassi – Aye, Ward– Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Taft– Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion carried.** 

Attorney Hekle requested that the motion be memorialized in the letter as well. Commissioner Ward asked if they have to make the motion when they received a letter of intent for someone to retire as they can withdraw the letter all the way up until midnight of the day before it BoFC Regular Meeting 10/08/24



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becomes official. Attorney Hekle stated a motion to accept it is a matter of best practice. Typically you do not want people to change their status once they have made the initial retirement notification and as an organization you want to identify that you have accepted it. Commissioner Ward stated as a policy moving forward, maybe they should get into the habit of accepting the resignation after it actually happens. As per the retirement system they can withdraw that application up until midnight the day before. If they accept it and the member doesn't leave then what action would they have to take.

Chief Champion stated he has two personnel items for executive session.

- **Department** Chairman Komorsky stated there was nothing to report.
- **Union** There was nothing to report.

**ABSTRACT:** \$202,037.09

Upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Pignataro and SECONDED by Commissioner Sassi, the Board RESOLVED to pay the bills for the end of September and beginning of October as per the abstract for \$202,037.09. Sassi – Aye, Ward– Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Taft– Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion carried.** 

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

At 7:17 PM, Chairman Komorsky opened the meeting to public comments. There were none.

At 7:17 PM, Chairman Komorsky closed the public comment section of the meeting.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 7:19 PM, upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Sassi and SECONDED by Commissioner Pignataro, the Board RESOLVED to go into Executive Session to discuss two personnel issues from Chief Champion, three personnel and one contractual from Commissioner Sassi, one legal from Attorney Hekle, one legal from Commissioner Pignataro, and one legal item from Secretary Le. Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Ward – Aye, Taft – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion carried.** 

#### **OPEN SESSION:**

At 8:59 PM, the Board resumed Open Session.

Commissioner Ward stated that they spoke about the capital investments, and he wants to review it so everyone is aware of what is there. Commissioner Sassi stated there is also a Budget Hearing on the 15th. Secretary Le asked if they wanted to hold a special meeting after the Budget Hearing to accept the budget or if they would like to hold off. In the past that is what they have done. Chairman Komorsky stated that would be fine. Commissioner Ward stated they have been carrying \$10,000 for the Station 2 facia work. That is still in there for 2025, but it is still a ballpark number. New this year is \$90,000 for the Station 2 generator. They used to have a spare \$30,000 and now they are upside down \$60,000. The \$1,363,800 has been there for the Station 1 interior remodel. Then there is also \$10,000 for the facia work at Station 1. Those are the capital expenditures for 2025. They still have to figure out

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where they're going to get the \$60,000 from. As it relates to the concrete work, they have always been carrying the garage door saddles and a concrete floor. They just don't have a dollar amount or timeframe for it. The next set of projects were starting Station 2, which will probably be moved out some. That probably will not start in earnest until 2027. Station 1 work will probably overlap 2025 and some of 2026. Regardless of when they spend if they are still upside down in 2028 \$71,000. They are running close to them but they will need to keep an eye on things. Commissioner Sassi asked if there was any plan for Station 3. Commissioner Ward stated they have done the roof, and they have the boiler that was done. The only thing they have left there is the storage room repairs. Commissioner Sassi stated he believes they will be asking for a dumpster to clean things out over there soon. Commissioner Pignataro stated it could use some new siding on it but he's not going to push for that. Commissioner Ward asked what the deed for that station looked like. Chairman Komorsky stated if it is not used for a firehouse it goes back to the original family. Commissioner Ward asked if Attorney Hekle had a copy of that and he said he has not seen it. Commissioner Ward asked if the Secretary could locate a copy of it and she said she would look. He also would like to have the attorney review it. He believes it should have some effect on how much money they spend on the building. Chairman Komorsky stated nothing prevents them from speaking to Mr. Petrovits to see if he has had a change of heart and would like to change something at this point. There should also be a copy of the deed at the town as well. Commissioner Ward just wanted everyone to know that those funds are spent out all the way through 2028-2029. There will also be additional items coming up in 2029 as well. They don't start building reserves back up until 2030. Commissioner Sassi asked if there were any grants out there and Commissioner Ward said he was not sure.

Chief Champion stated that he will be out of district from the 9<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup>. He will be remote for the special meeting next week for the budget. Commissioner Pignataro stated he will not be present for the meeting of the 22nd.

PREPARE 10/22/24 MEETING AGENDA: Secretary Le will prepare this.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

At 20:11 PM, upon a MOTION made by Commissioner Pignataro and SECONDED by Commissioner Sassi, the Board RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting. Ward – Aye, Sassi – Aye, Pignataro – Aye, Taft – Aye, Komorsky – Aye. **Motion carried.** 

Respectfully submitted by
Julie Beyer on behalf of
Bria Le – District Secretary
Approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners on 10/22/24

VENDOR	Ar	mount Due	PO #	10/8/2024
ALERT-ALL CORP V	\$	10,463.00	13613	SAFETY DAY ITEMS
AMERICAN RED CROSS ✓	\$	<b>√</b> 198.00		ALS-BL TRAINING
AMERITAS V	\$	636.64	13656	DENTAL INSURANCE-ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
BOTTINI	\$	√ 634.22	13664	FUEL STATION 2
BOTTINI	\$	172.29	13671	PROPANE STATION 1
CENTRAL HUDSON	\$	1,427.17	13658	ELECTRICITY AND AREA LIGHT CHARGES STATION 1
CPL ARCHITECTURE V	\$	14,000.00		ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES STRATION 1
ELAN FINANCIAL TOMPKINS CC	\$	1,939.32		MISC CREDIT CARD CHARGES
FIRE-END & CROKER CORP V	\$	<b>√</b> 934.80		SMOKER MACHINE REPAIR
FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS	\$	J <sub>160.88</sub>		LOCAL & LONG DISTANCE SERVICE STATION 1
GRAINGER	\$	88.72		HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES
H.G. PAGE	\$	9.58		ITEMS FOR ALS CABINET 47-11 & 47-12
H.G. PAGE	\$	<b>√</b> 32.96		SHOP SUPPLIES-BUILDING
HENDRICKSON FIRE RESCUE EQUIP	\$	/2,811.51		REPAIRS TO 47-32
HENDRICKSON FIRE RESCUE EQUIP	\$	√1,553.44		REPAIRS TO 47-32
HUDSON CADILLAC BUICK GMC	\$	149.92		REPAIRS TO 47-74
JACKSON LEWIS P.C.	\$	1,839.00		Professional Services
JULIE BEYER	\$			Personnel Services transcription
LB LANDSCAPING	\$	280.00		LAW MAINTENANCE STATION 3
	\$	65.00		EMS SUPPLIES
MEDICAL WAREHOUSE	\$		2024AC	
MEDICAL WAREHOUSE	\$			EMS SUPPLIES
MEDICAL WAREHOUSE	\$			EMS SUPPLIES
MEDICAL WAREHOUSE		√258.32		REPAIRS TO PPE
MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICES	\$ \$	233.08		UNIFORMS FOR CAREER
MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICES	\$	√79.08	-	UNIFORMS FOR CAREER
MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICES		√86.08		UNIFORMS FOR CAREER
MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICES	\$	√549.94		PPE EQUIPMENT
MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICES	\$	1,023.58		PPE EQUIPMENT-GLOVES
MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICES	\$	7,500.00		PPE EQUIPMENT-INFRA RED CAMERA & ACCESSORIES
MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICES	\$	133,640.95		HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUM FOR CAREER STAFF
NYS HEALTH INSURANCE	\$	√75.33		SHOP SUPPLIES-VEHICLES
O'REILLY'S AUTO PARTS	\$			PARTS FOR 47-89 & 47-11
PREMIER FIRE .	\$	680.37		REIMBURSEMENT FOR BREAKFAST
RICHARD SASSI	\$	36.87		COMMERCIAL GARBAGE REMOVAL STATIONS 1,2,3
ROYAL CARTING /	\$	481.90		
STRYKER V	\$	V665.60		BATTERY FOR LARYNGOSCOPE  VOLUNTEER COMPREHENSIVE PHYSICAL
TEK MEDICAL SVCS ✓	\$	√ 423.00 2 454.00		COMPREHENSIVE PHYSICALS-REQUIRED
THE WORKPLACE	\$	/3,154.00		
THE WORKPLACE / THE WORKPLACE/FAP - Matter VERIZON /	\$	1,560.00		FIREFIGHTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM MEMBERSHIP
VEHILOIT	T	√80.99 620.00		FIOS INTERNET SERVICE STATION 2
VESO /	\$	×330.88		VOLUNTEER LIFE INSURANCE PREMIUM UNLEADED GAS FOR VEHICLES CC PURCHASES
WEX BANK	\$	662.57		
Z3 CONSULTANTS ✓	\$	<b>√</b> 165.00	13669	TEST & MAINTENANCE OF BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE
TOTAL SUBMITTED	\$	202,037.09		Commissioner/Signatures: Date
changes listed:				10-8-29
TOTAL APPROVED	\$	202,037.09		10/4/14 MICHO
KEY:	-	202,007.00		50 might
pre-paid				10/8/24
Paid				Call 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1