

Coldenham Fire District  
Board of Fire Commissioners  
May 8, 2017

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Coldenham Fire District was held on May 8, 2017 at the Coldenham Fire House. Commissioner Keenan called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag.

**Roll Call**

Commissioners present: Joe Keenan, Anita Grecco, Warren Decker, Wayne Jacobowitz and Rickey Cameron.

Also present: Mary Keenan, Secretary  
Linda Miller, Treasurer  
Matt Hunt, Chief  
Mike Kenny, 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief

**Acceptance of Minutes**

A motion was made by Commissioner Grecco and seconded by Commissioner Cameron to dispense with the reading of the monthly meeting minutes of April 10, 2017 and accept them as written. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

**Communications**

- The Fire Company remitted a reimbursement check to the District for materials for the table. Given to Treasurer Miller.
- We received a reminder from Ambit that we have an account with them. Commissioner Keenan stated that we will review this later in the meeting.
- We also received a package from FASNY concerning the 145<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention at the Holiday Inn in Liverpool/Syracuse from August 9 through the 12<sup>th</sup>. Package given to Chief Hunt.
- We received the statement from LOSAP from RBC Wealth Management. The balance as of April 30, 2017 was 1,088,535.41 with the beginning balance of 1,063,707.41.

**Hall Requests**

Jeremy Bissinger for the NYS DOT Safety meeting on May 25, 2017 from 7am to 3:30pm

A motion was made by Commissioner Decker, seconded by Commissioner Cameron to approve the request. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

**Public Discussion**

None

**Committee Reports**

**Safety Committee:** Commissioner Cameron stated there were no injuries. He advised the board that the Chief's vehicle was hit while parked and is currently in for repairs. A police

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report was filed. Commissioner Keenan advised the board that we will not be filing a claim with the insurance company because it's less than our deductible.

**Mack Restoration Committee:** Commissioner Keenan advised the board that a fuel pump was bought and replaced. The heater line was made and replaced. The plugs, oil and oil filter were changed and it runs like a champ. He thanked Commissioner Jacobowitz, Mike Keenan, Tim Hank and Keith Aigner for their help.

**Building or Property Committee:** Commissioner Decker stated that the board needs to decide what major project we would like to conquer as there will be a lot of dedication and time devoted to it. Commissioner Keenan advised the board that there will be updated information regarding this under the new business section.

**Old Business**

**Driver Qualification/Active Duty Criteria:** Commissioner Keenan stated that this is still a work in progress.

**Fuel Audit:** Commissioner Jacobowitz stated that he has not completed it yet.

**EVOC:** Commissioner Keenan stated that three classes were scheduled for the drivers through Target Solutions. The plan is to set up cones in an obstacle course and road test our drivers here. June 30, 2017 is the deadline to complete the courses in Target Solutions.

**Pressure Washer:** Commissioner Jacobowitz received a verbal offer for the pump. A written offer is needed. Commissioner Jacobowitz will take care of this.

**Water Softener:** Commissioner Decker received a quote from Culligan. They tested the hardness of our water and a couple others. The hardness is what he was concerned with. The reading for hardness should be 3 grains/millions/gallon and our reading was 27 per gallon. One quote was to purchase the system at a cost of \$2,250 and the other was a rental which was \$300 for installation and \$55.00 monthly. Some discussion ensued. Two local guys were available, Bliss Water and Crystal Clear. Commissioner Decker will look into those two and bring back their information.

**Life Insurance for Firefighters:** Commissioner Keenan advised the board that this is still in progress.

**Sutphen Truck:** Commissioner Keenan advised the board that FireTech has had no calls regarding our truck. They feel that the asking price is way too high. He checked into selling it overseas, but with the size of most foreign country streets, there is not a market for a truck of our size. Commissioner Keenan recommends that we drop the asking price. He also asked Secretary Keenan to hold off on publishing the legal notice from last month. Discussion ensued. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by

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Commissioner Jacobowitz to lower the asking price to \$29,500. Approval (4 ayes, 1 nay) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

**Tax Payback:** We will visit this later in the meeting.

**Physicals:** Commissioner Cameron advised the board that 51 have been completed with 8 members left. The list was given to Secretary Keenan who will send out the appropriate letter. Commissioner Cameron will be the contact for those wanting to make appointments for their physicals.

**Audit:** Commissioner Keenan handed out a draft of the auditor's report. She would like to meet with Treasurer Miller and Commissioner Keenan because it is in a different format than we are accustomed. After that, she would like to brief the whole board. Commissioner Keenan will contact her and see what dates are available. A motion was made by Commissioner Grecco and seconded by Commissioner Decker to schedule a work session with the date to be determined to review the auditor's report. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

**Interstate Waste:** Commissioner Grecco advised the board that we currently pay \$167 per month with County Waste with a contract until October 2018. They agreed to remove the fuel surcharge, so it will be a savings of over \$21 a month, which is about \$5 more than Interstate Waste's quoted her a price of \$138.56 per month for a two year contract.

**Wet down update:** Chief Hunt advised the board that they started this weekend to get the property ready. Cleaned up a bunch of brush and all around the dumpsters. Work details are scheduled every Sunday with the exception of the 28<sup>th</sup> which is the Memorial Day parade in the Town of Newburgh. During the week of the wetdown, there will be work details every night to get the firehouse, trucks and everything cleaned up. Commissioner Decker attended last month's committee meeting and made suggestions. There is a sheet posted in the bays for member's to sign up for jobs at the wetdown. Beer servers over 21 to serve and supervise with no consumption of alcohol for the day. Wrist bands will be in place for 21 and over and drivers will receive a different color band. The truck room will essentially be split in two. Alcohol on one side, no alcohol on the other. Food will be placed in between the two. The road will not be shut down, but cones will be out front and we will go down to one lane only if needed. Letters to the neighbors are set to be mailed tomorrow. Snow fence is available and Matt Thorpe from Maybrook offered more if needed. Chief Hunt asked Anthony Trapini if he would move the flower barrels to the front of the bays. He said that he would.

**SAM (State and Municipal Facilities Program):** Commissioner Grecco advised the board that Senator Larkin has secured a grant in the amount of \$215,000 for the Fire District's roof replacement project. The funding is through SAM and will be administered by the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY). He also included the program eligibility criteria sheet as well as the Preliminary Application to be completed and returned

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to his office. We have been advised that payments for projects through this program have been taking upwards of 12 to 14 months after all approvals have been obtained. Commissioner Keenan stated that we are not allowed to start one thing on the project until we have the money or we would be responsible.

**Ongoing & Upcoming Projects**

**Office and Files Room Renovation:** Commissioner Keenan advised the board that we are still working on this.

**Doors, Keys & Locks:** Commissioner Keenan met with Steve from V-Twin Locksmith Service. We need to supply him with the key hierarchy for the interior doors. Commissioner Keenan and Commissioner Jacobowitz will work on making a new list.

**Surplus Equipment:** Nothing to report.

**Station Structural Repair:** Commissioner Keenan advised the board that we have the funds available in the Capital Reserve for Real Property and Acquisition to have the sheet metal repaired/replaced. The estimate for this project was \$44,000. He would like to press forward with this project by entertaining a permissive referendum to expend up to a certain amount of money and then bid the project out. Commissioner Decker would like to see the overhead doors included in this. Commissioner Keenan suggested that the overhead doors should be a separate project. Commissioner Decker will get some estimates from Dutchess Overhead Doors. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to make a permissive referendum to expend up to \$55,000 from the Capital Reserve for Real Property and Acquisition, which contains \$129,951.82 for building maintenance. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried. Commissioner Keenan will tweek the specs a little in order to go out to bid. He suggested that we make a motion to go out to bid and open them at the July meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to go out to bid for the building repair to be opened at our July meeting at 7:30.

**SCBA Bottles and Equipment (Federal Grant):** Commissioner Keenan asked Assistant Chief Kenny if he had any news. Assistant Chief Kenny reached out to his contact in Region II and they haven't heard anything yet. Nothing has been approved, or disapproved.

**Fire Equipment Inventory:** Chief Hunt advised the board that it is pretty much done. He is waiting for a couple of people to turn in their reports. He will address them and the typed report will be submitted at the next meeting.

**Bay Floors:** Commissioner Decker spoke with Steve from Engine Bay Floors yesterday. They are extremely busy. They will get back to us in a week or two and Commissioner Decker said that he didn't want to do anything with the floors until after the wetdown. They will probably need two days, one to grind and clean and the next day to epoxy. Commissioner Decker stated that Steve was adamant that we need to seal it. It was

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already decided that we were not going to seal the entire floor.

**New Business**

**NYS Insurance Fund Dividend Checks:** Commissioner Keenan advised the board that we received two checks from the NYS Insurance Fund in the amounts of \$228.12 and \$6297.59 for a total of \$6525.71. He asked Treasurer Miller what the amount was for the tax payback. She advised the board that it is \$2779.90. Commissioner Keenan stated that we need to add the dividends to the budget and need to specify what it will be used for. He suggests that we use the \$2779.90 to pay the tax payback and the remainder of \$3745.81 placed in the building maintenance line item. A motion was made by Commissioner Cameron and seconded by Commissioner Decker to use \$2779.90 to pay the tax payback and place the remainder of \$3745.81 in the building maintenance line item on this year's budget. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

**June 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting:** Commissioner Grecco, Commissioner Keenan and secretary Keenan will not be in town on that day. Commissioner Keenan suggested that we move the meeting to June 6. A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobowitz and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to move the June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting to June 5<sup>th</sup>. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried. Secretary will place notice in the Wallkill Valley Times.

**Ambit:** Commissioner Keenan advised the board that our agreement expires on June 6. The new agreement is month to month. A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobowitz and seconded by Commissioner Decker to end our association with Ambit. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried. Treasurer Miller will call Ambit to advise them of the board's decision.

**Commissioner Jacobowitz:** Commissioner Jacobowitz will make sure he gets the parts here for the pressure washer and get it fixed. He will get together with Commissioner Keenan to go over the key list.

**Commissioner Grecco:** Commissioner Grecco would like to have the barrels moved to the front. Chief Hunt said that was already arranged with Trap.

Commissioner Grecco handed out a letter from Vini Tankasali about the communications system. Chief Hunt advised the board that equipment provided by the county will suffice the needs of this company. They will be providing a mobile unit and a portable for each piece of apparatus at a cost of \$99K plus change.

Commissioner Grecco thinks we need to add some rules to the hall rental. She thinks that anyone renting the hall needs to remove their excess food when done. Commissioner Keenan added that a lot of time, it is the company that leaves food. Commissioner Keenan asked Chief Hunt to get with President Aigner and relay the information.

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Commissioner Grecco would like to see the radio room and kitchen painted. Commissioner Keenan asked Chief Hunt to get the radio room painted after the wetdown.

Commissioner Grecco stated that the fan in the kitchen needs to be cleaned. She would like to contact Quality Restaurant Supply. Commissioner Keenan stated they wouldn't touch the refrigerator, but see what they say. She said that the Town of Montgomery Building Inspector complained about the fan being filthy. Questions arose about the Building Inspector coming to the fire house. It was stated that when the Department of Labor came and saw Commissioner Cameron, they were concerned because there wasn't a record of when the oven was cleaned and didn't say anything about the fan. The public expressed concern about the Town of Montgomery coming to the fire house to inspect, but doesn't do any commercial inspections. Anthony Trapini asked, "Why was the firehouse being inspected by the Building Inspector of the Town of Montgomery? They've never inspected the fire house. The health department does. The Town of Montgomery has not done a commercial fire inspection in 30 years. So why are they inspecting the fire house the same way they are complaining about a back lit sign, that is not back lit, by the way. Ok, that is not a back lit sign. Look it up." "Which is a back lit sign?" asked Commissioner Grecco. "They...I'm just telling you the facts Anita," said Anthony. "This building inspector complained about the new sign...said it was against the law because the Town of Montgomery does not allow back lit signs, that is not a back lit sign. I want to know, as a taxpayer, why the Town of Montgomery Building Inspector is inspecting fire houses and not doing commercial fire inspections? And you got a guy that lives in the district who's a member of the fire company who sits on the Town Board. I want this Board to write that man a letter and the Supervisor to find out why fire houses are being inspected and commercial buildings have never been inspected in the Town since my tenure in the fire service." Commissioner Keenan asked Commissioner Grecco when he was here and she said, "Oh, last June I think." Commissioner Keenan said we will write a letter to the Town to see what is going on. More discussion ensued and Commissioner Keenan thinks the only reason he came about the sign was that someone complained about it and he has to follow up on a complaint. Commissioner Grecco said that the only thing he said to her about the sign was that it had to be a 15 second stop, not a rotating sign. She asked him about the sign by the high school and he said that was a state road and controlled by the state. Anthony said to tell him this is a County road and he should get the County here. If it was on Browns Road or Berea Road, then he should listen to the Town. Commissioner Keenan stated that we made out ok with the sign. Anthony also stated that the letter was addressed to the Fire Department who doesn't own a piece of land. And as far as that, there is no Coldenham Fire Department, it doesn't exist in reality.

## **Chief's Report**

### **Membership**

- New members: 0
- Qualified drivers: 0
- New Drivers Requested: 0
- Drivers dropped: 0

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- Physicals: In progress
- Members passing probation: 0
- Members reinstated: 0
- Members dropped due to non-payment of dues 7 Patrick Arnott, Tyrell Bennett, Steve Corbin, Jordan Miller, Jeffery Parsell, Walter Space and Jacob Wilson
- Social Members dropped: 0
- Status switch: 0
- Members suspended: 0
- Members resigned: 0

**Further Information from the Chief**

- Chief Hunt would like permission to send the Mack to Hudson on May 20, 2017 for the Fire Muster. A motion was made by Commissioner Cameron and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to allow the Mack to go to Hudson on May 30 for the Fire Muster. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.
- Chief Hunt would like to send Commissioner Cameron to the State Fire Chief's Association for 4 nights. A motion was made by Commissioner Grecco and seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to send Commissioner Cameron to the State Fire Chief's Association Convention for 4 nights. 4 ayes, 0 nays and 1 abstain was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.
- Chief Hunt received a quote from Quality for the tires for his vehicle. They are \$159.78 each on state bid. A motion was made by Commissioner Cameron and seconded by Commissioner Decker to replace the 4 tires at state contract at Quality. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.
- Chief Hunt advised the board that there are 23 people signed up for the CPR class at a cost of \$31 each with our inhouse instructor for a total of \$713. He is hoping to have it scheduled in June. A motion was made by Commissioner Grecco and seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to spend up to \$800 for the CPR Class for 23 people with a little extra in case more sign up. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.
- Chief Hunt asked for permission for Assistant Chief Keenan to start looking into revamping the Class B's. The material (Polyester-not good to use in firefighting as it is highly flammable) is hot and the pants are bulky. He is looking to change the shirt to an embroidered Polo style shirt and the pants like Mobil Life uses with an option for shorts. The same terms for qualification will apply.
- Chief Hunt would like permission to have beer at two upcoming events. The Orange County Volunteer Firemen's Association here on May 30 and the Orange County Fire Chief's Association Banquet on October 16. A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobowitz and seconded by Commissioner Cameron to have beer at the two events. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.
- Chief Hunt did not use the \$100 for the cribbing, but thanked the Board.

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- Chief Hunt advised the board that he is waiting on quotes to come back Reliant and State Line to do the hose testing and Hurst service.
- East Coldenham School asked if they could borrow the big black grill on June 16 for their Field Day. They also asked if we could supply some people to held and a truck for viewing.
- Chief Hunt advised the board that there are some bare spots in the flower beds and river rock. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to expend up to \$200 for the purchase of river rock and get it delivered by Belly Flop. Unanimous (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried
- Chief Hunt thinks we need to look for a new radio vendor for sales and service. Commissioner Keenan told him to look into it and bring it back to the board. Commissioner Keenan stated that if more mikes are needed, to let him know.
- Chief Hunt advised the board that a member was suspended last month for insubordination for failure to listen to another officer which resulted in damage to the 6-wheeler at the scene of a brush fire. The suspension lifted after the company meeting. The company will assess whether the piece will be replaced. Commissioner Cameron wanted to know if it would be in service on July 1 and 2. Chief Hunt said it is good to go as is.

**Further Information from the Commissioners**

Commissioner Grecco advised the board that the Boy Scouts would like to use the hall on May 21 from 7:30 to 9:30 for a parent meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobowitz and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to permit the Boy Scouts to use the hall. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

**Information from the Treasurer/Secretary**

- Treasurer Miller advised the board that we also received the fire protection check from Vails Gate for \$4000.
- We also received the PILOT check from the Town of Newburgh in the amount of \$86,363.96. She would like to transfer \$87,000 to JP Morgan Chase. A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobowitz and seconded by Commissioner Decker to transfer \$87,000 from to the JP Morgan Chase account. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.
- We received the interest bill from KeyBank in the amount of \$1415.82.
- We will pay off the Town of Montgomery.
- At the County Commissioner’s meeting Al Turi stated that the surplus amount went from \$50K to \$100K.

**Approved Expenditures**

River Rock	\$	200.00
CPR Class		800.00



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Tires for Chief Vehicle	639.12
State Fire Chief Association	?
Tax Payback (Town of Montgomery)	2,779.80

**Public Comments**

Anthony Trapini mentioned that he is starting to do the spring clean-up and there have been galvanized pipes along the fence for as long as he can remember. There are also fencing and chairs. Commissioner Keenan asked Chief Hunt if he can get some people together to collect stuff to bring to the recycling center. He stated that he was already on it. Anthony asked the boards permission to spray all the walls with weed killer. It would be about \$100.

**Bills Signed**

Commissioner Decker made a motion to pay bills if found correct, seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) by those in attendance was received. Motion carried.

**Budget to Actual Report**

Commissioner Keenan acknowledged receipt of the Budget to Actual Report and it was reviewed.

**Adjournment**

Since all regular business was completed, Commissioner Decker moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) by those in attendance was received. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Keenan  
Secretary