

Coldenham Fire District  
Board of Fire Commissioners  
August 18, 2014

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Coldenham Fire District was held on August 18, 2014 at the Coldenham Fire House. Commissioner Besser opened the meeting with the pledge to the flag.

**Moment of Silence**

A moment of silence was observed in memory of past commissioner and past Chief Warren Trent.

**Roll Call**

Commissioners present: Tim Besser, Joe Keenan & Anita Grecco. Warren Decker and Andy Garofalo were on vacation.

Also present: Mary Keenan, Secretary  
Linda Miller, Treasurer.

**Acceptance of Minutes**

A motion was made by Commissioner Grecco to dispense with the reading of the monthly meeting minutes of July 7, 2014 and accept them as written. Commissioner Keenan seconded the motion. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

**Communications**

- We received an insurance certificate from the county naming us as also insured.
- We also received the auto pay for Comercia and the investment activity. Balance as of July 31, 2014 is 1,068,598.38.
- We received notices from motor vehicle that they will be issuing new plates. Commissioner Keenan completed the forms and Secretary Keenan will mail them back.
- Commissioner Besser received numerous correspondences from the Blood Drive Committee.
- We received a package from the Town of Montgomery Planning Board in regard to the casino project.

**Bids on Surplus Water Pump:** There being no bids for the surplus water pump, we will put it out there again for bids next month.

**Hall Requests**

- The Cub Scouts would like to use the hall on September 19 from 6 to 9 pm for a pack meeting. This is a Friday night and the band usually has the hall. Commissioner Keenan will contact Donna to see if the cub scouts could use it that night.
- John Hanewich on August 30 from 1 to 7 for a birthday party. (No deposit was received.)

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Commissioner Grecco made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Keenan to allow the cub scouts and John Hanewich to use the hall as long as Donna is ok with it and John Hanewich gives Commissioner Grecco the deposit. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

- Fran and Bob Joy on May 25, 2015 for a Bridal Shower. (Deposit was received.)

A motion was made by Commissioner Keenan and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to allow the Joy's to use the hall on May 25, 2015. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

- Chief Draiss would like to have September 27 to use for the county parade which is in Cronomer Valley.
- October 10, 2014 for Fire Prevention and Open House.
- October 11 and 12, 2014 for a breakfast.

**Public Discussion**

None

**Committee Reports**

**Truck Committee:** Nothing to report at this time

**Space Committee and Surplus List:** Nothing to report at this time

**Safety Committee:** Nothing to report at this time.

**Mack Restoration Committee:** Nothing to report at this time

**Old Business**

**Physicals:** Nothing to report at this time.

**Driver Qualification/Active Duty Criteria:** Work in progress.

**LOSAP/Service Awards:** We received an e-mail from Tony Hill suggesting our yearly contribution should be \$85,000. Included were invoices: one in the amount of \$2649 which is the per participant account fee, mailing of statements and pre-prepare the audit package, the other is \$75 which is the standard fee to calculate and certify amount of benefit payable and prepare correspondence for payment of service awards program for member's death.

**Server and Workstations:** Commissioner Keenan needs to order a workstation.

**Kick plate for the Trophy Case:** Commissioner Besser picked up some samples of stain, so he knows which stain we need.

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**Policy Manual by Scicchitano & Pinsky (District Rules & Regs):** Continuing to review.

**PA system:** This is still on hold.

**Fire House Software:** Assistant Chief Miller advised the board that Fire House software is up and running with the cloud. They are still having issues with the I Pads. He will continue to contact them.

**Fuel Audit:** Commissioner Keenan will get with Assistant Chief Hunt to work on this.

**RFP's for Electrician, Plumber and General Maintenance:** Commissioner Besser stated that they are not ready to go out.

**Hall Rental:** Commissioner Keenan asked that the board think about needing a copy of their homeowner's policy. He also suggested that we check with our insurance to see if those renting the hall can purchase a rider from them to cover the day. Commissioner Besser will check with our insurance provider.

**Building Repair:** As Commissioner Garofalo is not here, there is nothing to report at this time.

**Fuel Tank for Generator:** Commissioner Grecco advised the board that the person would not provide us with proof of insurance. A new estimate of \$1950.00 from LT Masonry & Construction was submitted. (Copy attached) Commissioner Grecco also conferred with Randy Haylock who will be moving the fuel tank with his employer's permission. Commissioner Grecco will ask John Sutton to handle the electrical portion of the project. Commissioner Besser would like LT Masonry & Construction to fill in the hole in the right rear corner of the back building and the foundation in addition to the slab under the fuel tank and A/C units. A motion was made by Commissioner Keenan and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to award this project to LT Masonry & Construction at an original cost of \$1950 plus the cost of fixing the building in the back. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

**Copier:** Nothing to report at this time.

**Caba Keys and Locks:** Commissioner Besser proposed to put electronic locks on the internal doors, to match those on the external doors, not so much in appearance, but in function. He thinks that we would probably need 4 locks upstairs and 8 downstairs. He found them on the internet for about \$600 a piece. Commissioner Besser will contact John Ashcraft to see what they can do for us.

**Security to back building:** Commissioner Keenan spoke to American Alarm about getting a wireless system to the back building. Dennis Jr. will write something up for next meeting.

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**New Business**

**Locks on Fuel Tanks:** Commissioner Grecco asked if the locks on the fuel tanks had been changed yet. Chief Draiss said that he has not yet, but will take care of it.

**Outside Lighting:** Commissioner Grecco submitted a proposal from Central Hudson in conjunction with Lime Energy to replace 40 existing lights with 40 efficient lights. (Copy is attached.) The project cost is \$11,543.28 with a utility incentive of \$6,818.40 which leaves \$4,724.88 as the net cost. If we pay it in a lump sum, we would see an additional 11% discount which would bring our cost to \$4,223.63. They just need a purchase order signed by the commissioners so we would pay them on completion. Commissioner Besser would like to add an additional fixture for the side of the ladder bay. A motion was made by Commissioner Grecco and seconded by Commissioner Keenan to have Central Hudson install all exterior lights according to the proposal. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

**Grounds Clean-up:** Commissioner Grecco thanked those who cleaned up the grounds and carted away brush and stuff before the blood drive. She asked if we could pay those involved as we saved approximately \$160 by not having D&S Landscaping do a clean-up. Commissioner Besser advised the board that D&S was not asked to do a clean-up; it was not a failing on their part. He continued with his appreciation for everything that was done, but he didn't think we could legally do that. He suggested in the future, the company let the district know of their intentions, and the board could see that those involved get a meal or meals to take care of them while they were working.

**Resorts World Hudson Valley:** Commissioner Besser feels that even though he has 25 years in the fire service, he is not qualified to summarize what the whole package means to Coldenham Fire District. He called Mike Wilbur who is a retired FDNY Lieutenant that runs a consulting business out of Howells. Commissioner Besser feels that money will be made available to us by Resorts World Hudson Valley for any consultants deemed necessary. He feels that it would be in the best interest of this district to have this project reviewed by an outside consultant. Mike Wilbur wasn't sure that his company would have the time to take the project on, but he will get back to Commissioner Besser by the end of the week. If they wouldn't be available, he would supply Commissioner Besser with the names of some other companies that might be interested. Commissioner Besser feels that we should be able to approach Resorts World Hudson Valley telling them that we feel a consultant is needed and that they should foot the bill. He will have more information at the next meeting.

**Chief's Report**  
**Membership**

- New members: 0
- Qualified drivers: 1 Wanda Besser
- New Drivers Requested: 0
- Drivers dropped: 0
- Physicals: On going

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**Membership (cont)**

- Members passing probation: 0
- Members reinstated: 0
- Members dropped: 0
- Social Members dropped: 0
- Status switch: 0
- Members suspended: 0
- Members resigned: 0

**Further Information from the Chief**

- Chief Draiss thanked everyone for their help and support with the blood drive.
- Chief Draiss informed the board that the company did very well at the Maybrook Parade earning 6 trophies.
- Chief Draiss advised the board that 203's generator was repaired and the 6 wheeler was repaired.
- Chief Draiss advised the board that more cleaning supplies are needed.
- Chief Draiss advised the board that they will be attending the Montgomery Day Parade on September 6 and would like permission to bring some trucks.
- Chief Draiss mentioned Orange Lake is having a wet down on August 24 and Cornwall is having a wet down on August 23 and would like to attend those with a truck or two.
- Chief Draiss advised the board that the county parade is on September 27 in Cronomer Valley and would like to take apparatus to this event.
- Chief Draiss advised the board that 205 has been repaired. Members are putting lights on it as we speak. Fred Stipak advised the board that all the 110 volt lights are done and all the rear end lights, including the bucket are done. They just need someone qualified to start it to make sure everything is ok so far. Commissioner Besser asked Fred to thank everyone who is working with him. He advised the board that he has a lot of help from Randy Haylock, Fred Sylvester, Mike Keenan Jr. and others. He also said that many of them said it this turns out really nice, we should look into refurbishing the others.
- Chief Draiss told Ex-Chief John Keenan to take 203 to MAACO to see about the paint.
- Chief Draiss informed the board that they'll need to order Fire Prevention Supplies. Commissioner Besser said that the budget to that is \$5500.
- Chief Draiss informed the board that he has a member who took the EMT class at her expense because she was told that while on probation, the district would not pay for the class. Fred Stipak offered his services to see if he could get the state to reimburse her. The commissioners will hold this for a month and look at it again next month.

A motion was made by Commissioner Grecco and seconded by Commissioner Keenan to allow the Chief to bring apparatus to the Montgomery Day parade on September 6, the

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Cornwall wet down on August 23, the Orange Lake wet down on August 24 and the county parade on September 27 in Cronomer Valley. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

**Further Information from the Commissioners**

The commissioners had nothing further to discuss at this time.

**Information from the Treasurer/Secretary**

Treasurer Miller would like to transfer \$35,000 from the money market to the general checking. Commissioner Keenan made a motion seconded by Commissioner Grecco to move \$35,000 from the money market account to the general checking for monthly bills. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Treasurer Miller has a Worker’s Comp audit set for October 1, 2014. She will call and get a better idea of what time he will be here. Commissioners are welcome to sit in on it if available.

**Approved Expenditures**

LT Masonry & Construction	\$1950 plus fixing hole in floor and foundation in back building
Central Hudson	\$4223.63

**Public Discussion**

None

**Bills Signed**

Commissioner Keenan made a motion to pay bills if found correct, seconded by Commissioner Grecco. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) by those in attendance was received. Motion carried.

**Adjournment**

Since all regular business was completed, Commissioner Keenan moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Grecco. Unanimous approval (3 ayes, 0 nays) by those in attendance was received. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Keenan  
Secretary