

Coldenham Fire District  
Board of Fire Commissioners  
February 16, 2015

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Coldenham Fire District was held on February 16, 2015 at the Coldenham Fire House. Commissioner Besser opened the meeting with the pledge to the flag.

**Roll Call**

Commissioners present: Tim Besser, Anita Grecco, Warren Decker. Wayne Jacobowitz will be late. Joe Keenan joined the meeting as he was able due to his presence being needed to audit the Fire Company's books.

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 January 12, 2015 and accept them as corrected. Commissioner Decker seconded the motion. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried. Correction to January minutes: add at the top of page 6: She also advised the board that \$16,000 needed to be moved from the General fund checking to the Capital Reserve fund for Real Property and Acquisition.

A motion was made by Commissioner Keenan seconded by Commissioner Decker to approve the budget line transfers as stated to close out the 2014 budget and to move \$16,000 from the General Fund Checking to the Capital Reserve for Real Property and Acquisition.

**Communications**

- We received a holiday postcard from our rural letter carrier, Kathleen Valk.
- We received the meeting postcard from the Association of Fire Districts of Orange County advising us that the next meeting will be February 24 at 7:30 PM at the Washingtonville Fire House. The topic will be Officer Elections.
- We received a letter from Frank Simeone accepting Commissioner Besser's request that he serve as counsel for the year 2015 at the hourly rate of \$250 plus necessary disbursements as authorized by our Board.
- A letter was received from RBC Wealth Management asking if we had new members of the board. Commissioner Keenan will respond.
- We received our monthly RBC Wealth Management report. The ending account value as of January 31, 2015 was \$997,006.79.
- We received the annual paperwork and agreement that needs to be reviewed and signed.
- The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Fire & EMS Law Management at Turning Stone will be held on March 26 to the 29<sup>th</sup>. This is open to commissioners, chiefs etc. On Thursday there is a program called 5 Alarm Leadership being taught by Chief Lasky.

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Commissioner Jacobowitz joined the meeting.

**Opening of Bids for RFP's**

Ruggerio Electric: \$90/hr for a licensed electrician  
27.50/hr for a helper  
25% markup on parts

Ruggerio Plumbing: \$90/hr for plumber  
27.50/hr for a helper  
25% markup on parts

Cestaro Plumbing: \$125/hr for plumbing  
175/hr for night, weekend and holiday calls  
30% markup on parts

Hauser Brothers: \$118.88/ hr for plumber  
99.88/ hr for helper  
24% markup on parts

Aero Plumbing & Heating: \$110/hr for plumber  
80/hr for helper  
65/hr travel time or flat rate of \$100  
20% markup on parts  
2 hr response time for emergencies

Acorn Plumbing & Heating: \$95/hr for plumber  
65/hr for helper  
75 flat rate per trip  
5% markup on parts

John Sutton: \$65/hr for licensed electrician  
45/hr for helper  
35 trip cost  
15% markup on parts

L&T Construction: \$50/hr for qualified craftsman  
25/hr for helper  
50/hr travel time  
10% markup on parts

Commissioner Besser will put all the information into a spreadsheet so it will be easier to see the comparisons and make a decision next month.

**Hall Requests**

Beverly Decker on April 4, 2015 from 12 to 6 PM for a bridal shower. Check was received.

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Vicki Vinci on March 28, 2015 for a baby shower. Check was received.  
Fred Stipak on February 22, 2015 for a birthday party. Check was received.  
Colden Park Homeowner's Association on February 25, 2015. Check was received.  
Coldenham Ladies Auxiliary on November 20 and 21, 2015 for the Spaghetti Dinner.  
Coldenham Ladies Auxiliary on March 28, 2015 for Easter Hunt.  
Cherie Bissinger on April 26, 2015 for a birthday party from 11 to 6. Check was not received. Commissioner Grecco will contact her.

NOTE: Battalion II meeting on March 17, 2015 will use upstairs room and fireman's room.

A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to approve the 7 hall requests. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

**Public Discussion**

Fred Stipak suggested that the hall rules be updated to include rules pertaining to the AV equipment.

**Committee Reports**

**Space Committee and Surplus List:** Commissioner Besser noticed that the excess gear has been packaged and is ready to be donated. St Regis Falls will be picking it up either Thursday or Friday.

**Safety Committee:** Nothing to report.

**Mack Restoration Committee:** Nothing at this time.

**Old Business**

**Physicals:** Commissioner Besser advised the board that 21 or 22 physicals were completed last Tuesday. Another session is scheduled for tomorrow night. There is more room for people tomorrow night, even if not already signed up. The last session will be Sunday and after that, the members will have to make their own arrangements to get their physicals. Commissioner Besser felt that all physicals should be completed by the end of March.

**Driver Qualification/Active Duty Criteria:** A work session was held on January 31. Commissioner Besser advised the board that progress continues to be made. He would like to schedule another work session for March 28, 2015 from 10 AM to 2 PM. The secretary will post the notice in the Wallkill Valley Times.

**LOSAP/Service Awards:** Commissioner Keenan stated that he needs to get with the Chiefs to make sure the training gets reported correctly.

**Server and Workstations:** Nothing at this time.

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**Kick plate for the Trophy Case:** Commissioner Besser is thinking about painting the kick plate black. He will try to get it done as soon as possible.

**PA/Paging system:** The PA/Paging system up and running.

**Fuel Audit:** Report has been done through June 2014. Commissioner Keenan needs data from Car 1 and Car 2 to complete the fuel audit for 2014. Hopefully, the completed audit will be done for next month's meeting.

**RFP's for Electrician, Plumber and General Maintenance:** The RFPs were read at the beginning of the meeting and Commissioner Besser will make a spreadsheet for next meeting so the bids could be compared and awarded.

**Building Repair:** Commissioner Besser stated that we will focus on this after we get through winter.

**Kaba Keys and Locks:** Commissioner Besser has not met with Architectural Door and Hardware. He will contact them again to discuss our needs and issues.

**Outside Lighting:** Commissioner Grecco said that the outside lighting job was complete and can be removed from the agenda.

**Boy Scout Pack 125:** Commissioner Jacobowitz stated that his neighbor Brian asked him about their Charter that needs to be signed by their sponsor. Commissioner Besser stated that the Fire Company actually sponsors the pack and the charter needs to be completed by them.

**Fax and Phone Lines:** Commissioner Besser will get ITC out here.

**Life Insurance:** Commissioner Keenan needs to get a census together. He needs to submit birthdays of members and could not access them on the computer. He will get with Assistant Chief Hunt to access this information so he can get a quote on a life insurance policy (face amount to be determined) to cover all active members.

**Time Warner Cable:** Commissioner Keenan stated that last year we had to increase our internet speed and we entered into a \$174 a month contract. Then the Fire Company bought new TVs for the Firemen's Room and wanted to expand the cable service. They made a call to the toll free number and got a rep out of New York City who said that we can't have free cable, you're going to pay \$291 a month for the internet and you have to do this by a certain day or it will just be increased. So Commissioner Keenan called our local account executive and he got our account back from the NY Rep. Commissioner Keenan will go back to the Fire Company to see what they wanted the box for. The account rep said that all the TVs will get the normal channels for no additional cost without a box. The box will add \$55.05 a month to the bill and a one-time installation fee of \$50. Commissioner Keenan recommends that no box should be added to our service.

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**New Business**

Commissioner Grecco would like to get the Social Hall painted. Everything except the offices and bays will need to be painted. Commissioner Grecco will get three estimates for next month's meeting.

**Chief's Report**

**Membership**

- New members: 1 Lorrean Clemmons as an Active Firefighter
- Qualified drivers: 0
- New Drivers Requested: 0
- Drivers dropped: 0
- Physicals: On going
- Members passing probation: 0
- Members reinstated: 0
- Members dropped: 0
- Social Members dropped: 0
- Status switch: 0
- Members suspended: 0
- Members resigned: 0

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobowitz and seconded by Commissioner Decker to accept Lorrean Clemmons as an Active Firefighter pending passing his physical and probation. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

**Further Information from the Chief**

- Chief Draiss advised the board that we need to recertify our members for CPR. We could have a Heart Saver CPR and First Aid class here on March 21 and the cost would depend on how many participants we have. The cost varies from \$72 for 7 people to \$54 for 35 people. (\$61 for 14, \$56 for 21 and \$55 for 28) Commissioner Decker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Grecco to host the Heart Saver CPR and First Aid Class with Oxygen at a cost to be determined by the number of participants. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.
- Chief Draiss commended the firefighters for a quick knockdown at a residence in Fleetwood last week. They did an excellent job and the homeowners are back in the house.
- Chief Draiss advised the board that the trucks have been going in and out of service due to Ruscon doing annual service on them.
- Chief Draiss received the notice from Sutphen for their annual service of the aerial at a cost of \$1400 to have it serviced here and \$1200 if we bring it to them. A motion was made by Commissioner Grecco and seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to have the aerial serviced in house by Sutphen at a cost of \$1400. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried

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**Further Information from the Commissioners**

Commissioner Decker would like to go into Executive Session tonight.

**Information from the Treasurer/Secretary**

Treasurer Miller advised the board that we received 1/3 of the Town of Newburgh Fire Tax in the amount of \$76,434.20.

Treasurer Miller did the Annual Report for the State. She gave everyone a copy.

Treasurer Miller reminded the board that we still have an \$11,000 tax abatement.

**Approved Expenditures**

Heart Saver CPR & First Aid Class	depends on size of class
Aerial service by Sutphen	\$1400.00

**Public Discussion**

Fred Stipak asked if the lighting will be changed before painting the hall. Commissioner Besser stated that the board has already talked to the electrician about banking the lights differently. He also suggested changing the brown grid and ceiling tiles.

**Executive Session**

Commissioner Decker made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.

Meeting reconvened at 9:07. No action taken. Nothing to report.

**Bills Signed**

Commissioner Jacobowitz made a motion to pay bills if found correct, seconded by Commissioner Grecco. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) by those in attendance was received. Motion carried.

**Adjournment**

Since all regular business was completed, Commissioner Decker moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Grecco. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 0 nays) by those in attendance was received. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Keenan  
Secretary