

Coldenham Fire District
Board of Fire Commissioners
July 13, 2015

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Coldenham Fire District was held on July 13, 2015 at the Coldenham Fire House. Commissioner Besser opened the meeting with the pledge to the flag.

Roll Call

Commissioners present: Tim Besser, Joe Keenan, Anita Grecco, Warren Decker and Wayne Jacobowitz.

Also present: Mary Keenan, Secretary
Linda Miller, Treasurer
Frank Draiss, Chief
Matt Hunt, First Assistant Chief

Acceptance of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to dispense with the reading of the monthly meeting minutes of June 8, 2015 and accept them as corrected. Page 7 under Further Information from the Commissioners, sentence 2, remove: Treasurer Miller will accompany her. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Bids for Demo Saws: One bid was received for the demo saws. Robert Stoll bid \$56 for the larger saw and \$53 for the smaller saw for a total of \$109. Action will be taken later in the meeting.

Communications

- We received a package from The Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York advising us that our dues will be increased from \$375 to \$500 effective January 2016. They also included a page with the AFDSNY Member Benefits, a letter to the Chief with attached documents of "Recommended Best Practices for Fire Department Training Programs and a list of PESH District Offices. Copies of the letter to the Chief and all attachments were put in Chief Draiss' mailbox.
- We received FOIL requests from Superior Fire Investigations, LLC for Allstate Insurance Company and The Claims Center, LLC for Central Hudson Gas & Electric. Chief Draiss will e-mail the information to the secretary who in turn will answer their requests.
- We received Commissioner Jacobowitz's certificate of compliance from Pinsky Law Group, PLLC that he has successfully completed the on-line commissioner training course. The secretary will file the certificate.
- We received our monthly LOSAP investment statements, auto pay and payouts etc. The account balance as of June 30, 2015 was \$977,290.33.
- We received notification from PenFlex that an individual is turning 60 this year and their paperwork is complete.
- We received more information from PenFlex about a request for total and permanent

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disability claim that the board needs to review and discuss later.

- We received an employment record request from Record Access Corporation pertaining to a deceased firefighter authorized by his next of kin. Commissioner Keenan will give it to the secretary for her to complete and return stating that we have no employment records for this individual.
- RBC Wealth Management will be emailing reports and need a point of contact. Commissioner Keenan will be the point of contact.
- Commissioner Besser received a FOIL request from the Times Herald Record and will handle it.
- Commissioner Besser advised the board that he filed the report as required, last month to the Comptroller's office about our cost saving measures. They did not like the retirement debt; it did not meet their standard. So Commissioner Besser refilled it and sent in the RFP's for the tradesmen. So another email was sent to him for clarification on how that saves money. Commissioner Besser gave them an illustration and he has not heard anything back.

Hall Requests

No requests for this meeting.

NOTE: Commissioner Besser explained that someone used the hall yesterday with his permission. The scouts approached him last Sunday to request the use of the hall for a scout who had moved out of the area and earned Eagle, but they don't do anything where he moved, so they wanted to have a ceremony here.

Commissioner Grecco advised the board that the Joys wanted to donate their deposit to the Fire Company, so the check was given to the Chief.

Chief Draiss advised the board that Rev Randazzo approached him to see if Rev Van Houten could use the hall to host a dinner for Chaplains during their Chaplain's Association Seminar of April 17 through the 20, 2016. Chief Draiss is not sure on all the details, but Commissioner Grecco asked that a hall request be filled out.

Public Discussion

None.

Committee Reports

Space Committee and Surplus List: The bid for the surplus demo saws was read earlier and Commissioner Besser asked for the board's recommendation. Commissioner Keenan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to accept the bid from Robert Stoll of \$109 for the two demo saws. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried. Assistant Chief Hunt will contact Robert Stoll.

Safety Committee: Commissioner Besser advised the board that two firefighters were injured in the last month. Both were transported to St Luke's and released within the hour. Worker's comp cases have been established for them. The incident involved a small

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part of the building falling on the firefighters when they were in the aerial. Sutphen was already scheduled to come to do maintenance already, so the truck was removed from service until after they came. Mistras came the day later and did the annual aerial inspection test, which it passed. Sutphen identified a few minor things to be taken care of, but nothing to preclude the truck from being in service. There is some minor damage to the platform that we need to get fixed.

Mack Restoration Committee: Nothing to report at this time.

Building Repair Committee: Commissioner Grecco advised the board that our contractor is working on the chair closet. She also had a meeting set up with the electrician and digger, but had to cancel because she was in the hospital. She will try to reschedule. Commissioner Jacobowitz added that the impression he got from the electrician was that this is in extremely poor condition and we may need to have an electrical engineer come to upgrade it. Commissioner Besser asked if anything has been done with the list of repairs that need to be done on the building. Commissioner Jacobowitz called Marino and DeGroot to have them come look at the pavement, but he hasn't heard back from them. Commissioner Jacobowitz said that he has not done anything else, but will focus on the repairs. Commissioner Keenan asked if there was anything we could do to stop the rust in the southwest corner. Commissioner Decker said they make something you can spray on but feels it is very expensive. Commissioner Keenan stated that Andy Garofalo started and he might have some background on this project that the current commissioners can use. Commissioner Besser said that the blacktop and the building repairs are our main concerns at this time.

Truck Committee: Commissioner Keenan advised the board that a demo on the CAFS (condensed air foam system) was held here two weeks ago. He will get with Chief Draiss to schedule a meeting.

Old Business

Physicals: Commissioner Besser advised the board that there is nothing new on physicals. There are 11 firefighters left who have not had physicals. Commissioner Decker asked if any of those had equipment belonging to the district. Commissioner Besser did not have an answer. Chief Draiss added that gear is kept at the firehouse and none of the listed people were EMT's.

Driver Qualification/Active Duty Criteria: Commissioner Besser would like everyone to review them again so they can be fine tuned. His goal is to have this complete and adopted by January 1, 2016.

LOSAP/Service Awards: Commissioner Keenan advised the board that they need to go into Executive Session to discuss the total permanent disability issue.

Fuel Audit: Commissioner Keenan has nothing to submit at this time.

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Kaba Keys and Locks: Commissioner Besser stated that he is not sure that we have the funds available to complete this project this year.

Replace (2) 2008 Chief Trucks: Commissioner Keenan advised the board that there is a company on Long Island that has one 2015 Tahoe available that they own and are willing to do a package deal. The only item he is not sure about is the striping, but this price includes the installation of the radios. Commissioner Besser added that we could possibly make a deal that Crudele will outfit the radios and the supplier will do the striping. He suggests that we replace only Assistant Chief Hunt's vehicle at this time. After some discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to expend \$45659 unless the Chiefs' deem that the Pro-Fd-101 standard command box is necessary for an additional \$1640, which would then bring the cost to \$47,299. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Life insurance for Active Members: Commissioner Keenan stated that we have to decide exactly who will be covered. Much discussion ensued. Commissioner Grecco suggests that we find out what other districts do. Commissioner Keenan thinks it is a good idea, but we need to do our homework.

Furniture for meeting room and office: Commissioner Besser put together figures for the meeting room and office. It was decided that for the meeting room we get two 30"X72" tables at a cost of \$793.78, two 30"X60" tables at a cost of \$729.98 for a total of \$1523.76. For the office four 30"X48" desks at a cost of \$2203.16. Tables and desks for both places come to a grand total of \$3726.92. Commissioner Decker made a motion seconded by Commissioner to spend up to \$4000 on the furniture for the meeting room and office. Unanimous approval (4 ayes, 1 nay) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

New Business

Agenda Addition: Commissioner Besser stated that he would like to add a line to the agenda called Budget to Actual Report between Bills Signed and Adjournment.aid that we will schedule a meeting with the auditors in July. We should receive a draft from them soon.

Capital Asset Policy: Commissioner Besser will have this ready for next month's meeting.

Chief's Report

Membership

- New members: 1 Joe Sangricoli Jr. Active as a Senior Member
- Qualified drivers: 1 Eric Doughty (Requalified)
- New Drivers Requested: 0
- Drivers dropped: 0
- Physicals: On going
- Members passing probation: 0
- Members reinstated: 0
- Members dropped: 0

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- Social Members dropped: 0
- Status switch: 0
- Members suspended: 0
- Members resigned: 0

Further Information from the Chief

- Chief Draiss advised the board that he ladder test was done and we lost one roof ladder. He would like to replace it at a cost of \$237 plus shipping. A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobowitz and seconded by Commissioner Decker to allow the Chief to purchase a roof ladder at a cost of \$237 plus shipping. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.
- Chief Draiss advised the board that hose testing was done. We lost 5 lengths of 5” hose and two lengths that failed last year that we haven’t replaced. Three quotes were received. The hose that we use is SnapTite at a cost of \$595 per length. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to allow the Chief to purchase SnapTite identical to what we have at a cost of \$595 each length for 7 lengths at a cost of \$4165 plus shipping. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried. We also lost a length of 2½, which Chief Draiss doesn’t feel that we have to replace that yet, but we lost two 1¾ “ at the fire at a cost of \$169 per length. A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobowitz and seconded by Commissioner Grecco to allow the Chief to purchase two lengths of 1¾” hose at a cost of \$169 plus shipping each for a total of \$338. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.
- Chief Draiss stated that Rev Randazzo would like to take an online course for a certification in Critical Incident Stress Management. The book costs \$55 and the test is \$295 for a total of \$350. A motion was made by Commissioner Decker and seconded by Commissioner Keenan to allow Rev Randazzo to purchase the book and pay for the test for the Critical Incident Stress Management course at a cost of \$350. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.
- Chief Draiss would like to send two officers (Assistant Chief Hunt and Lt. Wesley Wright) to the Firehouse Expo in Baltimore. Admission is \$358 for the two people and the hotel will be \$823.51 for the three nights for one room. (\$733 for the room and \$90 for three days of parking). Also \$50 per person per day for food. A motion was made by Commissioner Keenan and seconded by Commissioner Jacobowitz to send two officers to Baltimore for the Firehouse Expo at a cost of \$1181.51 plus meals and fuel. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried. Commissioner Decker suggested that they use 270 instead of Assistant Chief Hunt’s vehicle to avoid a breakdown. Chief Draiss said the Chief’s will just switch vehicles.
- AAA is scheduled to do flow testing on August 10.

Commissioner Besser advised the board that Rick Cameron submitted a report from the Syracuse Chief Show to include synopsis of courses taken and receipts for expenses.

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Further Information from the Commissioners

Commissioner Besser thanked the Chief for getting rid of the bus in a timely manner and great effort is being made to get the car out of here too.

He also thanked Chief Draiss for fixing the hot water heater. Commissioner Besser got up on the roof and installed screens to the vents for the hot water heater to prevent birds from flying in there.

Information from the Treasurer/Secretary

Treasurer Miller advised the board that we received a check from the insurance company for repairs in the amount of \$1379.

Treasurer Miller would like to move \$50,000 from the money market to the general fund checking. A motion was made by Commissioner Grecco and seconded by Commissioner Keenan to move \$50,000 from the money market to the general fund checking. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

Treasurer Miller advised the board that the 2% fire tax for the Benevolent Association was directly deposited into the district account in the amount of \$7259.20. She has a check written to the Benevolent Association for the entire amount.

Approved Expenditures

Meeting Room and Office Furniture	\$ 4,000.00
Chief Vehicle	47,299.00
Replace roof ladder	\$ 237.00 plus shipping
SnapTite hose (5")	4165.00 plus shipping
Hose (1¾")	338.00 plus shipping
Chaplain Course (Book and test)	350.00
Firehouse Expo	1181.51 plus \$50/day per person for food and cost of fuel

Public Discussion

None.

Bills Signed

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

Budget to Actual Report

Commissioner Besser advised the board that we received the budget to actual report from the Treasurer and it was reviewed.

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Executive Session

Commissioner Keenan made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a legal matter. Commissioner Decker seconded the motion. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

The meeting was reconvened. No action was taken.

Ice Machine: Chief Draiss advised the board that the ice machine doesn't work anymore. Commissioner Decker made a motion to expend up to \$2500 to replace the ice machine. Commissioner Keenan seconded the motion. Unanimous approval (5 ayes, 0 nays) was received by those in attendance. Motion carried.

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