



Arlington Fire District

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For Emergencies
DIAL 911

“Safeguarding Our Community”

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES January 6, 2020

ATTENDEES:

Comm. Ralph Chiumento, Jr. – Chairman
Comm. Jon Adams
Comm. Bruce Griffing, II
Comm. Peter Valdez – Vice Chairman
Comm. Peter Longi

Chief: William Steenbergh
Assistant Chief: Eric Philipp
Director of EMS: David Violante
District Secretary: Renee O’Neill
Treasurer: James Passikoff

Chairman Chiumento opened the Arlington Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners’ meeting at 6:48 p.m. and took a roll call of the attendees and reminded everyone to silence their cell phones. Everyone stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

I. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** - *No action(s) taken by the Board, unless otherwise noted*

II. **COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD** - *No action(s) taken by the Board, unless otherwise noted*

III. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Comm. Chiumento to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of employment history of a particular person (as noted in the Organizational meeting). Seconded by Comm. Valdez

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 6:49 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 6:57 p.m.

IV. **OPEN ITEMS**

As a result of Executive Session, a motion was made by Comm. Longi to appoint Eric Philipp as Assistant Chief. Seconded by Comm. Griffing.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

V. **ABSTRACT**

A motion was made by Comm. Adams to approve Abstract 20–1A. This consists of \$253,579.69 in paid bills with a total of 7 checks and \$125,627.83 in unpaid bills with a total of 16 checks for a grand total of \$379,207.52, totaling 23 checks. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

VI. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

A. **December 16, 2019 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting**

A motion was made by Comm. Adams to approve the December 16, 2019 Board of Fire Commissioners' meeting minutes. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 1 (Comm. Chiumento abstained)

VII. **MONTHLY COMMITTEE REPORTS** - *No reports given unless otherwise noted.*

A. Service Awards –

1. Motion to appoint new Commissioner(s) to replace past Commissioner Jose Seco as an authorized signer(s) effective January 1, 2020 for AFD's LOSAP account with Glens Falls National Bank.

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to appoint Comm. Griffing and Comm. Valdez as authorized signers for the LOSAP. Seconded by Comm. Adams.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

- B. District Inspections –
- C. District Officers / Chief Liaison –
- D. EMS & Paramedic Liaison –
- E. Public Relations –
- F. Equipment Maintenance –
- G. Buildings and Grounds –
- H. Capital Equipment –
- I. Union Negotiations & Contract –
- J. Career Staff Liaison –
- K. Volunteer Recruitment –
- L. Volunteer Liaison –
- M. District Safety & Health –
- N. Strategic Plan –

- O. Finance Committee –
- P. IT Operations Committee –
- Q. Croft Lease –
- R. Rochdale Lease –

VIII. **CORRESPONDENCE** – *None unless otherwise noted*

- A. Received electronically “*Fire District Affairs: December 2019 – January 2020*”.
- B. Received Local 2393’s 2020 Officers.
- C. Received December 20, 2019, the 2018 Independent Financial Audit from PKF O’Connor Davies.
- D. E-mail dated December 26, 2019 from Jim Beretta to the Board of Fire Commissioners regarding the BOFC meeting from December 16, 2019 and motions made after Executive Session.

IX. **ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY THE BOARD** – *None unless otherwise noted*

X. **DONATIONS** – *None unless otherwise noted*

XI. **COMMISSIONERS ITEMS** - *No reports and/or discussions unless otherwise noted*

- A. Comm. Chiumento
 - 1. RE: the two motions that were made by past Commissioner Seco from December 16, 2019 Board of Fire Commissioners meeting regarding payment of \$20, the apparel and the distribution of funds from the fund balance (which was not stated from the fund balance) to the reserve account.

Discussion.

A motion was made by Comm. Chiumento to rescind the two motions from that meeting regarding the \$600K that was to be moved to a reserve fund and the \$20 payment to Commissioners and the clothing.

Chairman Chiumento clarified they are not going to move it and that the movement of money will be determined on what the Board wants to do and then get the proper resolution from our Attorney to do so.

Seconded by Comm. Adams.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

Brief discussion.

A motion was made by Comm. Chiumento to rescind the motion for the \$20 stipend and for the clothing. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

Brief discussion.

A motion was made by Comm. Chiumento to rescind the motion regarding the \$600K transfer. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

XII. **DISTRICT STAFF ITEMS**

A. Chief – William Steenbergh

1. Requesting authorization to extend the agreement with Mobile Life Support Services for another year retro back to January 1, 2019, with no changes.

A motion was made by Comm. Adams to extend the contract between the District and Mobile Life providing ambulance services for one year. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

2. E-mail distribution for Commissioners has been updated. Comm. Valdez reminded everyone to be mindful regarding unfamiliar emails.
3. Requesting permission to contact Civil Service for the Firefighter, Firefighter/Paramedic and Lieutenant promotional lists. OK'd by the Board. Asked about the scheduling of interviews for Lieutenant prior to next Board meeting due to retirement of a Lieutenant in March. The Board agreed to continue with a Committee to make recommendations to the Board. Comm. Chiumento will advise Chief who is on the Committee.
4. Have had discussions at past Board meetings regarding the surplus of four vehicles. Looking to purchase a vehicle with proceeds from the sale of vehicles and removal from insurance for out of town travel with no lights or radios. Requesting permission to obtain hard numbers and come back at a future meeting to pursue further. No action taken by the Board.

- B. Assistant Chief – Eric Philipp
 - 1. Thanked the Board for his appointment as Assistant Chief, looks forward to working with them this year.
 - 2. Volunteer numbers: Engine Co, #1 – 5, ROM – 5, Rochdale – 4, one on school leave, Croft – 18, with 1 ready to come online.
- C. Director of EMS David Violante
 - 1. Welcomed Comm. Chiumento back and Comm. Griffing to the Board. Invited them to meet at anytime to go over EMS.
 - 2. Submitted quarterly and annual reports from our agencies to the DOH.
- D. Treasurer James Passikoff
 - 1. Submitted via email to the Board, the November 2019 Financial Report for the District prior to the meeting. The Board did not get it in time prior to the meeting to discuss. Once December numbers are inputted, will have a preliminary report for the Board.
 - 2. Once Finance Committee is set, need to meet and discuss the budget.

XIII. **SCHOOL REQUESTS**

The following member(s) have been approved by Chief Steenbergh to attend the following school request(s) in advance of the Board of Fire Commissioners meeting and are located inside or outside of Dutchess County; is either contractually required or required to maintain a certification; and have a registration cost of no more than \$100. For Commissioners notification purposes only:

- A. Thomas Andryshak: “Fire Officer I”, January 13 – 15, 2020 at AFD. (not required to maintain certification, not a CME, no costs, not requesting use of District vehicle, 11 hours District time, 22 hours own time)
- B. John Dunderdale: “Navigating the Obstacles of Leadership”, January 28, 2020 at Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response. (not required to maintain certification, not a CME, no costs, not requesting use of District vehicle, 5 hours own time)

The following school requests require consideration by the Board of Fire Commissioners:

- A. Todd Belsky: “Basic Structural Collapse Operations”, February 1, 2020 at Orange County Fire Training Center. (not required to maintain certification, not a CME, no costs, not requesting use of District vehicle, 12 hours District time)

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to approve the training. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

- B. Gary Lewis: “FFTS – Firefighter Training Series”, February 15 – 20, 2020 in Montour Falls. (not required to maintain certification, not a CME, \$25 registration, \$240 lodging, not requesting use of District vehicle, 48 hours District time, 38 hours own time)

A motion was made by Comm. Adams to approve Gary Lewis for Firefighter Training Series as described in the minutes. Seconded by Comm. Griffing.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

XIV. ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Chief Steenbergh – employment history of six (6) particular persons.
- B. Comm. Valdez – matter which will imperil the public safety if discussed publically.

With no further open business to discuss, a motion was made by Comm. Valdez to adjourn to Executive Session. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:26 p.m.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:11 p.m. and returned to Open Session.

XVI. OPEN ITEMS

A motion was made by Comm. Chimento to go to permissive referendum for a maximum of \$42K to purchase a school vehicle. Seconded by Comm. Adams.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

With no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Comm. Longi to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Comm. Griffing.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

No time given when meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee O’Neill
District Secretary

