



# Arlington Fire District

11 Burnett Boulevard  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603  
www.afd.org

Business: (845) 486-6300  
Fax: (845) 486-6322

**For Emergencies**  
***DIAL 911***

*"Safeguarding Our Community"*

---

## BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES January 9, 2023

### ATTENDEES:

Comm. Richard Dore – Chairman (absent)  
Comm. Peter Longi  
Comm. Ralph Chiumento, Jr. – (Acting Chairman)  
Comm. Phil Van Itallie  
Comm. Peter Valdez

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

Acting Chairman Chiumento opened the Arlington Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners' meeting at 7:38 p.m., took a roll call of the attendees and everyone stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** – *No action(s) taken by the Board, unless otherwise noted*
2. **COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD** – *No action(s) taken by the Board, unless otherwise noted*
3. **ABSTRACT APPROVAL**  
A motion was made by Comm. Longi to approve Abstract 23–1A. This consists of \$1,176.77 in paid bills with a total of 2 checks and \$48,654.81 in unpaid bills with a total of 29 checks for a grand total of \$49,831.58, totaling 31 checks. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.  
  
- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

4. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

A. December 19, 2022 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting

A motion was made by Comm. Van Itallie to approve as written and distributed.  
Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

5. **MONTHLY COMMITTEE REPORTS** – *No reports given unless otherwise noted.*

A. Service Awards – Comm. Valdez reported the following:

1. Received email dated December 16, 2022 from Glens Falls National Bank regarding “Investment Update”.
2. PenFlex has a new employee, will contact.
3. Will get a hold of Glens Falls and PenFlex to review the Investment Policy.

- 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. District Safety & Health –
- M. Strategic Plan –
- N. Finance Committee –
- O. IT Operations Committee –
- P. Croft Lease –
- Q. Rochdale Lease –

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

- A. Received Engine Co. #1, Red Oaks Mill Fire Company, and Croft Corners Fire Company's list of Officers for the year 2023.

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

- A. E-mail dated December 23, 2022 from American Red Cross requesting to conduct a blood drive on Saturday, September 16, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Red Oaks Mill Firehouse in memory of Hailey Niclaus. (*space requested for set up and break down from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.*)

The Board delegated this to the Chief.

- B. Letter dated December 31, 2022 from Dylan Sumski of Croft Corners Fire Company resigning as an active member. *(need to drop from the roles)*

A motion was made by Comm. Van Itallie to drop him from the roles. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

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

| <u>NAME</u>     | <u>REASON</u> | <u>AMOUNT</u> |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Magdalena Ivich | Thank you     | \$200.00      |
| Leroy Stukes    | Charity       | \$100.00      |

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to put those funds in the General Fund. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

9. **COMMISSIONERS ITEMS** – *No reports and/or discussions unless otherwise noted*

10. **DISTRICT STAFF ITEMS**

A. Chief William Steenbergh

1. Congratulated the Chairman (Chiumento) on a successful year and looks forward to working with the new Chairman.
2. Four members of the career staff are going to be receiving their 1<sup>st</sup> payment as part of the three (3) year process or the “Part A payment” for retirement. Recommends transferring the funds out of the Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Fund, not to exceed \$120K.

A motion was made by Comm. Van Itallie to approve. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

3. Statement of Work for Heather Hastie expired 12/31/22. Recommends extending it for one year; same conditions as before and one additional item of the COVID bonus of \$1100, which is prorated from when she was full time to hours worked as part time.

A motion was made by Comm. Van Itallie that we extend Heather Hastie’s contract for one year which will also include a COVID bonus. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

Brief discussion.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 1 (Comm. Valdez voted “Ney”)

4. NYS enacted legislation to allow taxing authorities to consider a property reduction for volunteer firemen. Attorney working on Resolution for Arlington to consider. Law requires a public hearing in advance of a meeting approving the Resolution. Recommends scheduling a public hearing prior to the meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Discussion.

A motion was made by Comm. Van Itallie that we schedule a public hearing on January 23, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., preceding the meeting, for possibility of property tax abatement for volunteers. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

5. Update on the Correction Action Plan – Counsel is finalizing draft. Received an extension from the Comptroller to 1/27. Plan is to circulate the draft to the members of the Board in advance of the 1/23 meeting.
6. Received an inquiry from a Board member regarding receiving a Class A uniform. If interested, contact him.
7. 9 out of the 11 medic students have taken the State certifications. Meeting with BC Kangas and Director of EMS Violante to discuss in house accreditation process. Vouchered State to close out the grant.
8. Working with Greg to establish service contracts for preventative maintenance for plumbing, electricians, etc. Using the County bid list. Discussion.

B. Assistant Chief Eric Philipp

1. Happy New Year and congratulated Comm. Valdez on his re-election.

C. Director of EMS David Violante

1. Looking forward to a great year.

Discussion on some recent successful CPR saves.

D. Treasurer James Passikoff

1. Should have the financial reports for the last three (3) months prior to the next meeting.

## 11. **SCHOOL REQUESTS**

No school requests were submitted for consideration.

12. **ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- A. Chief Steenbergh – Three (3) items for the purpose of the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.
- B. Comm. Valdez – Two (2) items for the purpose of the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Comm. Valdez requested just the Board for his items.

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

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 8:14 p.m.

13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:34 p.m. and returned to Open Session.

There were no open items for discussion and/or approval as a result of Executive Session.

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

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee O'Neill  
District Secretary



## BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING PUBLIC ATTENDANCE SHEET

NOTE: This sheet will be attached to the Board of Fire Commissioners meeting minutes as part of the official record. If you agree to have your name as part of the official record and published on our website, please legibly print your name below. Thank you.

DATE OF MEETING: 11/9/23  
Organizational + regular meeting

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |