



Arlington Fire District

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For Emergencies
DIAL 911

“Safeguarding Our Community”

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES May 1, 2023

ATTENDEES:

Comm. Richard Dore – Chairman – (absent)
Comm. Peter Longi
Comm. Ralph Chiumento, Jr. – Vice Chairman
Comm. Phil Van Itallie
Comm. Peter Valdez – (arrived at 7:05 p.m.)

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

Vice Chairman Chiumento opened the Arlington Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners’ meeting at 7:00 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*

Comm. Valdez arrived during the public comment period at 7:05 p.m.

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

3. **ABSTRACT APPROVAL**

Comm. Van Itallie made a motion to approve Abstract 23–5A. This consists of \$100,000.00 in paid bills with a total of 1 check and \$70,720.92 in unpaid bills with a total of 31 checks for a grand total of \$170,720.92, totaling 32 checks. Seconded by Comm. Chiumento.

Comm. Van Itallie reported that the total is different than what was posted online prior to the meeting due to a math error. The correct Abstract will be posted tomorrow.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

4. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**
A. April 17, 2023 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting
Comm. Longi made a motion to approve. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0
5. **MONTHLY COMMITTEE REPORTS** – *No reports given unless otherwise noted.*
A. Service Awards – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Longi
1. E-mail dated April 21, 2023 from Glens Falls National Bank regarding “Investment Update”.

Comm. Valdez reported that he is in contact with our new Investment Advisor and will follow up with the Board.

- B. District Inspections – Comm. Longi & Comm. Van Itallie
- C. District Officers / Chief Liaison – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Dore
- D. EMS & Paramedic Liaison – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Van Itallie
- E. Public Relations – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Dore
- F. Equipment Maintenance – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Van Itallie
- G. Buildings and Grounds – Comm. Dore & Comm. Van Itallie
- H. Capital Equipment – Comm. Dore & Comm. Longi
- I. Union Negotiations & Contract – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Dore
- J. Career Staff Liaison – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Dore
- K. Volunteer Recruitment – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Longi
- L. District Safety & Health – Comm. Dore & Comm. Valdez
- M. Strategic Plan – Comm. Longi & Comm. Valdez
- N. Finance Committee – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Van Itallie
- O. IT Operations Committee – Comm. Van Itallie & Comm. Longi
- P. Croft Lease – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Longi
- Q. Rochdale Lease – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Van Itallie

Comm. Valdez brought up Rochdale and the 2019 Feasibility Study. Chief Steenbergh will follow up with representatives of Rochdale. Lengthy discussion.

Comm. Valdez also discussed LOSAP and ETF's (Exchange-Traded Fund). Has discussed this with the Investment Advisor but it's ultimately up to the Board.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE** – *None unless otherwise noted*
A. Received an e-mail dated April 18, 2023 from Kim Barela of the Poughkeepsie Plaza thanking AFD for participating in their Spring Event.

B. Received the March 28, 2023 meeting minutes from the Association of Fire Districts of Dutchess County.

C. Received “Fire District Affairs” – April - May 2023.

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

8. **DONATIONS** – *None unless otherwise noted*
9. **COMMISSIONERS ITEMS** – *No reports and/or discussions unless otherwise noted*
10. **DISTRICT STAFF ITEMS**

A. Chief William Steenbergh

1. Member was granted Line of Duty Disability Retirement and will be retired by the end of the month. Requesting the Board to approve the expenditure of \$140K out of the Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Fund to cover his accumulated benefit time.

Comm. Van Itallie made a motion to approve. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

B. Assistant Chief Eric Philipp

1. Members of Croft Corners Fire Company are requesting to participate in the Spackenkill High School career day on May 9th from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and would like to do a recruitment drive for volunteers that night. Requesting 32-45 in service.

Comm. Longi made a motion to approve the recruiting event at Spackenkill High School from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on May 9, 2023 and to include the use of a single piece of equipment. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

Lengthy discussion.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

C. Director of EMS David Violante

1. Congratulated Ed D’Anna who completed all requirements to be a paramedic, effective April 20th.

D. Treasurer James Passikoff – No report.

11. **SCHOOL REQUESTS**

The Board of Fire Commissioners authorized the Chief to approve in advance, school requests that are located inside or outside of Dutchess County and is either contractually required or required to maintain a certification or does not exceed \$100.00.

For Commissioners notification purposes only:

A. “Handling Fire Tactics in Hoarding Conditions”, April 27, 2023 at Dover High School. (No cost)

1. Anthony Dragonetti

2. Shawn Castano

- B. Gary Lewis: “NY Tech Rescue Conference”, June 1 – 2, 2023 in Oriskany, NY.
(No cost)

The following school request requires consideration by the Board of Fire Commissioners:

- A. Michael McNamee: “Regional Instructor Authorization: Training Program”, June 11 – 16, 2023 at Orange County Fire Training Center. (No cost, 24 hours time off only)

Comm. Longi made a motion to approve. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

12. **ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- A. Chief Steenbergh – one (1) item 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.

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

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:43 p.m.

13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:50 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, Comm. Longi made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 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: 5-1-23
