



Arlington Fire District

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For Emergencies
DIAL 911

“Safeguarding Our Community”

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES September 12, 2022

ATTENDEES:

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

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

Vice Chairman Valdez 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.

- 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. **ABSTRACT APPROVAL**
Comm. Van Itallie requested to withdraw the voucher for \$680 for Croft Corners Fire Company for the bay door repair. Brief discussion. Voucher will be removed from the Abstract for further review.

A motion was made by Comm. Van Itallie to approve Abstract 22–9A. This consists of \$15,741.22 in paid bills with a total of 13 checks and \$448,241.52 in unpaid bills with a total of 39 checks for a grand total of \$463,982.74 (totaling 52 checks). Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

- A. August 1, 2022 Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting. (*Chiumento & Dore absent*)

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

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

- B. August 15, 2022 Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting. (*Van Itallie absent*)

No action taken by the Board.

- C. August 29, 2022 Board of Fire Commissioners Special Meeting. (*Valdez absent*)

No action taken by the Board.

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

- A. Service Awards – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Longi
1. E-mail dated August 19, 2022 from GFNB regarding “Investment Update”.

- 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
1. Comm. Valdez read a workplace safety reminder from OSHA. As a reminder, PPE is paid for by the District as per OSHA regulations. It’s the law.

Chief Steenbergh stated that he is not aware of any outstanding requests for PPE. Would like to discuss with Comm. Valdez further.

- 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

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

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

- A. E-mail dated August 25, 2022 from Alan-Michael Magnotta of Croft Corners Fire Company resigning as a volunteer member.

A motion was made by Comm. Valdez to accept that resignation. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

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

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

X. **DISTRICT STAFF ITEMS**

- A. Chief William Steenberg
1. Discussed the parking lot repairs at HQ. Requesting the Board approve an amount not to exceed \$15K out of the Building Reserve Fund, subject to a permissive referendum.

A motion was made by Comm. Valdez to approve an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 to come out of the Building Reserve Fund to pay for the parking lot repairs at Headquarters, subject to a permissive referendum. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

2. Discussed the BOFC meeting on the 19th or postponing until the 26th. The Board has until the 27th to approve the proposed budget, but the 25th – 27th is also Rosh Hashanah.

Discussion. No action taken by the Board.

3. Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) Grant – the Fire District was awarded \$166,144 of which AFD’s share is \$15,104 for Technical Rescue Training. Requests the Board to accept the grant.

A motion was made by Comm. Van Itallie to accept the grant in the amount of \$166,144. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

4. MES – our vendor for many items recently changed facilities and operations. They would like to donate a used forklift because it is too small for them. It would be used for the Shop. Recommends the Board accept this donation.

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to accept the donation of the used forklift from MES. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

B. Assistant Chief Eric Philipp – No report.

C. Director of EMS David Violante

1. NYS Department of Health came and did their inspection. Went well. Thanked the membership in maintaining everything.
2. Medication update – several medications not available anywhere. Working with the Region and State offices to get some, but hospitals are having issues as well.
3. Continue to follow COVID-19 CDC guidelines for health care workers; no changes for us. Also continue to follow the return-to-work guidelines.

D. Treasurer James Passikoff

1. No report; should have financial report next Monday.

XI. **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. George Finn: “Code Enforcement Officer Recertification”, October 26 – 27, 2022 at Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel. (\$135 registration fee)

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

No school requests to be considered for Board approval.

XII. **ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- A. Chief Steenbergh – 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.
- B. Comm. Valdez – one (1) item for matters which will imperil the public safety if disclosed.

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, 3 – 0

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:24 p.m.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:58 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. Valdez to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

No time given when the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee O’Neill
District Secretary

