



Arlington Fire District

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

Business: (845) 486-6300
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For Emergencies
DIAL 911

“Safeguarding Our Community”

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES October 19, 2022

ATTENDEES:

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

Chief: William Steenbergh – (absent)
Assistant Chief: Eric Philipp – (absent)
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 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**

A motion was made by Comm. Dore to approve Abstract 22–10B. This consists of \$0 in paid bills with a total of 0 checks and \$68,739.16 in unpaid bills with a total of 31 checks for a grand total of \$68,739.16, totaling 31 checks. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

A. October 3, 2022 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to approve. Seconded by Comm. Dore.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

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

A. Service Awards – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Longi

1. Received email dated October 7, 2022 from GFNB regarding “Investment Update”.
2. Received email dated October 11, 2022 from GFNB regarding “September 30, 2022 LOSAP Quarterly Report”.
3. Authorize \$7,895 for the year-end Service Awards Program fees to be paid from the Arlington Fire District Service Awards Program Trust Fund and made payable to PenFlex Actuarial Services, LLC.

A motion was made by Comm. Dore to authorize \$7,895 for the year-end Service Awards Program fees to be paid from the Arlington Fire District Service Awards Program Trust Fund and made payable to PenFlex Actuarial Services, LLC. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

- 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

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

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

- A. E-mail dated October 16, 2022 from Lisa Jackson of Croft Corners Fire Company requesting use of the volunteer equipment for their Annual Halloween parade on October 29th. Line up at 12:30 and parade kick off is at 1:00 p.m. (Parade route is at Todd School, down Croft Road to Schoolhouse Road to the firehouse)

A motion was made by Comm. Dore to allow the company to use 32-45 and/or 32-57 and a fly car, if necessary. Seconded by Longi.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

- B. Fundraising Event form received from Croft Corners Fire Company requesting permission for the following two events:
1. Selling raffle tickets for weekly cash prizes for one year. Raffle to begin February 2023 – January 2024.
 2. Annual fundraising letter to the residents and businesses of the Croft response area. Mailing to begin January 2023.

No action taken. Chairman Chiumento stated that no motion is required, but rather a notification to the Board.

- C. Letter dated October 18, 2022 from Croft Corners Fire Company requesting the Board of Fire Commissioners to exercise the option to extend the current lease through the end of 2025 with the rent at \$51,000 which is a zero percent increase over 2024.

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to approve. Seconded by Comm. Dore.

- Motion Carried, 3 - 0

- D. Annual Fire District Election Resolution

**RESOLUTION
ARLINGTON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
ANNUAL FIRE DISTRICT ELECTION**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Arlington Fire District (“Fire District”) hereby determine that the Annual Election of the Fire District shall be held on December 13, 2022 between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., with polling places at the Red Oaks Mill Fire House, 213 Vassar Road for Wards 1, 2, and 5, and at District Headquarters, 11 Burnett Boulevard for Wards 3, 4, and 6 for the purpose of electing one (1) Fire District Commissioner for a five (5) year term of office commencing January 1, 2023 and continuing through December 31, 2027;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that each Candidate shall submit a petition setting forth their desired candidacy for the five (5) year term beginning on January 1, 2023 and ending on December 31, 2027, subscribed by twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the Arlington Fire District to the Secretary of the District, no later than November 23, 2022; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following resident Fire District Elector is appointed as the Chairperson of said District Election, **Denes House**;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following resident Fire District electors are hereby appointed as Election Inspectors for said election:

Headquarters
Karina House
Kimberly Rine
Michael Helm
Barbara Helm

Red Oaks Mill
Paula Marcotte
Deborah Washburn
Eric Bennett
Elizabeth Tesone

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairperson and Election Inspectors be compensated in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00), according to Town Law §175 for their services and attendance at the annual election;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in case of any of the members appointed herein are unable to assume or perform the duties required of them, the Board of Fire Commissioners appoint the following resident Fire District electors as alternates:

Sara Jane Inglis

Juliette Minor

Scott Floughton, Jr.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, the Board of Fire Commissioners hereby determines and appoints additional clerical help to implement the COVID-19 protocols (if deemed necessary) during the election; the individuals shall be appointed as such clerical help, the individuals shall be trained, will be compensated in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) according to Town Law §175, for their services, and shall work under the direction of the Chairperson of the Fire District Board of Elections in accordance with the established COVID-19 protocols:

Headquarters
Jennifer Gonzalez

Red Oaks Mill
Charlene Smart

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, the Fire District Secretary is instructed to request a list of registered voters in the Arlington Fire District as of November 21, 2022 from the Dutchess County Board of Elections;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, the notice of election shall be published in the Poughkeepsie Journal, no earlier than November 9, 2022 and no later than November 16, 2022.

A motion was made by Comm. Chiumento to approve the Resolution as printed in the agenda.
Seconded by Comm. Dore.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

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

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

A. 2023 BUDGET

1. 2023 Budget Tax Levy Limit Resolution for consideration

2023 - TAX LEVY LIMIT

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners (“Board”) of the Arlington Fire District (“Fire District”), have duly and carefully considered the public safety and fire protection needs of the residents and taxpayers of the Fire District in preparing the Fire District budget for the fiscal year 2023; and

WHEREAS, after such careful consideration, the recurring, regular and other operating costs and obligations of the Fire District require it to exceed the tax levy limit imposed on the Fire District pursuant to General Municipal Law 3-c in order to maintain the level of fire protection and emergency services to the residents and taxpayers of the Fire District which is in the best interests of such residents and taxpayers as determined by the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Fire District, and

WHEREAS, under General Municipal Law 3-c subdivision 5, a fire district may annually adopt a resolution to override the annual tax levy limit, which resolution must be approved by 60 percent of the total voting power of the Board of Fire Commissioners prior to the adoption of its proposed and or final budget.

NOW, THEREFORE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to the authority of Section 3-c subdivision 5 of the General Municipal Law, after careful consideration of the recurring, regular and other operating costs and obligations of the Fire District, in order to maintain the level of fire protection and emergency services to the residents of the Arlington Fire District, and prior to the adoption of its proposed and or final budget, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Arlington Fire District does hereby override the annual tax levy limit for the coming 2023 fiscal year.

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to approve the Resolution as printed in the agenda.
Seconded by Comm. Dore.

ROLL CALL:

Comm. Longi – “Aye”

Comm. Dore – “Aye”

Comm. Chiumento – “Aye”

Comm. Valdez – (absent)

Comm. Van Itallie – (absent)

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

2. Subject to certain restrictions, make changes, alterations, and revisions to proposed budget (Town Law §181 [3][b]) on or before November 4th.

No changes, alterations or revisions were made to the proposed budget.

3. Adopt Fire District Annual Budget (Town Law §181 [3][b]) on or before November 4th.

A motion was made by Comm. Chiumento to adopt the Operating Budget for fiscal year 2023 in the amount of \$21,986,750 of which \$20,728,750 to be raised by real estate taxes. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

ROLL CALL:

Comm. Longi – “Aye”
Comm. Dore – “Aye”
Comm. Chiumento – “Aye”
Comm. Valdez – (absent)
Comm. Van Itallie – (absent)

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

X. DISTRICT STAFF ITEMS

A. Chief William Steenbergh – (absent)

1. Chairman Chiumento reported that there are change orders to the two Seagrave engines in the amount of \$13,086. The Committee originally was presented with \$84K for the changes and worked to get it down to \$13,086.

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to approve the change orders (in the amount of \$13,086). Seconded by Comm. Dore.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

B. Assistant Chief Eric Philipp – (absent)

C. Director of EMS David Violante

1. Reported that Arlington FD, LaGrange FD and the City of Poughkeepsie FD will be receiving the “NYS Innovation Award” for operational innovation at the Vital Signs Conference for the Department of Health in Albany on October 30th. This was a nomination based on the result of the Special Operations Task Force working together at the December 14, 2021 Dover mine trap incident.

D. Treasurer James Passikoff – No report.

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. Michael Conroy: “Live Fire Instructor”, October 15 – 16, 2022 at NYSAFS. (No cost)

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

There were no school requests submitted for Board consideration.

XII. **ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- A. Comm. Chimento – 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.

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

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:11 p.m.

XIII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:25 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. Dore to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0

No time was given when the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee O’Neill
District Secretary

