

Fire or Ambulance
914-471-1313



Business
914-486-6300 or 486-6304
Fax: 914-486-6322

Arlington Fire District

11 Burnett Boulevard
Poughkeepsie, New York 12603

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS' MONTHLY MEETING December 14, 1999

ATTENDEES: Comm. Paul Lahey, Chairman
Comm. Ralph Chiumento
Comm. Gerard Philipp
Comm. William McCourt
Comm. John Richardson

Attorney: Gerard Comatos (absent)
Treasurer: James Passikoff (arrived at 8:55 p.m.)
Secretary: Renee Gaddis

Chairman Lahey opened the meeting of the Arlington Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners' Monthly Meeting at 7:32 p.m.

I. Comm. Lahey requested Comm. Richardson and Comm. Philipp to review Abstract 12A.

II. MINUTES

- A. November 24, 1999 Board of Fire Commissioners' Workshop Meeting.
A motion was made by Comm. McCourt and seconded by Comm. Philipp to approve the Minutes as printed.
- Motion Carried.

III. **MONTHLY REPORTS**

- A. Chief's Report - November 1999
- B. Fire District Affairs - November 1999
- C. Training Report - November 1999
- D. Inspector's Report - November 1999

IV. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- A. Letter dated December 14, 1999 to Mauri Associates from Office Manager Doyle regarding being responsible for their own work.
- B. Received December 13, 1999, Minutes of the December 9, 1999 Chief's Election.
- C. Letter received December 9, 1999 from Town of Poughkeepsie Planning Board regarding applicants seeking preliminary approval for the first time.
- D. Letter dated December 6, 1999 from the Town of Poughkeepsie Planning Board regarding an application being made for Stop & Shop / 44 Plaza new construction.
- E. Received December 3, 1999, to the Board of Fire Commissioners, the amended Service Award Point Accumulation System document from Dick Lewis, Station 5.
- F. Received Town Board Meeting summary dated December 1, 1999 showing approval for the change in polling place and waive fee for the building permit for Station 3.
- G. Received November 30, 1999 from the County of Dutchess, memo regarding establishing a sign law for E911 purposes and for E911 automatic telephone devices and report of alarm activations.
- H. Letter dated November 26, 1999 from Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response informing us of their new address.
- I. Letter dated November 24, 1999 from Bill & Toni Abbott thanking AFD for assisting their son on April 17, 1999.

V. **DONATIONS**

A motion was made by Comm. McCourt and seconded by Comm. Philipp to turn over the total donation amount to the Four Company Fund.

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>REASON</u> | <u>AMOUNT</u> |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Edward Robertson | Assistance Received | \$ 20. 00 |
| Carminc Giordano | Assistance Received | \$ 25. 00 |

- Motion Carried.

VI. **SCHOOL REQUESTS**

A motion was made by Comm. Philipp and seconded by Comm. Chiumento to accept the attendance of the following members to the schools/seminars listed:

- A. Erin Hanlon: "EMT-Basic", January 20, 2000 - June 2000 at LaGrange Station 3.
- B. Al Schoessow: "EMT-Basic", January 20, 2000 - June 2000 at LaGrange Station 3.
- C. FF Larry Wilson: "EMT - Paramedic Refresher", January 13, 2000 - March 16, 2000 at Dutchess Community College.
- D. FF Larry Wilson: "Pediatric Advanced Life Support", February 2, 2000 - February 6, 2000 at Dutchess Community College.
- E. FF Larry Wilson: "Advanced Cardiac Life Support", February 26, 2000 - February 27, 2000 at Dutchess Community College.

- Motion Carried.

VII. **REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AND CANCELLATION**

A motion was made by Comm. Richardson and seconded by Comm. Philipp to hold the Reorganizational meeting on January 11, 2000 at 7:00 p.m. followed by a regular meeting at Headquarters.

- Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Comm. Richardson and seconded by Comm. McCourt to cancel the workshop meeting for December 29, 1999 at 7:30 p.m.

- Motion Carried.

Legal notices have been sent to the Poughkeepsie Journal 12-15-99

VIII.

COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

A. Comm. Richardson

1. Received a campaign letter from Karen Pells.

“Very upset with misquotes, lies and the way it was written to kind of indicate that the Board got some problems and I have some major concerns over this and because I saw it last night for the first time, haven’t had a chance to digest everything. I will be bringing it up at the next meeting for action. I am very concerned about this. I think we are gonna have to do something to get correct information out to the people in the community. There is a lot of accusations here about spending and other things that the Board is doing and I think they have to be addressed. There is a lot of accusations in here that would have a major impact on the way we run this District. Concerns about building a substation on the south end. I, as a one person and a Commissioner, has always felt that I do not want to put paid staff in either one of the volunteer houses on the south end, via it be Red Oaks Mill or Croft. But it appears that the candidate for Commissioner has some ideas of her own that I don’t think will be beneficial to this District. With the statement is to pull all equipment out of Croft, man it 24-7 with paid staff and stop paying rent to Croft. Which I think is totally ludicrous. Or the \$41, 000 in rent that we pay to Croft and the \$25, 000 that we pay to Rochdale. And that is rent, and the letter it says here that it is rent and that its paid for renting and manning the fire equipment. The people volunteer to man fire equipment. They rent the fire station. I think it’s a heck of a bargain that the people are getting for \$41, 000 and to go out 24-7 with paid staff I think is ludicrous. I mean, there are ways we can save money in this District. We can reject the rig, the bid on the rig tonight and go out for bare bones cheap, \$200,000 rig and save a lot of money there. We can put paid staff 24-7 in District owned house at Red Oaks Mill, which I think will upset the people from Red Oaks Mill. I’m not in favor of either one of these things. But if we are going to be criticized for the way we are running things and the way we are doing things, we may have to look at what we are going to do to save some money, if its going to become a major political issue. I think this Board over the past years that I’ve been on it, for nine years, and the rest of the people have been on it for two terms and one term, have done what they feel is the best thing to make sure that we maintain a fire district that is safe, provide the best equipment, the best people, the best volunteers, the best paid staff. We’ve continually added paid staff because of the just about doubling of calls in the past nine years, since Karen Ann Pells left the Board. I think its kind of ridiculous that some of the things that we said here. If anybody got any concerns I hope they would address them with me as to why they think, what their concerns are of the people in this fire district. I have never, other than one person came here a couple of months ago and expressed their concern, in my nine years on the Board, I’ve had nobody come here from the public and complain what we’ve done. I think we have grown with the times. We’ve felt that we had to add paid staff which is always the biggest expense in this fire district. We’ve felt there was a definite need for paramedics in this fire district and we’ve tried to grow with that. And to be ridiculed and criticized, I think is a little ridiculous. When we are trying to maintain growth and not sit there and be stagnate and let this fire district role around us and not keep up with the times. So I will be addressing this in the future.”

B. Comm. Philipp

1. Agrees 100% with Comm. Richardson.

2. Bids for Engine. Will discuss later, personally has a concern with only one bid coming in. Is it a fair price?

C. Comm. Lahey

1. Received a copy of Campaign letter, did not receive one as a recipient. Politics makes strange actions. Hopes this was just a politicking thing.

D. Comm. Chiumento

1. Service Award contract with Penflex. Discussed with Jim Passikoff. Basic service of keeping track, how much we need to contribute, providing statements.

A motion was made by Comm. Richardson and seconded by Comm. McCourt to approve the contract with Penflex.

- Motion Carried.

2. Manning of third ambulance - Discussion of hours, number of hires, etc.

A motion was made by Comm. Richardson and seconded by Comm. Chiumento to continue to man the third ambulance through January 11, 2000 for reconsideration.

- Motion Carried.

E. Comm. McCourt

1. Last meeting as a Commissioner, wanted to thank the rest of the Board, members, paid and volunteer for working together for the past five years.

IX. **CHIEFS ITEMS/COMMENTS**

A. Chief John Hellmann

1. Memos from the Chief's Council

A. Staffing of Station 5 - Chief's Council requests manning Monday - Friday with the hours 07:00 - 17:00.

B. "On the Quiet" Policy - Chief's Council wants Board to accept this policy. Discussion of Silent Running with AC Averill and the Board. Board will work with the Chief's Council to make policy.

2. Bid for new engine - Chief's Council recommends to accept bid.

A. Discussion of E-One specs.

A motion was made by Comm. Richardson and seconded by Comm. Philipp to put the bid on hold pending further investigation of other possible vendors.

- Motion Carried.

B. Deputy Chief Pells

1. Station 3 renovations are well underway.
 - Comm. McCourt stated that its torn apart, sheet rock in place, moved telephone system and plectron. Stated that captains windows, two windows in ready room, and floor in ready room was not figured in. Replacement of ceiling tile and installation for energy efficiency. Need new prices.

A motion was made by Comm. Richardson and seconded by Comm. Phillip to direct Comm. McCourt to get new prices.

- Motion Carried.

2. 46 back in service.
3. New ambulance in service today.
4. Presented Avis building plans to the Board.
Discussion of area space with Avis building and Boardman Road area.
5. Don Wells of Vassar College is retiring.
6. One (1) Personnel Item for Executive Session.

X. **ITEMS / COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**

A. EMS Director John Kloepfer

1. Fourth ambulance in service.

B. Assistant Chief Tony Alongi

1. Two (2) for Executive Session.

C. Assistant Chief Bob Averill

1. Discussion of recommended courses for Assistant Chiefs
2. Chief's Council had discussed Firefighter / EMT's needing daytime relief for Croft.

- Comm. Richardson stated that he would like to have

a special meeting to discuss manning of the Boardman Road site with ALS. Also possibly moving EMS operations in that area.

D. Director of Volunteer Recruitment Larry Rosen

1. One application - has not received all information back.

A motion was made by Comm. Richardson and seconded by Comm. McCourt to approve Frederick Branot, FF/EMS for Station 4 pending background check on his employment be returned ok.

- Motion Carried.

2. Remote Reporting is online - records all emergency responses by emergency personnel in district, service awards related non emergency activities, etc. Company Captain and Company Officers can access this program.
Individuals can log in and view training responses, service award points and inventory they have accumulated through the year.

E. Treasurer Jim Passikoff

1. Stated that we are doing ok for the year. Payroll was high last week due to medical reimbursements, sick days, etc.

Comm. Chiumento added that he wanted to approve the service award point system amendments. Comm. Richardson stated that he wanted to make a change under Administrative. He wants to add District President with 15 points.

A motion was made by Comm. Richardson and seconded by Comm. McCourt to approve the service award point system with the aforementioned amendment.

- Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Comm. Lahey and seconded by Comm. Philipp that we adjourn to Executive Session at 10:05 p.m.

- Motion Carried.

XI. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:52 p.m and returned to Open Session.

XII. **ABSTRACT 12A**

A motion was made by Comm. Philipp and seconded by Comm. Richardson to approve Abstract 12A in the amount of \$91,132.02, consisting of 152 transactions charged to 45 accounts.

- Motion Carried.

XIII. **SALARIES**

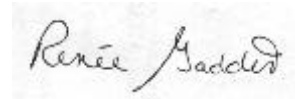
A motion was made by Comm. Richardson and seconded by Comm. McCourt to authorize a raise of fifty cents per hour for Renee Gaddis and Debbie Miliambro effective the first paycheck week of the year.

- Motion Carried.

Chief Hellmann wanted to thank the Board for the support of the Chief's Council and look forward to next year. Also wishes everyone a happy and healthy holiday season. Board wishes the same.

With no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Comm. McCourt and seconded by Comm. Chiumento that we adjourn at 10:55 p.m.

- Motion Carried.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Renee Gaddis". The ink is dark and the signature is written on a light-colored background.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee Gaddis
District Secretary