



Arlington Fire District

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For Emergencies
DIAL 911

“Safeguarding Our Community”

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES December 21, 2020

ATTENDEES:

Comm. Ralph Chiumento, Jr. – Chairman
Comm. Jon Adams
Comm. Bruce Griffing, II – (absent)
Comm. Peter Valdez – Vice Chairman
Comm. Peter Longi

Chief: William Steenbergh
Assistant Chief: Eric Philipp
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 reminded everyone to silence their cell phones. 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. Valdez to accept Abstract 20–12B. That would be for unpaid bills, \$287,499.47, that’s 54. Paid bills, \$0 for a total of 54 checks for the sum of \$287,499.47. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

A. **December 7, 2020 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting**

A motion was made by Comm. Adams to approve the December 7, 2020 Board of Fire Commissioners' meeting minutes. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

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

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

1. E-mail dated December 4, 2020 from Glens Falls National Bank regarding “Investment Update”.

2. Authorize the payment of \$7,856 for standard year end Service Award Program fees to PenFlex; to come out of the AFD LOSAP Trust Fund.

A motion was made by Comm. Chimento to approve the payment to PenFlex of \$7,856 even from the Service Awards Trust Fund for their services for 2020. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

B. District Inspections – Comm. Longi & Comm. Adams

C. District Officers / Chief Liaison – Comm. Chimento & Comm. Longi

D. EMS & Paramedic Liaison – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Chimento

E. Public Relations – Comm. Adams & Comm. Chimento

F. Equipment Maintenance – Comm. Longi & Comm. Griffing

G. Buildings and Grounds – Comm. Adams & Comm. Longi

H. Capital Equipment – Comm. Chimento & Comm. Longi

I. Union Negotiations & Contract – Comm. Griffing & Comm. Chimento

J. Career Staff Liaison – Comm. Griffing & Comm. Chimento

K. Volunteer Recruitment – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Griffing

L. District Safety & Health – Comm. Griffing & Comm. Adams

M. Strategic Plan – Comm. Adams & Comm. Valdez

N. Finance Committee – Comm. Chimento & Comm. Griffing

O. IT Operations Committee – Comm. Griffing & Comm. Longi

P. Croft Lease – Comm. Valdez & Comm. Longi

Q. Rochdale Lease – Comm. Chimento & Comm. Longi

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

A. E-mail dated December 4, 2020 from Matt Schlossberg of Croft Corners Fire Company, submitting the Annual Meeting minutes from the December 3, 2020 Department Election.

B. Received the results of the Commissioner Election held on December 7, 2020.

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

- A. Letter dated December 1, 2020 from Tyler North of Rochdale Fire Company resigning as a member.

Comm. Longi moved the motion to accept the resignation. Seconded by Comm. Adams.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

- B. E-mail dated December 15, 2020 from Leslie Carroll of Engine Co. #1 requesting to have Thomas Soja dropped from the roles.

Comm. Adams moved the motion. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

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

<u>NAME</u>	<u>REASON</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Magdalena Ivich	Christmas Donation	\$100.00

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to accept the donation and place it in the General Fund. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

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

- A. Comm. Chiumento reported that interviews were conducted tonight and will discuss in Executive Session

X. **DISTRICT STAFF ITEMS**

- A. Chief – William Steenbergh
1. Thanked Comm. Adams for his invaluable knowledge to the Fire District and to the community.
 2. Director of EMS Violante is requesting to roll over his vacation time of 120 hours due to COVID. Has a contractual cap, but is needed during this time.

A motion was made by Comm. Chiumento to allow EMS Director Violante to carry over an additional 120 hours of benefit time this year due to the pandemic and the need to have him in place. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried. 4 – 0

- B. Assistant Chief – Eric Philipp
1. Thanked Comm. Adams for his service and wished him good luck. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

- C. Director of EMS David Violante
1. COVID vaccination plan for NYS is starting its regional roll out early next week. Pushing to be vaccinated along with other healthcare workers. Will follow-up with the Board.
 2. COVID is out there and asking everyone to be diligent with wearing face masks, using hand sanitizer, etc.
 3. Part of a Regional COVID Task Force along with other municipal health departments and organizations in the six county region.
 4. Was away a couple of weeks ago; thanked everyone who helped out keeping the EMS Department going. Special thanks to Shannon for keeping things stocked and maintaining the ordering.
 5. Thanked Comm. Adams for his perspective that was needed, his tremendous support and knowledge.

D. Treasurer James Passikoff – no report

XI. **SCHOOL REQUESTS**

No school requests were submitted.

XII. **ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A. Chief Steenbergh

1. Six (6) items related to the employment history of individuals.

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

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:15 p.m.

XIII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to Open Session. (no time was given)

XIV. **OPEN ITEMS**

As a result of Executive Session, a motion was made by Comm. Chiumento, in order of seniority, offer the position of Firefighter to Eric Kelly, Steven Rancourt, Joseph Bedetti, Manuel Villa-Ortiz and Tyler Coyle *with a date to be determined by the Chief. (amended at the 01/04/21 meeting)*. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

With no other business to conduct, a motion was made by Comm. Valdez to adjourn the meeting.
Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

No time given when the meeting adjourned.

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: 12-21-2020
