



Arlington Fire District

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

Business: (845) 486-6300

Fax: (845) 486-6322

For Emergencies
DIAL 911

"Safeguarding Our Community"

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES December 19, 2024

ATTENDEES:

Comm. Richard Dore – Chairman
Comm. Ralph Chimento, Jr. – Vice Chairman
Comm. Peter Valdez – (absent)
Comm. Phil Van Itallie
Comm. Sean Jackson – (absent)

Chief:	William Steenbergh
Deputy Chief:	Adam Kangas
Assistant Chief:	Eric Philipp – (excused)
Director of EMS:	David Violante – (excused)
District Secretary:	Renee O'Neill – (excused)
Treasurer:	James Passikoff – (excused)

Chairman Dore opened the Arlington Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners' special meeting at 5:00 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.*
2. **COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD** – *No action(s) taken by the Board, unless otherwise noted.*
3. **COMMISSIONERS ITEMS** – *No reports and/or discussions unless otherwise noted.*
 - A. Consideration of the proposed Local 2393 contract

Chairman Dore read a statement from Comm. Jackson (in his absence) indicating that he is in favor of the proposed contract.

Comm. Van Itallie is concerned about the incidents not being reported on the AFD website to show accuracy of how many calls we do. Chief Steenbergh reported that the new software vendor is currently working on updated report so the District Secretary can update the website. It's a work in progress.

Comm. Chiumento reported on some of the major changes to the contract:

Last three years, there was 0% percent raises. Next year, will be a 0% percent raise. The following year will be a 2% and then subsequent years will be 3%.

To offset raises, there were provisions to reduce costs:

HRA cards reduced by \$500 starting in 2027;

Health care contributions will begin in 2027 and will max out to \$3,000 per member with those less than 20 years of service in 2030. Increase over the portion of the new contract.

Discussed the manning with house Captains, staffing levels and the reduction of overtime with the additional Officers.

Linen Reimbursement has been eliminated.

New vacation schedule for new hires starting on January 1st, which was reduced and will reduce overtime because they can't take off and don't need to replace them.

Sick day cash in for raises that phases in. Eliminates large cash payouts at retirement. The raise received is about 50% value of the sick day, the other 50% goes to pension costs and the savings to the District. Any remaining sick days will be cashed out at 50% and not the current 100% value. Members using the option in the old contract now have the option of this in the new contract, which is why this contact needed to be considered tonight.

Stipends are now rolled into the salaries for transparency.

Benefit time earned quarterly instead of once in the beginning of the year, so if someone retires in January, they only get ¼ not a full year.

Really worked to save on overtime and contribution in health care is groundbreaking. Some language changes; agreed to adopt a new alcohol/drug policy, a new maternity policy within the next three months.

Chairman Dore stated that if anyone has questions, to call Arlington Fire District HQ or come to a Board meeting on the first or third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at HQ which is open to the public.

The Board had no items for Executive Session.

Comm. Chiumento made a motion to approve the proposed Local 2393 contract. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0 – 0

With no further business to conduct, Comm. Chiumento made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0 – 0

Meeting adjourned at 5:21 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: 12-19-24
