



Arlington Fire District

11 Burnett Boulevard
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For Emergencies
DIAL 911

"Safeguarding Our Community"

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES September 27, 2021

ATTENDEES:

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

Chief: William Steenbergh
Assistant Chief: Eric Philipp – (arrived at 7:07 p.m.)
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*

(Assistant Chief Philipp arrived at 7:07 p.m.)

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 approve Abstract 21-9B. This consists of \$2,590.09 in paid bills with a total of 5 checks and \$73,275.74 in unpaid bills with a total of 35 checks for a grand total of \$75,865.83, totaling 40 checks. Seconded by Comm. Griffing.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

A. **September 13, 2021 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting**

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to approve the minutes from the September 13, 2021 Board of Fire Commissioners' meeting. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0 – 1 (Comm. Griffing abstained)

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

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

1. Received from Glens Falls National Bank:

A. Statement of Value & Activity for August 2021

B. Investment Update

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

C. District Officers / Chief Liaison – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Dore

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

E. Public Relations – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Dore

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

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

H. Capital Equipment – Comm. Chiumento & Comm. Dore

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

J. Career Staff Liaison – Comm. Dore & Comm. Chiumento

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

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

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

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

1. Received September 25, 2021, the 2022 Preliminary Budget from Treasurer Passikoff.

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

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

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

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

A. Received Commissioner Richard Dore's certificate of completion dated September 15, 2021 for the required Commissioner Training Course.

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

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

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

- A. Board to set time and place for the Annual Budget Hearing on any reasonable day during the third week of October (as amended to Town Law §181[3][a]).

A motion was made by Comm. Chiumento to set the time and date of the Annual Budget Hearing to be October 20, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Red Oaks Mill firehouse. Seconded by Comm. Griffing.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

- B. Adopt proposed budget for 2022, including fund balance estimate for 2021 on or before September 28th as per Town Law §181[2].

Chairman Chiumento reported that the current preliminary budget is in the amount of \$20,362,000 which \$19,418,000 is to be raised by real estate taxes; under the tax cap; .238 cents per thousand decrease in the tax levy. The retirement numbers have not come in yet and it could change things. He gave a brief overview of the numbers.

A motion was made by Comm. Griffing to adopt the 2022 budget. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

Comm. Chiumento wanted to confirm the preliminary budget includes the fund balance. As per Treasurer Passikoff, yes.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

X. **DISTRICT STAFF ITEMS**

- A. Chief William Steenbergh

1. 2021 Fire Prevention School Program – In 2019, Battalion Chief George Finn did 10 elementary schools and 4 nursery schools utilizing the fire safety trailer, fire apparatus and presentations. Over 3,000 students were educated with the assistance of on duty staff and 96 hours of overtime. In 2020, there was no fire prevention in the schools due to COVID. The schools are requesting the fire prevention program for 2021. He is respecting their restrictions and we made the decision not to utilize the fire safety trailer due to close proximity of the children and timing to disinfect. He is requesting 62 hours overtime. Chief recommends approval to educate the children and be out in the community.

A motion was made by Comm. Chiumento to authorize that. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

2. Request from the Union to wear Breast Cancer Awareness t-shirts for the month of October; same logo.

A motion was made by Comm. Longi to approve the use of the special shirts for the month. Seconded by Comm. Griffing.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

3. “Hearts of Heroes” TV program contacted us to request permission to film in front of Red Oaks Mill for an intro and wrap up episode. There will be no disruption in our daily operations.
OK’d by the Board.
4. Our old firehouse on Main Street was renovated into apartments and the developer contacted us. They are holding a dedication ceremony tentatively on October 26th at noon and they will be placing a plaque on the building recognizing it as the old firehouse. We will be participating. Encouraged those that can attend to do so.

B. Assistant Chief Eric Philipp – No report.

C. Director of EMS David Violante – No report.

D. Treasurer James Passikoff

1. Chairman Chiumento acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer’s August 31, 2021 Financial Report for the District.

XI. SCHOOL REQUESTS

The following member(s) have been approved by Chief Steenbergh to attend the following school request(s) in advance of the Board of Fire Commissioners meeting and are located inside or outside of Dutchess County; is either contractually required or required to maintain certification; and have a registration cost of no more than \$100. For Commissioners notification purposes only:

- A. Gary Lewis: “MOBEX – NYSTF2” September 29, 2021 in Oriskany, NY. (No cost)
- B. “EVOC”, October 5 – 23, 2021 at LaGrange FD. (No cost)
 1. Dylan Sumski
 2. Carlos Gonzalez
 3. Gregory Brevetti
- C. “PALS”, October 1, 2021 at ROM. (No cost)
 1. Joseph Myers
 2. Seth Goldstein
 3. Justin Carlon

The following school request requires consideration by the Board of Fire Commissioners:
There were no school requests submitted for Board consideration.

XII. ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Chief Steenbergh – One (1) item 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. Longi to adjourn to Executive Session. Seconded by Comm. Griffing.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:28 p.m.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:50 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. Longi to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Comm. Griffing.

- 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: 9-27-21

J RICHARDSON	
PHIL VAN LITTLE	