



Arlington Fire District

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For Emergencies
DIAL 911

"Safeguarding Our Community"

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES January 4, 2021

ATTENDEES:

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

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 7:15 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. Longi to approve Abstract 21-1A. This consists of \$29,161.44 in paid bills with a total of 10 checks and \$28,120.54 in unpaid bills with a total of 30 checks for a grand total of \$57,281.98, totaling 40 checks. Seconded by Comm. Dore.

District Secretary O'Neill reported that there is a \$60.00 difference than what was posted online. There was an error in one of the vouchers in the unpaid bills.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

IV. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

A. **December 21, 2020 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting**

1. Clarify the language in the motion of the five hires. "With a start date to be determined by the Chief" should be added.

"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. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- *Motion Carried, 4 – 0"*

A motion was made by Comm. Valdez to approve that with the change in language. Seconded by Comm. Longi.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0 – 2 (Comm. Griffing and Comm. Dore abstained)

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

A. Service Awards –

1. Comm. Valdez reported that we received one e-mail dated December 18, 2020 from Glens Falls National Bank regarding "Investment Update and Year in Review".

B. District Inspections –

C. District Officers / Chief Liaison –

D. EMS & Paramedic Liaison –

E. Public Relations –

F. Equipment Maintenance –

G. Buildings and Grounds –

H. Capital Equipment –

I. Union Negotiations & Contract –

J. Career Staff Liaison –

K. Volunteer Recruitment –

L. District Safety & Health –

M. Strategic Plan –

N. Finance Committee –

O. IT Operations Committee –

P. Croft Lease –

Q. Rochdale Lease –

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

A. Received "*Fire District Affairs: December 2020 – January 2021*".

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*

X. **DISTRICT STAFF ITEMS**

A. Chief – William Steenbergh

1. Congratulated and welcomed back Comm. Dore.
2. A revised November Financial Report has been received by the Treasurer due to some misallocated funds; totals were correct, but were in the wrong budget lines. Has been corrected and posted on the website.
3. Tyler Coyle, whom the Board approved for appointment at the last meeting has decided to not accept the position. Will discuss in Executive Session what the Board would like to do.
4. Year end Service Awards numbers have been distributed to the companies. Individual reports are being worked on and will be provided this week.
5. Construction in hallway being done at HQ by the Fire Prevention Office. Thanked the Local for all the work.
6. Meeting with the four Company Presidents this Thursday to discuss ongoing hiccups and delays with getting volunteer applications processed. Will report back in the future.
7. 3rd Monday of January is Martin Luther King Day – next BOFC meeting will be the 25th instead of the 18th.
8. Received a phone call regarding a volunteer writing an email to the the County Executive regarding AFD and a plan in place for the disbandment of AFD volunteers. Chief reiterated that there is absolutely no plan to disband the volunteers and is upset that this person did not come to him, the Assistant Chief or the Board to discuss first.

B. Assistant Chief – Eric Philipp

1. Welcomed Comm. Dore back to the Board and looks forward to 2021.

C. Director of EMS David Violante

1. COVID update – different infectious strain made its way into NY; continues to work with EMS Leadership and the COVID Task Force; sends out information to everyone when it becomes

available; our EMS providers are currently in process of being vaccinated.

D. Treasurer James Passikoff

1. Revised November Financial Report sent out.
2. One (1) personnel item for Executive Session. (*Note: not a valid reason for Executive Session*)

XI. **SCHOOL REQUESTS**

No school requests were submitted for consideration.

XII. **ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A. Chief Steenbergh

1. Including Treasurer Passikoff's item; One (1) item related to potential litigation.
2. Fourteen (14) items related to the employment history of individuals.

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, 5 – 0

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:30 p.m.

XIII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:27 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. Dore.

- Motion Carried, 5 – 0

No time was provided 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: 1-4-21
