

FIRE ISLAND PINES FIRE DISTRICT

P.O. Box 193
Sayville, New York 11782
631-597-6860

Fire District Commissioners' Meeting

Fire Island Pines Fire House
October 26, 2019

Present

Board Chairman, Commissioner Richard Barry
Commissioner Walter Boss
Commissioner Rosemary Coluccio
Commissioner Francis Corradino
Commissioner Douglas Teague
Secretary/Treasurer Patrick Forrett
Fire Island Pines Fire Department Chief Joseph Geiman

Order

The meeting was called to order by Comm. Barry at 12:30.

Minutes

Comm. Boss noted that the September 19, 2019 minutes did not include a motion to purchase a thousand feet of hose to replace the hose that failed in the previous hose test. This was agreed to by e-mail among the Commissioners.

MOTION: Comm. Boss moved to allocate of up to \$4,000 for the purchase of one thousand feet of three-inch hose to replace the hose that failed in earlier testing. Comm. Barry seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

MOTION: Comm. Corradino moved to accept the September 21, 2019 minutes. Comm. Boss seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Correspondence Review

- Check from VFIS \$415 for the window that was in Truck 9A when it was lost.
- Check from VFIS for \$917.44 for the portable equipment that was in Truck 9A when it was lost.
- Received LOSAP paperwork for Monica Resillez; Comm. Barry will sign and take care of this.
- Ostensible letter of credit: is this legitimate? Forrett to provide current TD Bank contacts to Comm. Barry, who will follow up.
- Tax-free card from Staples has arrived. Forrett has an electronic copy.
- Signed contract from Town of Brookhaven for Water Island Fire District; Forrett has scanned and placed a copy on OneDrive; Comm. Barry will file the hard copy securely.
- Bills: BofA, PSEG, Verizon; other, typical vendors

Secretary / Treasurer's report

- Budget to Actual Report
- Invoice and expenditure list
- Referendum reports
- Monthly banking reconciliations done to September 30 (TD Bank) or October 19 (Peoples' United Bank)

Comm. Coluccio noted that funds had been allocated this year for consulting work, \$500 of which has not yet been spent. In addition, Comm. Barry noted that we had budgeted in past years for ISO certification work.

MOTION: Comm. Barry moved to pay Bo Fridsberg \$1,000 for the 2019 ISO rating review. Comm. Coluccio seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

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Comms. Barry and Corradino noted that during the ISO review it was suggested that we maintain records on one-on-one training with probationary members and officers. It was noted that some other Fire Districts keep a spreadsheet on the training. This would help us to score higher on our next ISO review.

MOTION: Comm. Teague moved to accept the Treasurer's reports. Comm. Corradino seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Chief's report

Review of alarms, drills and meetings; Chief's comments and requests.

Alarms:

- #3713 – 9/07/2019 – The ocean @ Ivy Walk, Cherry Grove – service call – FIP Fire Department Truck 9A in ocean
- #3714 – 9/07/2019 – Pines Harbor near freight dock – police assistance – aided case
- #3715 – 9/08/2019 – 6 Ocean Walk – automatic alarm – Coop's
- #3716 – 9/13/2019 – I/V/O 554 Beachcomber Walk – outside odor
- #3717 – 9/16/2019 – 637 Fire Island Blvd. – working structure fire
- #3718 – 9/17/2019 – 637 Fire Island Blvd. – structure fire (rekindled)
- #3719 – 9/28/2019 – 152 Cedar Walk – report of a gas leak, in fact was a water leak
- #3720 – 10/01/2019 – Mutual aid to Davis Park F.D. – CO alarm.
- #3721 – 10/16/2019 – Mutual Aid to Cherry Grove F.D. – automatic alarm
- #3722 – 10/17/2019 – Mutual Aid to Ocean Bay Park F.D. – working structure fire
- #3723 – 10/17/2019 – 37 Fire Island Blvd. – automatic alarm
- #3724 – 10/17/2019 – Mutual Aid to Cherry Grove F.D. – automatic alarm

Meetings:

- #1133 – 9/21/2019 – Fall FIPPOA meeting
- #1134 – 10/05/2019 – Department meeting
- #1135 – 10/24/2019 – Record of various organizational meetings attended by members for all of 2019

Drills:

- #1122 – 9/14/2019 – #13 – CPR / AED / choking
- #1123 – 9/18/2019 – Alt. #6 – On-scene critique of fire / Firehouse review of equipment
- #1124 – 9/20/2019 – Yaphank training – flashover simulator
- #1125 – 10/05/2019 – #14 – thermal imaging camera / CO detector / LPG / electrical hazards

Work detail:

None

Requests / comments:

1. LOSAP Report attached
2. ISO Review 10/25/2019
3. Ordered 1000' of 3" hose from Firematic Supply to replace 750' of blown hose for Truck 5-28-1
4. Truck 5-28-1 is back in service following the resolution of its pump problem – pump test / hose test
5. Hydrant adapters received for the Water Island hydrant steamer; these remain to be changed to 4" by SCWA.
6. Pending equipment repairs: 3 Motorola PR860 handheld portables
7. We received two sets of spine board straps.
8. Request reimbursement for FF1 training for Probationary Firefighter Anthony Hird - \$702.19.
9. Automatic mutual aid is in effect as of 10/01/2019. We have postponed **receiving** automatic mutual aid till 11/01/2019 because of the beach replenishment project.
10. Department officers placed cap on auxiliary members at 20.
11. Thank-you letters sent to eight fire departments / Community Ambulance / Sayville Ferry Service / and FRES for response to the fire in FIP (637 Fire Island Boulevard) on 9/16/19.

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12. SCBA flow testing – half done, second half to go out next week
13. Beach replenishment project: all walkways to ocean have been removed or damaged with the exception of the walkway at Coast Guard Walk.
14. Busy season so far: 62 alarms, three working structure fires in the past six weeks.

Membership status:

- Probationary Firefighters Brenner and Hird are preparing for their FF1 Final Exam, 11/09/2019.
- Firefighter Andrew Jung has been reclassified to a Class B Firefighter and given a written disciplinary letter.
- New member, Fire Auxiliary Rich Lopez of 30 Fire Island Boulevard, is submitted for Board approval.
- Leave of Absence is granted to Firefighter Rob Sperte from 7/1/2019 – 12/31/2019.

MOTION: Comm. Corradino moved to approve new Auxiliary Firefighter Rich Lopez. Comm. Teague seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Apparatus/Equipment/Radios – Commissioner Teague

Comm. Teague noted that Truck 5-28-1 is back in service, the hose testing is done. We are in the process of testing scott packs and fire extinguishers. As mentioned earlier, there was quite a bit of hose that failed; this hosing has been removed from the truck, and 1000 feet of replacement hose has been ordered. This will be wrapped up in the coming weeks.

Comm. Teague noted that SCWA will be exchanging the steamer connections in Water Island to the standard ones once they receive them, but we have the necessary adapters until then.

Comm. Teague noted that we need an interim replacement for 9A, or some sort of people-mover, as the purchase of a new truck is a few months away. Mechanic Furchert and his crew need a way back and forth to the beach as the ferry schedule is very limited until the spring. Comm. Teague recommends we find a used basic utility or chief's truck and leave it on the mainland for part chasing, meetings and training.

Chief Geiman, Comm. Teague and Mechanic Furchert will look around locally for a used truck that can be purchased economically and used as a people-mover. Comm. Teague noted that the Bayport Fire Department is auctioning off a used vehicle that might be suitable. Mechanic Furchert will inspect the vehicle, and Comm. Teague will relay an opinion on whether and how much we should bid on it.

MOTION: Comm. Corradino moved to spend an amount not to exceed the insurance proceeds (\$11,594) from the loss of Truck 9A for the purchase of a used vehicle to be used as a people-mover. Comm. Boss seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

MOTION: Comm. Boss moved that we allocate an amount up to \$55,000 from our reserve savings to purchase a new vehicle to replace Truck 9A, as specified below. Comm. Teague seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

- The proposed truck is a 2020, gas-powered Ford F250 4 × 4, to include a tommy gate lift, trailer tow, and all necessary Fire Island Pines Fire Department decaling and lettering

Forrett is to post notice of the Passive Referendum in regards to this reserve allocation and purchase in the local Comm.

Coluccio noted that it would be preferable for budget purposes to issue the check for this purchase before the end of the 2019 fiscal year. Comm. Barry said he would know the total purchase price before the end of the year.

The Commissioners returned to the question about the sirens on the east and west ends of the Pines, which are not currently working. Comms. Corradino and Boss noted that many residents have told them they want the sirens to be functional, and the question was also brought up at the September FIPPOA meeting. It was decided that, in the interest of public safety and community communication, it is worthwhile to get the east and west end sirens working again. Comm. Teague will research the cost, including, but not limited to, pole requirements, radio

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requirements, and siren replacement and/or repairs, and the Board will make a determination and vote at the December 2019 meeting.

Chief Geiman noted that we have no hose clamps, and he would like to have one for each pump truck. He noted that a Fire District upstate is being shut down and is selling hose clamps by auction, and he suggested a bid of \$150 each for two clamps. Bids are due by December 15.

MOTION: Comm. Boss moved to allocate up to \$300 for a bid for the two hose clamps. Comm. Teague seconded, and all were in favor. Comm. Barry will place the bid closer to the bid due date.

Also, noted, if we can obtain for a good price, we could use a positive pressure ventilation fan with its own generator.

Lastly, we have a contractor for snow removal. Comm. Barry is to send him a note confirming the arrangement.

Budgets – Commissioner Coluccio

Comm. Corradino noted that, aside from himself, no voting member of the community appeared at the budget hearing (3 – 5 PM on Tuesday, October 15).

Comm. Coluccio proposed a 2020 budget of \$452,762 funded by a property tax of \$410,162, and the balance from the Water Island fire protection contract and from the minimal interest income we receive throughout the year.

Of note:

- an increase in personnel expenses;
- Department equipment purchases as per the list from Chief Geiman;
- bond payment is fixed;
- auditor may request a small increase, but that has not yet happened;
- the annual dinner budget is back to the normal level (2019 was a milestone anniversary year);
- building and LHW repairs are increased to approx. \$20,000;
- reducing the landscaping budget modestly because much of the big work was done in 2019;
- adding \$7,000 to fire alarm maintenance budget to get the east- and west-end sirens working again;
- increase in medical exams and physicals because of two new members;
- increase in Social Security and Medicare;
- we need to estimate the cost of writing an employee handbook.

Comm. Coluccio noted this budget is slightly lower than the 2019 budget and brings us nowhere near our 2% tax cap, (which doesn't prevent us from increasing the budget in 2021, if necessary).

Comm. Barry noted that Mechanic Furchert asked for a 2% increase for next year: to be decided in the December meeting.

MOTION: Comm. Corradino moved to approve and accept Comm. Coluccio's proposed budget. Comm. Boss seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Records – Commissioners Coluccio, Corradino

Nothing to note.

Insurance – Commissioner Barry

Comm. Barry has been dealing with the aftermath of the loss of Truck 9A: the junk yard, insurance adjuster, claims manager. We have obtained a new title for the vehicle; this was forwarded to the insurance carrier, who informs us the claim check was cut last Thursday (October 24), so we should receive it this week.

Comms. Barry, Teague and Corradino coordinated the final ISO review, which took place on October 18. Comm. Barry thanked Chief Geiman, Bo Fridsberg, Mechanic Chris Furchert, David Seeds and Comm. Teague and Comm. Corradino for their assistance.

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Comm. Barry coordinated with NDI to arrange for the department physical exams on May 9, 2020.

Comm. Barry supplied Percy Hoek the department and auxiliary members' driver's license information.

Comm. Barry contacted Verizon to ensure the FIP Fire District is listed in the white pages of the phone directory. Verizon assured us that we were, and Comm. Coluccio noted that the white pages listing is part of the service that we are paying for. Comm. Barry noted that being listed in both the blue and white pages of the directory is viewed favorably in an ISO review.

The Board agreed to a date and time of Sunday, January 12, 2020 at 10 AM for its annual organizational meeting, and March 14, 2020 at 10 AM for its early spring meeting, both to take place in West Sayville. Forrett is to confirm the dates with the West Sayville-Oakdale Fire District for the use of its Commissioners' Meeting Room.

Public Relations/LOSAP/Alarms/ISO – Commissioner Boss

Nothing to note.

Grounds– Commissioner Corradino

Comm. Corradino plans to close the Annex after November 10, as per the Chief's request.

Comm. Corradino noted that we have received a quote for three Leland spruce trees to fill in the empty part of the Annex grounds and to provide privacy from the Boulevard. The quote is \$270 a piece, including delivery and planting. Comm. Corradino asked to have this voted on in order to begin the ordering process (it takes three to four months to procure the trees and prepare for shipment), but confirmed the actual allocation will come from the 2020 budget.

MOTION: Comm. Boss moved to allocate \$900 for the three Leland spruce trees for the Annex. Comm. Coluccio seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Comm. Corradino received an estimate of \$800 to remove the pine tree that is banging on and damaging the shed. He noted the Board could vote on this at the next meeting because the removal would not happen until December.

Comm. Corradino noted the building repair RFP was distributed to: Vincent Pepe Construction (declined verbally), William Katen Construction, Crellory Property Management (declined verbally), Don Kohlhepp, Edward Isaacson Construction (declined verbally), Lone Hill Construction (no acknowledgement or reply). We have received responses from Don Kohlhepp, and William Katen.

Comm. Corradino opened the responses. Forrett is to scan and e-mail the responses to the Commissioners for review and consideration. Comms. Corradino and Boss will meet during the coming week to review together.

Comm. Corradino noted that the cleaning of firehouse and 32 Lone Hill Walk is done for season. The last landscape maintenance bill has been submitted (vouchered and approved at the meeting).

Comm. Teague asked when the water should be drained from the old Firehouse building. Chief Geiman said it could be done at any time.

OLD BUSINESS:

Nothing to note.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nothing to note.

Order

Meeting adjourned by Comm. Barry at 14:38.