

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
34 Fire Island Boulevard
Fire Island Pines, NY 11782
October 24, 2020

Present

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

Order

Meeting called to order by Comm. Barry at 10:10 AM.

Minutes

Review of October 3 meeting minutes

MOTION: After a brief discussion, Comm. Boss moved to accept the October 3 minutes. Comm. Corradino seconded the motion; all were in favor, and the motion passed.

Correspondence Review

Utilities: Verizon, PSEG, SCWA

Forrett informed the board that the unused PSEG meter for which we had received an estimated bill in early September was the meter for the west-end siren. He also informed the Board that PSEG shut down that meter and issued a final bill, which was in this meeting's vouchers.

Forrett also informed the Board that we have received payment from the Town of Brookhaven for the Water Island Fire Protection District.

Bills: Sayville Ferries, Westin's Marine

Others: –none–

Secretary / Treasurer's reports

- Monthly banking reconciliations
 - PUB accounts to October 19
- Invoice review, expenditure list
- Budget to actual (with ongoing modifications)
- Motions list
- Payments update – late-October vouchers
- Referenda updates
- Capturing motions done by e-mail
 - None this time around

MOTION: Comm. Coluccio moved to transfer \$42,500 from the operating account to our reserves. Comm. Corradino seconded the motion; all were in favor, and the motion passed.

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MOTION: After a brief discussion, Comm. Coluccio moved to pay \$26,707 to VFIS as our 2020 LOSAP contribution. Comm. Boss seconded the motion; all were in favor, and the motion passed.

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

Chief's report

ALARMS:

#3769 – 10/9/2020 – 37 Fire Island Blvd. – automatic alarm

MEETINGS:

None

DRILLS:

None

WORK DETAIL:

#1153 – 10/17/2020 – Removed water rescue bags – Water Island and Fire Island Pines

Membership Status:

Nothing

Requests / Comments:

1. LOSAP Report for October 2020 up to 10/24.
2. Request approval to pay repair bill for two Motorola PR860 portable radios @ \$45.00 each from Integrated Wireless Technologies. Total – \$90.00.
3. Our MSA Solaris Multi-Gas Meter is no longer repairable. Received a price quote from Firematic Supply to replace it for \$826.42 for a similar meter. I do not think we need to replace it with such an expensive meter that does more than what we need it for. Requesting that we replace it with a Pyle PCMM05 Hand-Held Carbon Monoxide Meter from Amazon at a price of \$84.99, which is identical to our other meter.
4. During off-island Hose testing we lost two 100' length 3" yellow hose and one 25'-length 3" yellow hose: one 100'-length from 5-28-4 and one 100' length and one 25'-length from 5-28-1.
5. 5-28-4 and 5-28-1 have passed their pump tests.
6. Reminder, we are 9 weeks away from our sirens being shut down forever.
7. Two-thirds of the SCBA air packs are complete from flow testing. Last group off now.
8. Need an emergency purchase of a supply line that failed on 5-28-1. It is a 15'-length 3" yellow double jacketed hose.

MOTION: After discussion, Comm. Teague moved to allocate \$90 to pay the Integrated Wireless Technologies invoice for the repair of two Motorola PR860 radios. Comm. Boss seconded the motion; all were in favor, and the motion passed.

MOTION: After discussion, Comm. Corradino moved to allocate up to \$100 to purchase the requested CO meter from Amazon. Comm. Boss seconded the motion; all were in favor, and the motion passed.

MOTION: After discussion, Comm. Corradino moved to allocate up to \$1,200 to purchase hose to replace what failed during hose testing. Comm. Coluccio seconded the motion; all were in favor, and the motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Apparatus/Equipment/Radios – Commissioner Teague

Comm. Teague inquired about the maintenance process and the age of our SCBA air packs. He noted that if they all failed at once, that would be an enormous financial burden on the District. Chief Geiman informed the Board that

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the packs are quite old, and he suggested that next year we start a program to replace a portion of them and keep doing so until the entire set is replaced, as we did with the air bottles.

Comm. Teague reiterated that 5-28-1 and 5-28-4 passed their pump tests with no problems. He did note, however, that the tank-to-pump valve on 5-28-1 has developed a small leak. It's not problematic at this point, and it had no impact on the pump testing, but it is indicative of the wear on the equipment.

Comm. Corradino asked if there was any news about the new pole promised by Verizon. Comm. Teague said no.

Budgets – Commissioner Coluccio

Comm. Coluccio noted her disappointment that notice of the budget hearing was not published in FIPPOA e-mails. Comm. Barry said he had spoken with Henry Robbin – the new FIPPOA President – about the budget hearing, the Department's excellent ISO rating, and that taxpayers should ensure the "Fire Island Pines Fire District" is listed on their homeowner's insurance bill, not the Sayville Fire District.

After discussion, the Board determined that the final payment related to the July 2016 Referendum will include \$130,000 in principal. Comm. Coluccio updated the proposed budget to reflect that number.

With that change, Comm. Coluccio presented a final budget proposal for the Board.

MOTION: after discussion, Comm. Corradino moved to accept the proposed budget as the final approved budget for fiscal 2021. Comm. Teague seconded the motion; all were in favor, and the motion passed.

Records – Commissioners Coluccio, Corradino

- None this month.

Membership – Commissioner Barry

- Sexual Harassment training was provided to the following members of the District Mechanic's staff:
 - Chris Furchert
 - Eric Scottaline
 - Dennis Maud
 - Jed Scofield

Forrett agreed to arrange a training session for the last two members, Tom Reilley and Ryan Massa.

Separately, the Board continued its discussion of allocating LOSAP points to members during the time of the Covid pandemic. It was decided to postpone the final decision until the December meeting when we will have a clearer idea of where Members stand with their LOSAP point tally for 2020.

Commissioner Barry discussed the idea of the District self-insuring the Members for whom it currently purchases a term life policy. He noted that, in a short time, the District will have fewer than ten members to insure, and when the number of insured falls below ten, the District loses its discount and the price of term life insurance rises dramatically. The District in the past has self-insured certain members who were close to the age of 55 rather than purchase a policy. After discussion it was agreed that we will pay the next half-yearly installment and revisit this topic again when we see what the cost of our new bill will be.

There was a discussion about raising LOSAP payments to bring them more in line with other area fire departments. Some departments pay up to \$30 a month per year of service; the average is probably around \$20, and we pay \$10. And while our alarm burden might be less than some other departments, our training and meeting requirements are very much in line with all our neighboring Districts. Comm Barry noted our LOSAP program is well funded, and that any increase would need to be approved by voters during the July 2021 election for implementation in calendar 2022.

Comm. Teague noted that LOSAP was originally intended as an incentive to participate in a volunteer department, and that this summer's response and attitude have been exceptional; perhaps this deserves a reward.

It was decided that Comm. Barry will provide Comm. Coluccio a copy of the new LOSAP census for analysis in February. He will also confer with our actuary for guidance, the discussion will continue afterward.

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Insurance – Commissioner Barry

Comm. Barry needs to finish the census for the cancer care coverage and send it to Cassandra Fritz.

Public Relations/LOSAP/Alarms/ ISO – Commissioner Boss

- None this month

Grounds – Commissioner Corradino

Comm. Corradino noted that the new microwave oven for the Annex had been delivered. Comm. Boss said that the installation would be completed that week.

Comm. Corradino also reminded the Board that, as discussed in previous meetings, we need to install a heater in the Old Firehouse because we will now be housing diesel-powered trucks there over the winter. Comms. Teague and Boss have discussed the best options, and they suggest installation of a propane heater in the building at an estimated cost of \$2,250.

MOTION: After a very brief discussion, Comm. Boss moved to allocate up to \$2,250 for the installation of a propane-fueled heater in the Old Firehouse. Comm. Corradino seconded the motion; all were in favor, and the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board heard a verbal suggestion from Dr. Edwin Schulhafer to engage on-site EMS staff – perhaps even establishing an ambulance district – much as is done in Cherry Grove and many other Fire Island communities. While an estimated budget is approximately \$75,000 per year, there is the possibility of receiving a large legacy donation to help set this team up.

Comm. Coluccio remarked that for the Board to consider anything, it needs to receive a fully developed proposal, including all the upfront costs to be borne by the District (medical carts, supplies, housing for the EMS staff, a place to store the cart and its gear) and what potential benefits and savings (e.g., not having to pay for Suffolk County “super-police” – i.e., police trained as EMS staff). She also noted that a similar proposal was rejected by taxpayers several years back, and that any new initiative would have to be thoroughly communicated to the taxpaying community.

She also asked whether this money could be used to improve the first-response capabilities of the Pines Care Center.

Chief Geiman noted that, with the exception of South Country Volunteer Ambulance, there is still the logistical problem of getting patients off the Island – a police boat or, for critical matters, a helicopter, would have to be called. No matter how skilled the first responders, this logistical delay would still be extremely problematic for a critical situation such as a massive stroke or heart attack.

In addition, if Cherry Grove is an example to go by, on-site EMS services are an additional burden to the Fire Department because the Department is nearly always called upon for transportation assistance. Finally, Chief Geiman noted that this service is only provided during the summer season: what about the year-round residents?

Comm. Teague noted that diminished use of the Suffolk County Police always results in less police presence, and he worried that we would be left with fewer police services, even though the SCPD is the largest line item on our local tax bills.

Dr. Schulhafer noted that doctors are not the same as paramedics, and they cannot be expected to respond to emergency situations, and that the Pines Care Center is an office-based practice, and, as it stands now, it cannot be expected to deliver ambulance-district-level responses. He said he would take it upon himself to develop a budget

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more fully and to get statistics from other Island communities on the numbers of responses and the types of calls they have responded to.

Order

Meeting adjourned by Comm. Barry at 12:05.

Fire Island Pines Fire District – Treasurer’s Report

October 24, 2020 Report for Budget Year 2020

	<u>Bank Balance</u>	<u>Book Balance</u>
GENERAL FUND	As of: 19-Oct-2020	23-Oct-2020
PUB Checking Account	\$ 205,063	\$ 196,497
PUB Savings Account	\$ 97,723	\$ 97,723
PUB Money Market Account	\$ 2,574	\$ 2,574
GENERAL ACCOUNT TOTAL	\$ 305,359	\$ 296,794
RESERVE FUND	As of: 30-Sep-2020	30-Sep-2020
TD Bank Money Market Funds	\$ 475,653	\$ 475,653
PUB CD #1133 - Matured 2/22/2020 (0.2500%)	\$ -	\$ -
CAPITAL RESERVE FUND TOTAL	\$ 475,653	\$ 475,653
DEPOSITS & TRANSFERS		
Interest earned on PUB accounts 2020		\$ 132
Interest earned on Reserve Accounts 2020		1,302
Interest from Town of Brookhaven		20
Tax Warrants		406,339
Proceeds transferred from PUB CD #1133 to TD MM Reserve		84,032
Transfer from Reserve to Operating		55,000
Water Island Fire Protection District		-
Insurance proceeds		
Other proceeds		1,000
		\$ 547,825
EMPLOYEE PAYROLL	This period	YTD
Christopher J Furchert maintenance		\$ 14,330
Christopher J Furchert hose testing		
Maud, Dennis maintenance		3,876
Scottaline, Eric maintenance		3,953
Reilly, Thomas maintenance		-
Alker, Kim cleaning		2,080
Forrett, Patrick A Secretary and Treasurer		3,600
Scofield, Jedidiah maintenance		255
Massa, Ryan maintenance		428
	\$ -	\$ 28,522
PAYMENTS MADE		
2020-10-21 Westin's Marine Center LLC 461 · Gas		246.25
2020-10-21 Sayville Ferry Service Inc 475 · Medical Exam		30.00
2020-10-21 Pines Pantry, Inc. 453 · Cleaning		141.39
2020-10-21 Nassau NDI Diagnostics 475 · Medical Exam		5,975.00
2020-10-21 Morgan Auto Supply 460 · Equipment Maint & Repairs		210.72
2020-10-21 Patrick Forrett 431 · Other Travel		18.00
2020-10-21 Coastline Freight 461 · Gas		30.00
2020-10-21 Brinkmann's 460 · Equipment Maint & Repairs		56.33
		\$ 6,707.69

Budget to actual as of October 23, 2020	Budgeted	Revision	Updated	Paid to date	Remaining
REVENUE					
BROOKHAVEN PROPERTY TAXES	\$ 406,739			\$ 406,739	\$ -
WATER ISLAND PROTECTION DISTRICT	42,650			42,650	-
DRAWDOWN FROM SAVINGS	-			-	-
Insurance proceeds				-	-
OTHER INCOME	-			1,000	(1,000)
INTEREST INCOME	100			1,454	(1,354)
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 449,489			\$ 451,843	\$ (2,354)
EXPENSES					
Personnel Expenses	40,000			28,522	11,478
Equipment Purchase	14,000			7,030	6,970
Truck purchase	55,000			54,267	733
Annual Bond Repayment	131,650			129,463	2,188
Office Supplies	1,300			698	602
Commissioner Training	125				125
Postage	100	276	376	376	-
Legal	3,000			1,500	1,500
Audit/ Accounting	5,500	704	6,204	200	5,300
Association dues	800	385	1,185	1,185	-
Payroll Processing	1,100			930	170
Printing and supplies	500			217	283
Publications of Notice	500			390	110
Fuel and Electricity	11,000			6,510	4,490
Water	1,000			660	340
Hydrant rentals	7,700			3,765	3,935
Telephone	1,700			1,237	463
Internet/website	800			285	515
Other Travel	500			18	482
Uniform Expenses	3,000			1,551	1,449
Annual Dinner	18,000	(1,447)	16,553	1,108	15,445
Training	1,500			487	1,013
Firehouse & 32LHW Repairs	22,000			10,035	11,965
Building maintenance supplies	1,000			866	134
Landscaping Maintenance	2,000	786	2,786	1,986	800
Fire Equipment repairs & maint.	15,000			10,737	4,263
Fire Equipment GAS	3,000			1,669	1,331
Fire Alarm Maintenance	500				500
Insurance: umb, prop, flood, fire, auto	17,500			11,759	5,741
Insurance: Auto Policies	7,500				7,500
Insurance: Cancer Policy					
Medical Exam/Physicals	7,500			7,455	45
Snow removal	10,000				10,000
Charity	-				-
LOSAP +Life Insurance	49,000			22,293	26,707
Social Security & Medicare	3,000			2,161	839
VFBL and Workers Compensation	15,000			14,279	721
State Unemployment	500			145	355
Hospital, Medical & Accident Ins	4,000			548	3,452
WIFPD 27.5%	11,687				11,687
Transfer to Reserve	42,500				42,500
Consultants (Fixed Assets, Losap, ISO)	1,000				1,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 511,462			\$ 324,330	\$ 187,132