

## **Minutes of Regular Meeting April 13, 2022**

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**PRESENT:** Commissioners \*Murray, Daly, Weitz, Pacheco and Chairman Woehrle

**Also Present:** Chief Lingenfelter, Chief Fritz, Captain J. Vena, Lt. Griffiths, FF/P Baker  
FF/P Persons, Attorney Hayner, Treasurer Splendido and Secretary Versocki.

\*Present Via Remote Video – Commissioner Murray – 11875 Hedgestone Ct. Naples, FL 34120

\*Present Via Remote Video – Commissioner Weitz – Cath Lab; 1101 Nott St. Schenectady, NY 12308

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Woehrle.

**Motion/ Pacheco, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Daly:** To approve the March 9, 2022, monthly meeting minutes.  
As Read. Passed 5-0.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- A letter from The Grand Blvd. Fire Company stating that at their last meeting, the fire company voted to remove the following member for failure to make drill, call and meetings:  
Andrew Cloutier of 145 Hillcrest East B4 Niskayuna, NY 12309. Please vote to remove Mr. Cloutier from the district rolls.
- A letter from Lt. Griffiths thanking the Board of Fire Commissioners for their support of him receiving his degree in Fire Service Administration.
- A notice from The Schenectady County Civil Service Commission announcing an upcoming exam for Executive Secretary for Niskayuna Fire District No. 1.
- An e-mail from FF/P Vinehout for an address change to 1024 Regent ST Niskayuna, NY 12309.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:** No Report.

**BILLS:** Commissioner Woehrle stated that he has reviewed all the bills.

**Motion/ Daly, 2<sup>nd</sup>/ Pacheco:** To pay bills for corresponding check #'s 17328 –17330 & 18325 –18367  
From March 10, 2022, thru April 13, 2022 totaling \$177,227.47 as reviewed. Passed 5-0.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

**Treasurer Splendido Reported:**

- The reserve accounts as of the end of March 2022 were reviewed.
- The comparison sheets for March 2022 vs.2021 were reviewed.
- Budget versus actual expenses through March 2022 were reviewed.
  - We are 25% thru the year and have spent 31.9% of the budget.
  - The audit information is in the auditor's hands.
  - I am on track to have NY State report at the end of March.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:** No Report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**FINANCE:**

**Commissioner Murray:**

- I want to thank Chief Lingenfelter for the Overtime report format. This will help us understand where we are throughout the year.

**INSURANCE:** No Report.

**MEDIA RELATIONS:** No Report.

**APPARATUS & EQUIPMENT:**

**Chief Lingenfelter Reported:**

- Repairs to Truck 4075 still in process at Fireline Equipment in New Holland, PA. No estimate on completion. Parts are being fabricated as needed.
- Annual SCBA flow testing was completed on 3/30/22.

**COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION SERVICES:** No Report.

**EMS & EQUIPMENT:** No Report.

**HEALTH & SAFETY:** No Report.

**FACILITIES:**

**Commissioner Woehrle Reported:**

- Lloyd Hale Construction to repair items for both inspections will begin within the next week.
- I received 4 quotes for pest control for The Balltown Rd and River Rd stations. Best price was from Family Pet Solutions and cost of \$325.00 for Balltown Rd and \$250.00 for River Rd. Both are 1 time charge.

**Chief Lingenfelter Reported:**

- Obtaining quotes for pest control options.
- Mowers have had annual service and repairs performed in anticipation of spring.

**Commissioner Woehrle Reported:**

**ELECTIONS:** No Report.

**PROTECTIVE GEAR & UNIFORMS:** No Report.

**SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM:** No Report

**INSPECTION & INSTALLATION:**

**Commissioner Pacheco Reported:**

- The Date of the 2023 dinner is tentatively scheduled for January 28, 2023, no confirmation yet.

**REPORT OF THE CHIEFS:**

**Chief Lingenfelter Reported:**

- Request to extended illness leave for Lt. Sweet through 5/11/22. Has follow up appointment on 4/22/22.
- Request extended illness leave for FF Rob Agans through 5/11/22. Has follow up appointment on 4/26/22.
- Lt. Sims has returned to full duty.
- Overtime summary report vs budget thru 3/31/2022 is attached.
- It appears the legislation allowing fire departments to bill for EMS services was passed as part of the state budget. I would suggest we determine what steps need to be taken to enable the billing of patients for EMS and possibly other services we provide. The cost recovery would provide a substantial benefit to our taxpayers.
- For the awareness of the board, the number of active volunteer members has dropped to 14 as of the last fire company meeting. Of the 14 members, three are qualified as interior firefighters. This membership trend is not unique to NFD 1 and is being experienced across the country. The causes are numerous, and departments are struggling to find solutions. Career departments are also finding it difficult to find suitable candidates for hiring. The fire company has established a recruitment and retention committee to identify opportunities to increase membership.
- An active shooter training exercise was held on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at Union College in Schenectady. 6 personnel from NFD 1 participated.
- Planning for the Pedal Paddle Run on May 14, 2022, and Niska-Day on May 21, 2022, is under way.
- Continuing to work with the River's Ledge contractors and the town building department as new buildings are being occupied to ensure fire alarm and sprinkler systems are properly reporting alarms.
- The spike in volume of EMS mutual aid requests has slowed in recent weeks.
- 2022 YTD incident participation report is attached. Approximately 20% of the incidents had no volunteer response.

Department Activity	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
March Incidents	187	175	163	203

EMS	118	114	114	143
Fire/Other	69	61	49	60
Total YTD (3/31)	593	456	534	580

Other Activities:

Emergency Callback	75 Staff Hours
Department Training	322 Staff Hours

**Report of the Niskayuna Permanent Fireman’s Association:** No Report.

**Report of the Grand Boulevard Fire Company:** No Report.

**OLD BUSINESS:** NONE

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Motion/ Daly/ Second/ Pacheco:** To authorize extended sick leave to FF/P Agans to May 11, 2022. Passed 5-0.

**Motion/ Daly/ Second/ Pacheco:** To authorize extended sick leave to Lt. Sweet to May 11, 2022. Passed 5-0.

**Motion/ Pacheco/ Second/ Daly:** To remove Andrew Cloutier from the Fire District rolls. Passed 5-0.

**Motion/ Daly/ Second/ Weitz:** To approve the 2021 LOSAP. Passed 5-0.

**Motion/ Daly/, Second/ Murray:** To authorize a one (1) time pest control treatment to: Balltown Rd. Station @ \$325.00 and River Rd. Station @ \$250.00. Passed 5-0.

**Commissioner Pacheco** – I would like the Strategic Planning Committee to be added to our monthly agenda.

**All Commissioners & Staff**– Discussed Executive Secretary benefit package.

**Motion/ Pacheco/ Second/ Daly:** To adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Passed 5-0.

The next regular business meeting will be held May 11, 2022, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Fire District No. 1 Secretary,

*William J. Versocki*