

Board of Fire Commissioners

Greenfield Fire District
P.O. Box 103
Greenfield Center, NY 12833
(518) 893-0723

The December 2009 Meeting of the Greenfield Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at Co #1 by Chairman Don Kugler at 7:05 pm on December 9, 2009. The flag salute and a moment of silence were recognized for the departed.

Present were:

Commissioners: B. Bishop, Kugler, Spackmann, Waite; Secretary Petkus, P/A J. Chouinard, Treasurer J. Bishop; A/C's: Gibbins, Ellsworth, Lant. Please see attached sheet for others in attendance.

Chairman Kugler asked for any additions/deletions/corrections to the November 2009 Commissioner meeting minutes.

RESOLUTION #401 TO ACCEPT THE NOVEMBER 2009 MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

MOTION: B. Bishop

SECOND: Waite

RESOLVED to accept the November 2009 Meeting Minutes as written.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Chairman Kugler asked for questions/comments regarding the abstract.

Treasurer J. Bishop noted a couple of corrections: claim # 9703 should be \$94.16, not \$84.16 and claim #9743 is Allerdice, not VISA.

Commissioner B. Bishop questioned claim #9690; 281 is noted for repairs, but he believes it is 282. ERR904 is listed as 281 and he believes that should be 282. The Treasurer noted that they are both 281 regarding pump testing.

RESOLUTION #402 TO PAY CLAIM #9689 THROUGH CLAIM #9745, TOTALING \$41,502.14.

A3410.1	\$	4,223.58
A3410.2		7,796.60
A3410.4		29,128.38
A9030.8		341.58
Total:	\$	41,502.14

MOTION: Spackmann
SECOND: Waite
RESOLVED to pay claim #9689 through claim #9745, totaling \$41,502.14.
VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #403 TO PAY CLAIM #ERR904 FROM THE EQUIPMENT REPAIR RESERVE FUND PER PREVIOUS REFERENDUM, TOTALING \$1,939.47.

<u>R3400.0</u>	<u>\$1,939.47</u>
Total:	\$1,939.47

MOTION: B. Bishop
SECOND: Waite
RESOLVED to pay claim #ERR904 from the Equipment Repair Reserve Fund per previous referendum, totaling \$1,939.47.
VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #404 TO PAY CLAIM #BR916 FROM THE BUILDING RESERVE FUND PER PREVIOUS REFERENDUM, TOTALING \$4,827.60.

<u>R3400.0</u>	<u>\$4,827.60</u>
Total:	\$4,827.60

MOTION: Waite
SECOND: B. Bishop
RESOLVED to pay claim #BR916 from the Building Reserve Fund per previous referendum, totaling \$4,827.60.
VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Correspondence:

- Received and read a letter dated December 8, 2009 from Commissioner Brian Bishop announcing his resignation as Commissioner effective December 31, 2009. Commissioner B. Bishop added that there have been rumors going around that others may have influenced his decision and he wants to make it clear that it is a personal and professional decision and to please not flatter yourselves with thinking you had anything to do with his decision.
- Received and read a letter dated December 7, 2009 from Firefighter Roger Bechard submitting his name for consideration for a position on the Board when one comes available.

Purchasing:

- Apologized for not having the turbo flare quotes with her; Jack Atwell had some.
- Dennis requested that the Chief's phone number be changed; on January 6, 2010 he will turn his phone over to Jill and she will take it to Nextel and have it taken care of. The new Chief will have a new number. There is no cost to change the number.

Commissioner Spackmann noted that in the future this is probably not a good practice to have, as Fire District Chief you are the liaison representing the Greenfield Fire District and if the number changes year to year, it is obviously an issue. Commissioner B. Bishop noted it was not an uncommon practice.

New Fire Police President Jack Atwell noted he had a PO that was done in October but it never went any farther than getting a PO. It seems the problem is there was only about \$200.00 left and the cost of the turbo flares was \$1674.00. Brief discussion continued; Jack to get an updated quote and asked the Board to consider purchasing turbo flares at year end.

Applications for membership:

Greenfield Center Company #1: None.

Porter Corners Company #2: None.

Middle Grove Company #3: Amanda MacWhinnie, present to accept District Manual.

Maple Avenue Company #4: Oliver Phinney, not present at this time to accept District Manual, but should be here a little later to sign for it.

Changes in membership:

Greenfield Center Company #1: Jon Jones, transfer from Co #1 to Co #4.

Porter Corners Company #2: None.

Middle Grove Company #3: Christopher Zabel, resignation due to moving; and 2 requests for distinguished service for Brian Bishop for 20 years of service and Donald Kugler for 21 years of service.

Maple Avenue Company #4: None.

RESOLUTION #405 TO ACCEPT ABOVE NEW MEMBERS AND CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP.

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: B. Bishop

RESOLVED to accept above new members and changes in membership.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Grants:

- Nothing.

Report of the Chief - Dennis McConkey:

- Not present.
- Chairman Kugler asked A/C G. Gibbins if the Chief had given him the report; A/C G. Gibbins noted the Chief had said that Garrison still has not given him a final date to come up and service the jaws from Co #1 and Co #4, but it should be done by year end.

Reports from Companies:

Company #1 – A/C G. Gibbins:

- Has 2 applicants that would like to join but live out of the district; Irvin Gauthier and Terry McGonigal. Both live within Saratoga Springs City limits.

RESOLUTION #406 GIVING CO #1 PERMISSION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH OUT OF DISTRICT APPLICATIONS FROM IRVIN GAUTHIER AND TERRY MCGONIGAL.

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: B. Bishop

RESOLVED to give Co #1 permission to move forward with out of district applications from Irvin Gauthier and Terry McGonigal.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

- Problem last week with the fuel running out, was 52° in the building; tried to get in touch with Toby but couldn't so he had to come and prime it to get it running again. Can't stress enough the importance of making sure we do not run out of fuel. The Chairman asked Joyce to get in touch with Commissioner Robarge regarding this.
- Having trouble with the stand by generator; they were supposed to come today but didn't probably because of the weather. Generator does still run but the alarm keeps going off because the block heater is not working properly.
- Asked to discontinue the unlocking of the doors during Tuesday night drills. Joyce to cancel automatic opening of doors for Tuesday night drills.

Company #2 – A/C Davis:

- No one from Co #2 present to give report.

Company #3 – A/C Jay Ellsworth:

- Handed in a list of hose needed, are they going to decide on that tonight or at year end? Commissioner B. Bishop noted he had a list only from Co #1 and Co #3. Lists need to be submitted before the 30th and they will make a determination at the year end meeting.
- Regarding pump testing, are we going to be getting break outs of what each truck cost; Treasurer J. Bishop to make out a report. Commissioner Kugler noted that he was in contact with Bonesteel regarding pump testing, he is certified for pump testing as well. In the spring the Board will put it out to bid, there are 3 or 4 companies out there that will do pump testing.

Company #4 – A/C Lant:

- Presented a picture of new EL-293 to the board to hang on the wall. Commissioner Kugler noted that pictures were something Jil and Joyce were going to tackle; Joyce noted that they were going to during the annual inspection, but it got postponed and then cancelled. Hopefully in the spring it will be rescheduled and they will take new pictures then.
- Death of a Gansevoort firefighter/commissioner yesterday; 292 will be at Gansevoort on Sunday from 8-12, the Chief is aware of it. Joyce to send a sympathy card after A/C Lant gets her the information.

Commissioner Waite noted that A/C Middlebrook got the numbers for the propane, quotes handed out to the Board, and it looks like J & R is the best price. Suburban never submitted the requested quote. To be further discussed at year end; Joyce to put on year end agenda. Commissioner B. Bishop commented that when the building was first built, it was supposed to be built as a cold pole barn. Commissioner Spackmann noted that this was for the main

building, not the pole barn. Commissioner B. Bishop noted that while he was on the subject, the pole barn was originally proposed as cold storage, now it is insulated, requires heat, and is paved. If it was proposed as a pole barn, it does not make sense to him, it should have been proposed as a garage in the first place. Commissioner Waite noted that they are keeping the trailer and off road equipment in there and now they are going out and buying batteries every year because they go dead because it is so cold in there. Commissioner Spackmann noted he had this conversation with A/C Davis earlier, who had expressed his frustration with the whole situation. Commissioner Spackmann had explained to him that he needed to understand that when any officer comes to the Board that represents the taxpayers to fund a particular initiative, and that initiative is done and then you turn around and say we need all this extra stuff, it should have been part of the original design, part of the thought process to begin with and should have been part of the original design. He would have gladly supported more money to get the thing done right at the start rather than piecemealing it later on. A/C Davis was the one who went on public record saying it was going to be cold storage back when it was designed, but that being said it was clearly a mistake. But if there is an issue keeping equipment out there, we need to have the equipment ready and able to start in emergencies, and if it is not, that is not the best way to support the taxpayers either. Commissioner Spackmann further noted that we have to change, his election made him really listen to a lot of taxpayers and how we do business, and how we plan and design things needs to change. More discussion continued; A/C Ellsworth suggested purchasing battery savers whether you decide to heat the pole barn or not, and they should be wired directly into the trailer.

Report of District EMS Coordinator: Gary Gibbins

- Placed an order with Jill; there was a problem with it that Jill is working on rectifying;
- Ordered defibrillator batteries;
- Would like any left over money to go into the EMS Reserve account;
- Would like to discuss at the year end meeting Paul Felts continuing with EMS training.

Planning Board:

***For Town of Wilton, Gary Bullard:**

- Quiet.

***For Town of Greenfield, Mike Chandler:**

- Not present.
- A/C Ellsworth noted he had spoken to the supervisor today regarding the windmills; some town laws will be changing and they are probably looking about a year away before they consider anything up there. There is a committee and they will be contacting one of the assistant chiefs probably about mid year regarding any plans.

Reports of the Commissioners:

Commissioner B. Bishop:

- Has nothing this evening.

Commissioner Robarge:

- Not present this evening.
- Commissioner Kugler brought up the service agreements regarding the emergency generators as well as the 5 year extended warranty on Co #1 generator. Discussion continued including encumbering the money set aside from this year for the service contract; question arose regarding Co #3 Kohler generator and would anything void the current warranty. Commissioner Robarge would be the one to ask.

RESOLUTION #407 AWARDING THE EMERGENCY GENERATOR SERVICE CONTRACT TO MILTON CAT; THREE YEAR SERVICE CONTRACT FOR ALL FOUR GENERATORS.

MOTION: Waite

SECOND: Spackmann

RESOLVED to award the emergency generator service contract to Milton Cat; three year service contract for all four generators.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #408 TO PURCHASE A FIVE YEAR EXTENDED WARRANTY BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2010 FOR CO #1 EMERGENCY GENERATOR, TOTALING \$2390.00.

MOTION: Kugler

SECOND: Waite

RESOLVED to purchase a five year extended warranty beginning January 1, 2010 for Co #1 emergency generator, totaling \$2390.00.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Spackmann:

- Thanked everyone for their support in the election. Certainly was not without controversy and concern. To his opponents, he wants to say your voice is being heard by not just him but the whole board and obviously there is a lot of work to be done.
- Wished Commissioner B. Bishop the best.
- Training laptops should be completed in the next week or so.
- Happy holidays to everyone.

Commissioner Kugler wished Commissioner B. Bishop the best and hopefully if there are some projects that come up maybe he would be willing to help if needed.

Commissioner Waite:

- Will be calling Allerdice regarding the broken crash bar at Co #2 to see if they can repair it rather than having to replace it.
- Does not think any of the doors should be unlocked on Tuesday nights. Walked into Co #2 unlocked and saw people that are not supposed to be in the firehouse. Brief discussion; Joyce to cancel automatic unlocking of all doors at all companies for Tuesday night drills.

Commissioner Kugler:

- Announced that anyone interested in taking over Commissioner B. Bishop's spot on the board to please submit a resume. Would like to do some interviews and appoint someone. Joyce to put an ad in the paper and on district website. A/C Ellsworth noted that we going into new territory with this and maybe it should be a policy that should be put in writing. Brief discussion; Commissioner Spackmann to work something up.

New Business:

- A/C Lant asked if anybody ever went to Co #4 to look at the roof. Brief discussion Joyce to call Bill Reid.
- Captain G. Bullard handed out quotes from KME to the Board regarding mounting equipment on the trucks. Also handed in quotes for several different hoses, the Board had previously discussed standardizing.
- Secretary Petkus explained that she had copies of all the 2009 District Manual updates, along with instruction and signature sheets for each company to take back with them. Everything is due back to her by the January workshop. Please remember to also update the radio room copies as well. Any questions, please call her.
- A/C G. Gibbins noted that he went with the marines for Toys for Tots this past weekend. Four train cars were loaded with toys and dropped off to different towns for the needy. They gave out coats and blankets as well as toys.
- Treasurer J. Bishop pointed out that with the end of the year, everybody is asking for all kinds of stuff; any year end money is not supposed to be carried over unless there is a PO and it is ordered, otherwise it should be put into a reserve account and earmarked.
- Jack Atwell thanked the Board for their generosity, the fire police are now starting to get their boots and gloves. One slight problem, one firefighter has a size 14 foot and the model boot they are getting does not come in a size 14. He is going to go tomorrow and look for a boot to fit this particular firefighter.
- Commissioner B. Bishop explained that he has been working with Joyce for the past two years regarding Firetracker/LOSAP and would like to continue with this ongoing project. Would like to continue in that capacity as the Special Liaison for Firetracker/LOSAP Affairs. The Board agreed that he could continue in that capacity.
- Joyce noted she needed a minute before executive session began as new member Oliver Phinney was now present to sign and receive his District Manual.

RESOLUTION #409 TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:05 PM IN REFERENCE TO EMPLOYEE EVALUATIONS.

MOTION: Kugler

SECOND: Spackmann

RESOLVED to go into executive session at 8:05 pm in reference to employee evaluations.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #410 TO RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:20 PM.

MOTION: Kugler

SECOND: B. Bishop

RESOLVED to reconvene from executive session at PM.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #411 TABLE EMPLOYEE EVALUATIONS UNTIL THE YEAR
END MEETING ON DECEMBER 30, 2009.**

MOTION: B. Bishop

SECOND: Spackmann

RESOLVED to table employee evaluations until the Year End meeting on December 30, 2009.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #412 TO DISPENSE WITH THE READING OF THE MINUTES.

MOTION: Kugler

SECOND: B. Bishop

RESOLVED to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner B. Bishop with a second from Commissioner Waite to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 PM. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce A. Petkus
District Secretary