

# **Board of Fire Commissioners**

Greenfield Fire District  
P.O. Box 103  
Greenfield Center, NY 12833  
(518) 893-0723  
Fax: (518)893-7006

The November 2012 Commissioners Meeting of the Greenfield Fire District was called to order at Company #1 by Chairman Richard Spackmann at 7:04 PM on November 14, 2012. The flag salute and a moment of silence was recognized for departed members and troops overseas.

## **Present were:**

Commissioners: Atwell, Barss, Chandler, Spackmann, Waite; Secretary Petkus, Director of Purchasing Chouinard, Deputy Treasurer Perkins. See sign in sheet for others in attendance.

Also in attendance, Shows Leary, with an update on the District Office Building. Mr. Leary noted they have been to two Town planning board meetings so far, hopefully they will have Saratoga County planning board meeting approval this Thursday, although he has no idea why we need to go to the County. Hopes to then have approval at the next Town planning board meeting in two weeks. One little glitch is with the water department; the Town is asking for a certificate from the State Health; he is currently working on resolving this issue. Several versions of the floor plan and schedule have been forwarded to the Board and he will continue to work on that, received a copy of the front end of the spec book, extracted the insurance information and sent that to Dave Meager for his review/comments. Mr. Leary noted that all public works projects are required to be bonded and there is the probability that most of the local small contractors do not have the financial capability, so he is working on that. Trying to balance out paying him too much for too little give back. Has currently identified 13 divisions to write contracts for, including: site work, foundation, slab, modular building, plumbing, heating, electric, general construction, steel work, interior/exterior carpentry, flooring, millwork, ceilings. Discussion continued. Mr. Leary noted that he can write contracts with options. Reminded the Board they had previously received a spreadsheet asking for budget numbers for items that the District is going to provide. Mr. Leary questioned if the board was ready to sign off on the Architect contract; it was noted yes once comments are received from the attorney. Also questioned where the Board would like the excess backfill placed; brief discussion, excess fill to go to southeast side of the building. Also questioned if the Board wanted signage on the building; Commissioner Spackmann noted they will follow up on that. Commissioner Spackmann asked if we needed to discuss the door and electrical schedule; Jill and Joyce had already commented on some of it; Mr. Leary noted that if the Board could answer soon it would not hold up the project. Mr. Leary noted that as we get down to the final details the Board should be prepared to answer the deluge of questions. Commissioner Spackmann thanked Shows for his time.

**RESOLUTION #221 TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 10, 2012 COMMISSIONER MEETING MINUTES WITH CORRECTION AS PREVIOUSLY NOTED BY DEPUTY TREASURER PERKINS ON OCTOBER 12, 2012.**

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Barss

RESOLVED to approve the October 10, 2012 Commissioner Meeting minutes with correction as previously noted by Deputy Treasurer Perkins on October 12, 2012.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Habig, resident, noted he would like to have additions/corrections made to the October 16, 2012 Budget Hearing Minutes. Secretary Petkus noted that those minutes had previously been approved by the Board; the current minutes to be approved are the October 16, 2012 Special Meeting minutes. Commissioner Spackmann commented that they will note his concerns on tonight's record; Mr. Habig noted that over \$5000 was spent on alcohol, there were concerns raised about the Melissa Diggins' fundraiser but nothing was mentioned about the installation. Also noted that his comment about the red flags is an ongoing thing. Commissioner Spackmann clarified that Mr. Habig is concerned about the liability because of the fundraiser at Tinney's, and that we should also be concerned about the liability at the installation.

## **RESOLUTION #222 TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 16, 2012 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES WITH CHANGE AS PREVIOUSLY NOTED BY SHOWS LEARY.**

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Waite

RESOLVED to approve the October 16, 2012 Special Meeting Minutes with change as previously noted by Shows Leary.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

### **Chairman Spackmann asked for questions/comments regarding the abstract:**

Commissioner Atwell questioned the following claims:

- 120789, who did it go to; D/P Chouinard noted it went to Co #3.
- 120831, batteries for old Motorola low band radios; D/P Chouinard noted one was requested by A/C Petkus and the rest were for stock. Brief discussion.
- 120837: yellow waterproof kit; it was noted for ejection port covers for 271.
- 120843: Saratoga Electric for \$3400 for wiring; it was noted it is for the Co #2 fan. Commissioner Waite noted it will not be working until Friday morning.

Commissioner Chandler questioned the following claims:

- Questioned all the KME bills for the month; Commissioner Atwell noted the total for the month was \$10,056.00. Discussion continued, specifically claims #120754 and #120843 including that some of the bills may be duplicates; D/T Perkins to review immediately.

Chief Lant noted claim #120805 includes 4 new tires.

### **Correspondence: Secretary Petkus**

- Received and read Thank You card from Shirley Bullard and Family.
- Received letter of Intent from Chief Lant to run for District Chief for 2013.
- Received letter from Tim Kemp for District EMS Coordinator for 2013.
- Sent emails out regarding banquet invite list and the invitations that each company and auxiliary need to write; asked Co #4 to let their auxiliary know as she no longer has email addresses on the auxiliary. Co #1 and #2 auxiliary already picked up invites, has not heard from Co #3 auxiliary yet. Nicole Thurman doing invites for Co #3, no other companies have contacted her to write out the invites yet. Commissioner Atwell noted that if it is not taken care of some of our life members will not be invited. All written invites are due back to Joyce by November 30<sup>th</sup>.

- Regarding the recent towing of 291, the District has insurance coverage for actual cost of towing; she has already spoken to Dave Meager about it. Board okayed submittal.
- Thanked the Board, Jill and everyone involved regarding the recent donations for those affected by Sandy, it was overwhelming. Delivered the donations to East Meadow Fire District, who were very appreciative as well. Still accepting donations, as West Crescent Fire Department will be taking donations to Long Beach in 2 weeks, and the Giving Circle is leaving this Sunday with donations to take to Staten Island.

**Purchasing: D/P Chouinard**

- Gear to be shipped to Garrison on/around November 26<sup>th</sup>; we should be receiving it shortly thereafter.
- Uniform alterations and mourning covers going well with the new seamstress.
- Co #2 windows are done; Co #4 windows done except for the windows in the meeting room. Bill Reid gave price of \$1589.48 for an Anderson oak window and installation will be under \$1000. Brief discussion.

**RESOLUTION #223 TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF OAK WINDOW AND INSTALLATION BY BILL REID.**

MOTION: Atwell

SECOND: Spackmann

RESOLVED to approve purchase of oak window and installation by Bill Reid.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

- Co #3 propane tank was delivered today, also received bill for \$4864.54.
- Most of the name badges have been ordered and should be here in time for the installation banquet. Badges and collar brass in and inventoried.
- Still no assigned rep for Tyler Fire.
- Co #4 5-way manifold was recalled.
- No news on AFG grant.
- DEC grant ended, all paperwork in. D/T Perkins noted she received the check, \$993.33.
- Please send in Year end money requests; she has created a folder.
- Hose testing completion set up for 12/1 at 9 am at Co #3. He will also try to do Co #3 ladders while he is there. Ladder testing schedule to be set up for the other companies.
- Uniforms have been moved to the District office.
- Still working on the Pelican lights issue.
- NYS Fire News contacted the office via email asking to do an article on the 2 crews deployed to Hurricane Sandy Relief. She sent them pictures of the crews and their names. Should be in January issue of the paper.
- Thanked everyone for all their donations as well.
- Chief Lant asked Jill for a mask for Lt. McEachron. Brief discussion; Commissioner Spackmann noted there was an issue and he needs a new mask.

D/T Perkins noted with apology she made a mistake and doubled everything; can delete 120848. KME claims 120754 and 120809 can stay.

**RESOLUTION #224 TO PAY ABSTRACT #11, CLAIM #120740 THROUGH CLAIM #120849 EXCLUDING CLAIM #120848, FROM THE GENERAL FUND, TOTALING \$53,866.58.**

A3410.1	\$ 10,353.74
A3410.2	5,710.14
A3410.4	37, 177.33
A9030.8	625.37
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Total:	\$ 53,866.58

MOTION: Spackmann  
 SECOND: Chandler  
 RESOLVED to pay Abstract #11, claim #120740 through claim #120849 excluding claim #120848, from the General Fund, totaling \$58,866.58  
 VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #225 TO PAY ABSTRACT #2, CLAIM #ER12004 THROUGH CLAIM #ER12006 FROM THE EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND PER PREVIOUS REFERENDUMS, TOTALING \$31,385.03.**

MOTION: Spackmann  
 SECOND: Barss  
 RESOLVED to pay Abstract #2, claim #ER12004 through claim #ER12006 from the Equipment Reserve Fund per previous referendums, totaling \$31,385.03.  
 VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #226 TO PAY ABSTRACT #4, CLAIM #EMSR1205 FROM THE EMS RESERVE FUND PER PREVIOUS REFERENDUM, TOTALING \$2000.00.**

MOTION: Chandler  
 SECOND: Spackmann  
 RESOLVED to pay Abstract #4, claim #EMSR1205 from the EMS Reserve Fund per previous referendum, totaling \$2,000.00.  
 VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Atwell questioned if the claim for Laberge is part of the original bill; Commissioner Spackmann noted part is but there were also some change orders as well.

**RESOLUTION #227 TO PAY ABSTRACT #7, CLAIM #BR120013 THROUGH CLAIM #BR120014 FROM THE BUILDING RESERVE FUND PER PREVIOUS REFERENDUM, TOTALING \$8,491.75.**

MOTION: Spackmann  
 SECOND: Waite  
 RESOLVED to pay Abstract #4, claim #EMSR1205 from the EMS Reserve Fund per previous referendum, totaling \$2,000.00.  
 VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

**Grants:**

- Nothing on the AFG at this time; they are doing big ticket items at this point.

### **Applications for membership:**

**Greenfield Center Company #1:** None.

**Porter Corners Company #2:** Timothy Weatherwax.

**Middle Grove Company #3:** None.

**Maple Avenue Company #4:** None.

### **Requests for Change in Membership:**

**Greenfield Center Company #1:** Larry Ramsey, transfer from Co #1 to Co #4; Jason Abraham, termination due to lack of activity/requirements; Edward Ackley, return from military leave. Mr. Ackley still needs to take physical, Board okayed his OSHA to begin in January.

**Porter Corners Company #2:** None.

**Middle Grove Company #3:** None.

**Maple Avenue Company #4:** None.

Commissioner Spackmann noted he would like to go into executive session to talk about Lt. Ramsey's application to transfer. Membership approval to be held until the end of the meeting.

### **Report of the Chief – John Lant:**

- Training report received only from Co #2 this month, brief overview given.
- Reviewed various recent apparatus repairs/maintenance:
  - 291 turbo went, Dave fixing it now.
  - 281 still waiting for motor for ladder rack.
  - 273 needs pump heaters.
  - 262: Captain Davis thinks the tranny is not right.
  - Pump service/testing is done except for 291.
- Fire Prevention at Greenfield went very well.
- Lot of spare hose; Co #3 does not have 1¾", so they picked up 1000' last night and changed their trucks over. Lot of 1½" and 2" that is not used anymore; would like to see it go to Providence or Edinburgh. Brief discussion, Board approved disposing of old hose as the Chief sees fit. Commissioner Atwell noted he does not want to see the new 2" given away.
- Spoke about having Billy Goldfeder coming in March or April next year; the officers would like to take care of it and maybe they can raise some money.
- Thanked the Board for allowing the firefighters to go to Long Island, it was a learning experience.
- In the future would like to see any news releases be done by the Chief or the officers involved.
- Would like to invite some guests to the Banquet. Board approved a couple of guests.
- Commended the Board for moving the District ahead, including the purchase of the Argo and the bailout training.
- Need 4000' of 2½" hose and 261 should be a supply truck and should have 5" hose. Brief discussion, Chief to get a list of needed hose together.
- Reel for 281 is important, way to keep moving ahead.
- Will be on vacation from 11/26 through 12/6. D/C King will be Acting Chief.

### **Reports from Companies:**

#### **Company #1 – Captain Davis:**

- Building was pressure washed a couple of weeks ago, looks good.

**Company #2 – D/C Middlebrook:**

- Thanked the Board for the purchase of the Argo, have done some training/in-service on it. Justin and Jill working together to get some tools for it.
- Swapped the ladder out with Greenfield.

**Company #3 – D/C Ellsworth:**

- Brought it up before and noted again that we should be getting repair orders from KME. Brief discussion.
- Got prices for the reels on the Holomatro. Brief discussion. Added to November workshop agenda for discussion.

**Company #4 – D/C King:**

- Haunted hayride was a pretty good success.
- Tree lighting on December 7<sup>th</sup> at Gavin Park with Santa coming in on the ladder truck.

**RESOLUTION #228 APPROVING CO #4 FOR THE TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY ON DECEMBER 7, 2012 AT GAVIN PARK.**

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Barss

RESOLVED to approve Co #4 for the tree lighting ceremony on December 7, 2012 at Gavin Park.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

**Report of District EMS Coordinator – Tim Kemp:**

- Nothing at this time.

**Planning Board:**

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

- District building was on the agenda last night.

Chief Lant noted Captain Bullard has volunteered to be the liaison again for the Wilton Planning Board.

**RESOLUTION #229 TO RE-APPOINT CAPTAIN GARY BULLARD AS THE DISTRICT'S LIAISON TO THE WILTON PLANNING BOARD.**

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Waite

RESOLVED to re-appoint Captain Gary Bullard as the District's liaison to the Wilton Planning Board.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

**Reports of the Commissioners:**

**Commissioner Atwell:**

- Pump testing went well. Thanked the men for taking care of the trucks this year, very little repairs and they all passed.
- Asked about the Rhino and snowmobile bids; it was noted they have not gone out yet. Commissioner Chandler noted he has a proposal on that.

- Thanked everyone who went down to help out during Hurricane Sandy, gave up a lot of time to do that.
- Asked about the newsletter; Commissioner Spackmann noted that they will get the okay to go to press and we should be receiving it at the end of the month to put in the Stewart's stores, Prestwick Chase, etc.
- Thanked Co #2 for putting on the probie class last night.
- Checked over Co #2 list for the spare parts for the Argo and has no problem with it except for the spare tire and wheel. Brief discussion.

**Commissioner Barss:**

- Thanks to those who helped out on Long Island.
- Mentor program seems to be outstanding; the kids seem to love it, except for the first few classroom sessions, but they are necessary.

**Commissioner Waite:**

- Received only one comment on the by-laws changes. Captain Davis asked who the by-law reps for Co #1 are. Brief discussion.

**Commissioner Chandler:**

- Thursday night at 7 PM is the open forum at the Town regarding EMS service in Greenfield.
- Should really look at tires for 273.
- Thanked the Board for the Argo, feels it is a big asset to the District.
- Fan at Co #2: hired another electrician.
- Furnace at Co #3: Toby will be there in the morning to make sure everything starts up okay. A/C Petkus to shut down alarm in the morning as it may smoke a bit on start up.
- Would like to purchase another load of salt for the Town Highway Dept. for this winter.

**RESOLUTION #230 TO BUY A LOAD OF SALT FOR THE TOWN OF GREENFIELD HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT.**

MOTION: Chandler

SECOND: Waite

RESOLVED to buy a load of salt for the Town of Greenfield Highway Department.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

- Has secured water from Saratoga Heritage Water Works. Letter sent to RCF Fire department asking for permission to use the Hydrant on their property. Have not heard back from them yet. The clean water will be a huge asset to the District as far as better maintaining the fleet.
- Will need to purchase a few yards of topsoil around the propane tank at Co #3.
- Would like to see more portable radios purchased with year end money, and also look at some air bottles again.
- Received a proposal from Toby Middlebrook regarding the sale of the Rhino and the snowmobile; he would purchase them and take the agreed upon amount off the bill for the furnaces. Brief discussion.

**Commissioner Spackmann:**

- Thanked Joyce and Jill for their efforts organizing the relief effort, as well as everyone else involved, reflected very well upon the District itself.

- Regarding year end money, there is a lot that has been talked about, including thermal imagers, portable radios, air bottles and SCBA's. There is a lot to think about between now and December.

**Special Topics of Discussion:**

- Annual power washing of firehouses: brief discussion regarding starting annual power washing of firehouses. Added to annual maintenance schedule.
- Chief Lant would like a list re-sent for years of service; Joyce to resend.
- D/C Ellsworth noted he received a brand new set of blocking last night from the site; will work with Jill to inventory.
- D/C Ellsworth thanked all who participated in Bill Gaba's funeral, the Gaba family really appreciated it.
- D/C Middlebrook noted Commercial Truck Sales, aka Logger's, is no longer in service.
- Commissioner Atwell asked about the leaking new roof at Co #3; Commissioner Chandler noted Munter did get back him and in their opinion it is all humidity, so Toby Middlebrook is looking into some kind of fans to get air moving.

**RESOLUTION #231 TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:40 PM REGARDING LT. LARRY RAMSEY'S APPLICATION TO TRANSFER.**

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Atwell

RESOLVED to go into executive session at 8:40 PM regarding Lt. Larry Ramsey's application to transfer.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #232 TO RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:55 PM.**

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Chandler

RESOLVED to reconvene from executive session at 8:55 PM.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #233 TO ACCEPT ALL THE MEMBERSHIP CHANGES AS PREVIOUSLY READ.**

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Waite

RESOLVED to accept all the membership changes as previously read.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #234 TO DISPENSE WITH THE READING OF THE MINUTES.**

MOTION: Barss

SECOND: Waite

RESOLVED to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.



Motion was made by Commissioner Waite with a second from Commissioner Atwell to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 PM. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Joyce A. Petkus*

Joyce A. Petkus  
District Secretary