

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

The October 25, 2023 Commissioners Meeting of the Greenfield Fire District was called to order at the District Office by Chairman Michael Chandler at 7:00 PM.

Flag salute and a moment of silence were recognized for departed members.

**Present were:** Commissioners Chandler, Ellsworth, Hays, Ramsey, Russo; D/A-Treasurer Petkus, D/P Olson. See sign in sheet for others in attendance.

**RESOLUTION #263 APPROVING THE OCTOBER 11, 2023 COMMISSIONER MEETING MINUTES AND THE OCTOBER 17, 2023 BUDGET HEARING MINUTES AS WRITTEN.**

MOTION: Chandler

SECOND: Russo

RESOLVED to approve the October 11, 2023 Commissioner meeting minutes and the October 17, 2023 Budget Hearing minutes as written.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

**Chairman Chandler asked for questions/comments regarding the abstract:**

Commissioner Ramsey questioned the Town of Wilton fuel bill; it was noted they are paid quarterly.

National Grid bills for Co #4 electric are now caught up. Brief discussion.

**RESOLUTION #264 APPROVING PAYMENT OF ABSTRACT #20 DATED OCTOBER 25, 2023 FROM THE GENERAL FUND, VOUCHER #230433 THROUGH VOUCHER #230454, TOTALING \$47,688.12.**

A3410.1	\$ 6,827.13
A3410.2	\$ 812.00
A3410.4	\$ 39,526.27
A9000.8	\$ 522.27

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Total: \$ 47,688.12

MOTION: Chander

SECOND: Russo

RESOLVED to approve payment of Abstract #20 dated October 25, 2023 from the General Fund, Voucher #230433 through Voucher #230454, totaling \$47,688.12.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

**Reports of the Staff:**

- **District Administrator:** Joyce Petkus

- Read letter of intent received from Bryan Chouinard requesting his name be added to the ballot for the December Commissioner Election for the term of January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2028.
- Read letter received from D/C Derrick Barss requesting his name be added to the ballot for the Chief's election in December.
- Needs a new motion regarding the NYSAFC Beyond the Basics class. Brief discussion.

**RESOLUTION #265 GIVING DAIN LACROSS & ERIK WELMAKER PERMISSION TO ATTEND THE NYSAFC REGIONAL HANDS-ON TRAINING BEYOND THE BASICS AT EAST GLENVILLE FIRE DISTRICT, SCHENECTADY COUNTY, ON NOVEMBER 4, 2023. PERMISSION TO ALSO TAKE 284.**

MOTION: Ellsworth

SECOND: Chandler

RESOLVED to give Dain LaCross & Erik Welmaker permission to attend the NYSAFC Regional Hands-On Training Beyond the Basics at East Glenville Fire District, Schenectady County, on November 4, 2023. Permission to also take 284.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

- Capital Area Fall Workshop is November 4<sup>th</sup> at Verdox Fire Department; Jay Ellsworth and Edward Petkus are going. No others interested.

**RESOLUTION #266 GIVING JAY ELLSWORTH AND EDWARD PETKUS PERMISSION TO ATTEND THE CAPITAL AREA FIRE DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION FALL WORKSHOP ON NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> AT VERDOX FIRE DEPARTMENT, ALBANY COUNTY. PERMISSION TO ALSO TAKE 280.**

MOTION: Chandler

SECOND: Hays

RESOLVED to give Jay Ellsworth and Edward Petkus permission to attend the Capital Area Fire Districts Association Fall Workshop on November 4<sup>th</sup> at Verdox Fire Department, Albany County. Permission to also take 280.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #267 GIVING THE TREASURER PERMISSION TO PAY THE CAPITAL AREA FIRE DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION FALL WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FEES TOTALING \$30.00.**

MOTION: Chandler

SECOND: Ramsey

RESOLVED to give the Treasurer permission to pay the Capital Area Fire Districts Association Fall Workshop registration fees totaling \$30.00.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

- Reminder early voting at Co #1 begins on October 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Greenfield Elementary 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students sent thank you notes for the recent fire prevention day.
- **Purchasing Agent:** Douglas Olson
  - Co #1 phones are still not working. Verizon and IT have looked at it and they cannot figure out what is going on, but there is something wrong with the interface. He has contacted Spectrum Business class. Discussion continued.

- Co #3 hose on backorder until next year.
- Received estimate of \$1206.37 from Milton Cat for Co #1 generator repairs. Quote still not received for Co #4 circuit board. Brief discussion.

## RESOLUTION #268 APPROVING REPAIRS TO CO #1 GENERATOR.

MOTION: Chandler

SECOND: Ramsey

RESOLVED to approve repairs to Co #1 generator.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

- Using a new company to calibrate meters. Requested Co #1 check their ammonia meter. Brief discussion.
- Reminder MES will be doing pack check on November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Make sure all masks and packs are in the buildings. Masks not barcoded must have tag number written in silver sharpie on it.
- Rob from EVU is supposed to finish 271 this week.
- Has been checking Co #1 roof and there seems to be no more leaking; will continue to monitor.
- No further information on new 26 or new 275.
- Will be picking up the new maintenance vehicle on the 30<sup>th</sup>. They do not want the old one as a trade in. Brief discussion. Will need to bring a bank check in the amount of \$67,947.50.

## RESOLUTION #269 GIVING THE TREASURER PERMISSION TO GET A BANK CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$67,947.50 FOR THE NEW MAINTENANCE VEHICLE.

MOTION: Chandler

SECOND: Russo

RESOLVED to give the Treasurer permission to get a bank check in the amount of \$67,947.50 for the new maintenance vehicle.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

- Picked up the radios from Frank and gave them to Chris today.
- Training mannequins have been shipped.
- Most of the parts are in for 282 repairs, just waiting on bumper before it goes down for repairs.
- 262 is back from HL Gage; it has been filled with both water and fuel.
- Effective 1/1/2024 the new NFPA requirement regarding particulate hoods goes into effect. Need to order more. Discussion continued.

## RESOLUTION #270 ACCEPTING THE QUOTE RECEIVED FROM NY FIRE EQUIPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF 30 HOODS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,540.00.

MOTION: Chandler

SECOND: Ellsworth

RESOLVED to accept the quote received from NY Fire Equipment for the purchase of 30 hoods in the amount of \$3,540.00.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

- Discussion regarding the increased cost of air quality testing of the Cascade system, and the new quotes received from different vendors.

## RESOLUTION #271 APPROVING MES TO PERFORM THE CASCADE SYSTEM INSPECTIONS.

MOTION: Ellsworth

SECOND: Hays

RESOLVED to approve MES to perform the Cascade system inspections.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

- Co #4 Officer desktop computer is 9 years old and barely working. Brief discussion; Tech Valley will purchase new computer and monitor and price including delivery and set up is \$1,144.00.

## RESOLUTION #272 APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF A NEW DESKTOP COMPUTER FOR CO #4 OFFICERS' OFFICE.

MOTION: Ellsworth

SECOND: Ramsey

RESOLVED to approve the purchase of a new desktop computer for Co #4 officers' office.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

- Received three quotes in reference to Co #3 furnace replacement. Discussion continued.

## RESOLUTION #273 ACCEPTING THE QUOTE FROM MIDDLEBROOK'S PLUMBING & HVAC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,300.00 TO REPLACE CO #3 FURNACE.

MOTION: Ellsworth

SECOND: Russo

RESOLVED to accept the quote from Middlebrook's Plumbing & HVAC in the amount of \$8,300.00 to replace Co #3 furnace.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

- Co #3 window replacement has been deferred until next spring.
- Received three quotes in reference to Co #4 repairs and epoxy coating. Lengthy discussion continued. Board requested warranties in writing from all vendors before making a decision.
- **Treasurer:** Joyce Petkus
  - Board needs to adopt the 2024 budget this evening.

The Board noted they once again have stayed within the tax cap limit.

## RESOLUTION #274 ADOPTING THE 2024 FINAL BUDGET AS SUBMITTED.

MOTION: Chandler

SECOND: Russo

RESOLVED to adopt the 2024 Final Budget as submitted.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

The Treasurer submitted the Tax Cap form, which was accepted. She will deliver the certified copies to the Towns tomorrow.

- Discussion regarding investing monies from the Building Reserve Fund in a CD or accepting the BSNB offer of an interest rate increase to 2.5%.

## **RESOLUTION #275 ACCEPTING THE INTEREST RATE INCREASE FROM BSNB AT 2.5%.**

MOTION: Ellsworth

SECOND: Chandler

RESOLVED to accept the interest rate increase from BSNB at 2.5%.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

### **Firefighter/Auxiliary/Explorer Membership: None.**

#### **Report of the Chief – Jon Davis:**

- Not present this evening.
- D/C Petkus noted there was nothing to report.

#### **Reports from Companies:**

##### **Company #1: D/C Coffey**

- Questioned the status of the radio room heat issue; Douglas noted it should be done next week.
- A/C Marshall questioned the status of their 5 gas meter; Douglas noted he has not been able to get in touch with AJ Vel. Brief discussion continued.

##### **Company #2:**

- No one present this evening.

##### **Company #3: D/C Petkus**

- Questioned the status of the chip on the back of 282; Commissioner Ellsworth noted that Douglas will be going over to take a look at it before he calls Frank & Sons. Commissioner Ellsworth also noted there is a slight oil leak; Douglas will have Premier look at it the next time they are in the area.

##### **Company #4: President Abrams**

- Good.

#### **Report of the Training Committee:** A/C Marshall

- Part 1 of four company water drill completed; part 2 TBD.
- Meeting tomorrow.

#### **Report of the Explorer Program:** A/C W. Chandler

- Not present this evening.

#### **Reports of the Commissioners:**

- Ellsworth
  - Thanks to everyone that showed up for fire prevention; great job was done.
  - Has Galway 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary coins for Co #1, 2 and 4 to take back with them this evening.
  - Spectrum was at Co #3 on Monday; they replaced equipment. Brief discussion continued.
- Hays
  - Submitted the Leary Foundation grant for two extractors; awardee announcements are

on December 15th. Thanks to Tom Vumbaco for getting this grant going. Will use some of this info for the AFG grant.

- Questioned the Chief Letters of Intent; where are the qualifications as they were not part of the letters. It was thought that Commissioner Ramsey has them. Lengthy discussion continued. Commissioner Ramsey noted he has received D/C Barss' qualifications; D/C Petkus submitted his to Deidre last week.
- Thanks to Co #4 for the water ops training.
- Ramsey
  - By-laws were updated, Shawn was supposed to post them in the firehouses for 30 days, then the companies vote on them.
  - Questioned the status of the replacement of the broken training building window. Brief discussion; Douglas will purchase supplies next week.
- Russo
  - Nothing at this time.
- Chandler
  - Co #4 water line is still being held up by DOH.
  - The fire prevention committee used Rock City Falls' prop last week, and they would like to purchase the same one sometime in the future. The cost is approximately \$12,000.

### **Reports of the Town Board/Planning Board Liaisons**

- Town of Greenfield: nothing at this time.
- Town of Wilton: nothing at this time.

### **District Policy Review:**

- Access Card & Fob: discussion regarding changes
- Computer & Internet Use: no changes made.

## **RESOLUTION #276 APPROVING THE CHANGES TO THE ACCESS CARD & FOB POLICY AS SUBMITTED AND DISCUSSED.**

MOTION: Ramsey

SECOND: Russo

RESOLVED to approve the changes to the Access Card & Fob policy as submitted and discussed.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

### **Special Topics of Discussion/Final Comments:**

- Commissioner Ellsworth questioned the status of the ladies auxiliary. The ladies auxiliary have one set of by-laws, and they are located in the manuals. Currently only the auxiliary officers receive access. The district liaison is also an auxiliary member of their company. Lengthy discussion continued. The Board should get a list of the current auxiliary members. Chris Stanton to review the ladies auxiliary by-laws.

## **RESOLUTION #277 ENTERING INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:03 PM REGARDING MATTERS RELATED TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF NEW LEGAL COUNSEL.**

MOTION: Chandler

SECOND: Russo

RESOLVED to enter into executive session at 8:03 pm regarding matters related to the employment of new legal counsel.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #278 RECONVENING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:13 PM.**

MOTION: Chandler

SECOND: Ramsey

RESOLVED to reconvene from executive session at 8:13 pm.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #279 HIRING THE HANNIGAN LAW FIRM AS NEW DISTRICT COUNSEL.**

MOTION: Chandler

SECOND: Russo

RESOLVED to hire the Hannigan Law Firm as new district counsel.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #280 DISPENSING WITH THE READING OF THE MINUTES.**

MOTION: Chandler

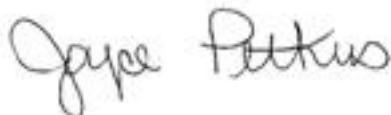
SECOND: Russo

RESOLVED to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chandler with a second from Commissioner Russo to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 PM. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Joyce A. Petkus

District Administrator/Treasurer