

Board of Fire Commissioners

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

The September 23, 2024 Commissioners meeting of the Greenfield Fire District was called to order at the District Office by Chairman Michael Chandler at 6:59 PM. The flag salute and a moment of silence were recognized for departed members.

Present were: Commissioners Chandler, Chouinard, Ellsworth, Etson, Russo, D/A-Treasurer Petkus. Excused: D/P Olson. See sign in sheet for others in attendance.

RESOLUTION #222 APPROVING THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2024 COMMISSIONER MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

MOTION: Chandler

SECOND: Russo

RESOLVED to approve the September 11, 2024 Commissioner Meeting minutes as written.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Chairman Chandler asked for questions/comments regarding the abstract:

RESOLUTION #223 APPROVING PAYMENT OF ABSTRACT #18 DATED SEPTEMBER 23, 2024 FROM THE GENERAL FUND, VOUCHER #240361 THROUGH VOUCHER #240370, TOTALING \$62,846.30.

A3410.1	\$ 6,315.71
A3410.2	\$ 958.00
A3410.4	\$ 55,075.20
A9000.8	\$ 479.39

Total: \$ 62,846.30

MOTION: Chandler

SECOND: Chouinard

RESOLVED to approve payment of Abstract #18 dated September 23, 2024 from the General Fund, voucher #240361 through voucher #240370, totaling \$62,846.30.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Reports of the Staff:

- **District Administrator:** Joyce Petkus
 - Co #3 requested Amber & Aura Cleaning have access to exterior doors; Board okayed.
 - Out of the office 9/25-9/30.
- **Director of Purchasing:** Report given by Joyce Petkus
 - Co #2 garage doors serviced by O'Leary. Let Douglas know if there are further issues. Dan will also schedule a day to look at Co #4 for PM service.
 - Hose ordered and should be delivered soon.
 - Jaws for new 261 were ordered.
 - 262 Kochek wrenches and mounts ordered per Commissioner Ellsworth as the ones on 262 are corroded and falling apart.

- 262 paint/body work completed.
- Sutphen received new 261 antennas.
- Holmatro jaws battery from Co #4 that was sent out to be rebuilt by MTO cannot be due to the circuit board being overheated, so they have refunded the money. A new battery will need to be ordered from Garrison for \$923. Reminder that batteries need be removed from chargers once they reach full charge to prevent damage. Brief discussion; Board approved purchase of new battery.
- SCBA committee would like to purchase a new SCBA air pack X3 Pro, with EZ Flow regulator, QD hose and pack tracker for \$8,096. This will zero out the .2 SCBA account for the year. Will be going in 260. Discussion continued.

RESOLUTION #224 APPROVING PURCHASE OF PACK FOR 260.

MOTION: Ellsworth

SECOND: Russo

RESOLVED to approve purchase of pack for 260.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

- The training committee has requested to spend \$1,747.10 to purchase cones and cone bars, as well as additional \$300 or so to purchase additional manuals for the EVOC train the trainer program; these purchases will be through Amazon & VFIS. Brief discussion; A/C Z. King noted the cones will most likely be stored at Co #4, and has emailed Douglas not to order manuals as they are being updated and will be available January 1st.

RESOLUTION #225 APPROVING PURCHASE OF CONES AND CONE BARS; MONEY TO COME OUT THE FIRE TRAINING LINE ITEM.

MOTION: Chandler

SECOND: Russo

RESOLVED to approve purchase of cones and cone bars; money to come out the Fire Training line item.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

- Requests for quotes for upfitting New 261 have been sent to Emergency Vehicle Upfitters and Auto-Solutions in Glenville.
- **Treasurer:** Joyce Petkus
 - Nothing at this time.

Firefighter/Auxiliary Applications and Changes in membership:

Co #1: James Schmidt

RESOLUTION #226 GIVING THE CHAIRMAN PERMISSION TO SIGN OFF ON ABOVE NEW FIREFIGHTER.

MOTION: Ellsworth

SECOND: Chouinard

RESOLVED to give the Chairman permission to sign off on above new firefighter.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

Also noted that Co #2 new member Jamison Canfield still has not submitted all his paperwork, and has not yet heard from new member Lochlan Fuller.

Report of the Chief – Derrick Barss.

- Report given by A/C Z. King
 - Truck committee decided new 275 was most cost effective to bid out the cab and chassis and utility body first and upfit second. They will be working with Douglas. Brief discussion continued.

Reports from Companies:

Company #1: D/C Marshall

- 262 looks good and is back in service except for fuel line issue; repair has been scheduled for Monday. A/C Coffey noted it looks like a lot of the truck just got touched up with a brush. Brief discussion continued.

Company #2:

- No one present this evening.

Company #3: D/C Petkus

- Would like board's approval to start looking at replacement of 281. Brief discussion; board okayed.

Company #4: A/C Z. King

- Confirmed the board received his email regarding 293; if anyone wants to come down and look, he will be happy to go through repairs that need to be corrected. Commissioner Ellsworth noted that they are aware, and he has also spoken to Douglas. Brief discussion.
- 292 may have a fuel leak and needs a blower motor. A/C Coffey also noted 262 may have a leak or it was overfilled. Discussion continued; D/C Marshall will find someone to drive it down on Monday.

Report of the Training Committee: A/C Z. King

- They were approached by Galway Fire to assist them using their new bail out system. Brief discussion. Question arose if Galway sent in their annual 2024 indemnification; Joyce noted to check with Deidre or the Chief.
- MBK Propane Emergencies training is tomorrow and next week. Secured live fire prop; Buhmaster donated propane/driver, and JR Propane donated propane, but there would be a cost for the driver of \$125. Brief discussion; the board okayed, and invoice should be sent directly to the Treasurer email.
- Four company live burn with Wilton FD scheduled for 10/22.
- Tactical Response to Natural Gas & Propane Emergencies scheduled for 11/19 at Co #1. Will be contacting the auxiliary for assistance for food and refreshments.
- There has been a slight change to the 2025 SCBA budget as two more frames need to be purchased; Captain Kreuger reworked the budget so that those two frames will come out of the SCBA Reserve instead. Brief discussion.

Reports of the Commissioners:

- Chouinard
 - Nothing at this time.
- Etson
 - Nothing at this time.
- Russo
 - Nothing at this time.
- Ellsworth
 - Confirmed fire prevention for Greenfield Elementary is October 4th, and October 18th for Dorothy Nolan Elementary.

- Confirmed that based on his attendance at the recent truck committee meeting, the lights and stuff for new 275 will be bid first, and then the truck. A/C King noted there was that discussion, but questioned if both bids could go out together. Also clarified they are only bidding on a Ford. Discussion continued.
- Co #2 floor is done and looks good. He also spoke to Bill Reid and he should be starting next week, but President McGowan wants to meet with him prior to starting.
- Questioned Joyce if Douglas put the bid out for the Jeep; Joyce noted she did not know.
- Questioned status of snowplow bid; Joyce noted she already took care of advertising it and the bids are due on October 8th.
- Questioned Commissioner Etson if the pictures needed to move forward with the extractor grant were submitted; Joyce sent them out.
- Reminded the board of the comments by Tim Hannigan in reference to creating special tax zones; he will need to do some more research, but he needs to know what areas the board is considering. Discussion continued. Commissioner Ellsworth will go to the tax collector to get tax map information.
- Chandler
 - Received easement back from the attorney; questioned if the district information or car dealership information needed to be verified; Joyce noted she did not know. He will contact the attorney.
 - Regarding the cell tower extension agreement, the attorney noted it was okay to sign, but suggested that the district first renegotiate the lease amount being received. Discussion continued.

Reports of the Town Board/Planning Board Liaisons

- **Town of Greenfield:** Commissioner Etson
 - Has an upcoming meeting with members of the town board regarding ARPA COVID money that the town had received. Brief discussion.
 - The town board is still discussing chicken farming.
- **Town of Wilton:** Commissioner Chouinard
 - Nothing at this time.

District Policy Review:

- Membership Application: no changes made.
- New Member Live Burn: no changes made.
- New Member Orientation: Brief discussion; no changes made.
- Unassigned Fund Balance: moved to next meeting agenda.

Special Topics of Discussion/Final Comments:

- New 261 list of equipment: D/C Marshall handed out list of equipment needed; he is working with Douglas to get pricing. The equipment on current 261 is being left on the truck for when it is moved over to Co #4. Lengthy discussion continued, including the maximum size inverter to be installed on new 261 should not be more than a 3000, and getting pricing from vendors to do the installation. AJ Signs is working on a proof for the lettering. A deck gun is also needed; new 261 does not come with one, but it is being piped for one. Undercoating is being done by Vander Molen. Some items on the list may already be in inventory.
- 2025 budget discussion: Joyce noted that the draft proposed budget is currently \$11,618 over the tax cap. Commissioner Ellsworth noted he had spoken to Joyce regarding trying not to go over the tax cap, and where to take the money from. She ran a report on the 4 trucks where the most money was spent: 262, 281, 292 and 293, removed all non-recurring charges and calculated that annual apparatus, maintenance and repairs were about \$83,500.00, suggesting that the board could drop that line item amount by the

amount over the tax cap if the board chose to do so. Discussion continued, including unassigned fund balance amount and any grant money awarded to the district. Apparatus, Maintenance and Repairs line item decreased by \$12,000 to \$138,000.00, bringing the new total 2025 Proposed Budget back under the tax cap by \$382 to \$1,968,086.00. Joyce noted she is comfortable with that amount under, and also that once the proposed budget is approved tonight the board will not be able to increase the amounts going into the reserve funds, but can still make changes to the general fund amount after the public hearing, if they so choose to make changes. The Public Budget hearing is scheduled for October 15th. Brief discussion continued.

RESOLUTION #227 ACCEPTING THE 2025 PROPOSED BUDGET AS CHANGED, WITH EXPLANATION THAT IT WAS OVER THE TAX CAP BUT WAS REDUCED TO GET IT UNDER THE TAX CAP.

MOTION: Chandler

SECOND: Russo

RESOLVED to accept the 2025 Proposed Budget as changed, with explanation that it was over the tax cap but was reduced to get it under the tax cap.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

- Commissioner Ellsworth noted that years ago there was a standardization of KME trucks and questioned if that is still in place and where the document is located. Joyce noted she would look for it. Brief discussion continued.
- Captain N. King noted that the rescue committee understands that some of the money for the jaws for new 261 depleted the rescue account, but the committee is asking for a FAST Rit pack and FAST board for Co #3, some new blades for rotary saws, prusik rope, new PFD's to replace the outdated ones, and some chain hooks to go on jaws at Co #4. The committee found a dual-purpose FAST board with flotation devices on it to replace their ice rescue sled. Cost is approximately \$3,500.00. Discussion continued; Commissioner Ellsworth to contact the Lion's Club. Joyce to look for money to purchase the dual-purpose FAST board with flotation devices; reminder to everyone that the officers/committees only have until October 31st to make purchases. Added to next meeting agenda. Discussion continued.

RESOLUTION #228 DISPENSING WITH THE READING OF THE MINUTES.

MOTION: Chandler

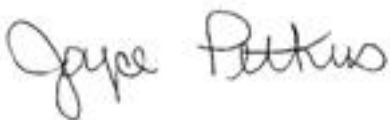
SECOND: Russo

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 8:24 PM. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Joyce A. Petkus
District Administrator/Treasurer

Greenfield Fire District 2025 Proposed Budget

A3410.1 Personal Services	\$	196,427.00
A3410.2 Equipment & Capital Outlay	\$	203,342.00
A3410.4 Contractual & Other	\$	762,065.00
A3410.8 Employee Benefits	\$	181,252.00
A962 Other Budgetary Purposes (Reserves)	\$	625,000.00
Total	\$	1,968,086.00

2025 Proposed Budget	\$	1,968,086.00
2024 Total Budget	\$	1,911,413.00
Difference from 2024	\$	56,673.00
% Increase from 2024		2.96%

Greenfield Equalization Rate	70.00%
Wilton Equalization Rate	72.00%

Greenfield Assessed Value	\$	863,564,007.00
Wilton Assessed Value	\$	629,400,405.00

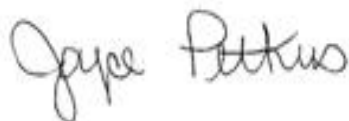
Greenfield Equalized Full Value	\$	1,233,662,867.14
Wilton Equalized Full Value	\$	874,167,229.17

Greenfield Estimated Full Valuation %	0.59
Wilton Estimated Full Valuation %	0.41

Town of Greenfield Estimated Taxes to be raised	\$	1,151,873.97
Town of Wilton Estimated Taxes to be raised	\$	816,212.03
Total Estimated Taxes to be raised	\$	1,968,086.00

Greenfield Estimated Tax Rate per \$1,000	\$0.9337
Wilton Estimated Tax Rate per \$1,000	\$0.9337

I certify that the estimates were approved by the Fire Commissioners on September 23, 2024.



Joyce A. Petkus
District Administrator/Treasurer

2025 Proposed Budget - Addendum

A-100 Personal Services	
A3410.12 District Adm./Treasurer	\$ 66,200.16
A3410.14 Station Keeper/Purchasing Agent	\$ 55,166.79
A3410.13 Operations Secretary	\$ 31,214.98
A3410.16 PT Maintenance	\$ 39,420.76
A3410.15 Overtime	\$ 4,424.31
Total .1	\$ 196,427.00
A-200 Equipment & Capital Outlay	
Computers	\$ 9,000.00
EMS	\$ 10,000.00
Fire Police	\$ 2,500.00
Hazmat	\$ 10,900.00
Hose	\$ 16,112.00
Miscellaneous Equipment	\$ 6,000.00
Pagers	\$ 5,000.00
Personal Protective Equipment	\$ 75,000.00
Radios	\$ 6,000.00
Rescue	\$ 35,000.00
SCBA Account	\$ 25,830.00
Security System	\$ 2,000.00
Total .2	\$ 203,342.00
A-400 Contractual & Other	
Annual meeting, drills	\$ 1,000.00
Apparatus Maintenance/Repairs	\$ 138,000.00
Audit	\$ 5,500.00
Contingency Fund (1990.4)	\$ -
Convention	\$ 4,000.00
Dues. Legal Fees	\$ 13,000.00
EMS Training	\$ 10,000.00
Equipment Inspection	\$ 38,550.00
Explorer Program (Post 4026)	\$ 2,000.00
Fire Prevention/Marketing	\$ 5,000.00
Fire Training	\$ 29,700.00
Gas & Diesel	\$ 40,000.00
Grants	\$ 17,500.00
Installation Inspection	\$ 15,000.00
Insurance	\$ 60,000.00
IT Services	\$ 29,540.00
Maintenance Supplies	\$ 2,500.00
Office Supplies	\$ 3,000.00
Operations	\$ 36,305.00
Physicals & Infectious Disease	\$ 40,000.00
Recruitment & Retention	\$ 5,000.00
Repairs to Equipment	\$ 10,000.00
Repairs, Building Maint & Grounds	\$ 139,670.00
Service Award Program Fee	\$ 8,600.00
Uniforms	\$ 5,000.00
Utilities	\$ 103,200.00
Total .4	\$ 762,065.00
A-800 Employee Benefits	
A9025.8 Local Pension Fund	\$ 120,000.00
A9030.8 Social Security	\$ 15,000.00
A9040.8 Workers' Compensation	\$ 6,500.00
A9050.8 Unemployment Insurance	\$ 5,000.00
A9055.8 Disability Insurance	\$ 17,000.00
A9060.8 Hospital, Medical & Accident Ins.	\$ 9,752.00
A9089.8 Other Employee Benefits	\$ 8,000.00
Total .8	\$ 181,252.00
A962 Other Budgetary Purposes	
Building Reserve	\$ 270,000.00
Equipment Reserve	\$ 265,000.00
Ladder Reserve	\$ 50,000.00
SCBA Reserve	\$ 40,000.00
Total A962	\$ 625,000.00
Total 2025 Proposed Budget	\$ 1,968,086.00