

Montauk Fire District

September 23, 2015

Commissioners Workshop Meeting 19:00 hours

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Joseph Dryer, Chairman
Carmine Marino
Michael Mirras
Richard Monahan
Richard Schoen

Also Present: Chief Joseph Lenahan, 1st Assistant Chief Vincent Franzone and Secretary/Treasurer Terri Czczotka

Call Meeting to Order:

Chairman Dryer called the meeting to order at 19:00 hours asking everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary's Report:

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Marino motioned to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2015 Regular Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Monahan; motioned/passed/carried.

Time Off Requests: Ms. Czczotka requested to use 8 vacation days on October 26-29 and November 2-5, 2015. Commissioner Mirras motioned to approve the request, seconded by Chairman Dryer; motioned/passed/carried.

Accept proposed budget: Chairman motioned to accept the proposed 2016 budget, seconded by Commissioner Schoen; motioned/passed/carried.

Audit of Bills: Ms. Czczotka read aloud invoices totaling: \$22,572.29 (see attached journals). Commissioner Mirras motioned to approve payment on the invoices totaling \$22,572.29, seconded by Chairman Dryer; motioned/passed/carried.

Workshop topics:

Hydrant Authorization: District received letter on hydrant authorization on Prospect Hill Drive. Chief has asked for two hydrants. Ms. Czczotka will respond.

House Report: Chairman Dryer asked if Celtic got a chance to look at the crack. Commissioner Marino will follow up with them. Chairman Dryer mentioned he has been observing signs for our parking lot. Commissioner Marino mentioned that the Towns of Huntington and Islip tow the vehicles in their areas because of a town ordinance. Chief Franzone asked about backup in game room. Brent ran a snake town, as long as water is run at a normal rate, it flows fine. If things get bad, we will call in a plumber to snake line further. Odor in ladies room is no longer present. Chief Lenahan wanted Board to know that Rex Martin did phenomenal job at the Big Bucks event. Department would like to do something extra for him as a thank you.

Commissioner Schoen asked about flu shots for this year. CVS offers free to those on Medicare. Chairman Dryer will look into flu shots for the Department.

Commissioner Mirras asked about different packages for LOSAP distribution. Chairman Dryer said our current plan is best for tax reasons. He will look into other options with RBC.

Commissioner Monahan brought up that Chief Franzone is the only one who is qualified to run for Chief. Chairman Dryer said he believes those interested in running are taking the required courses. Commissioner Monahan responded that the courses will not be completed in time by when they take office. Chairman Dryer said if a Chief is enrolled in the class and completes it, the Board is OK with it, and this is reviewed and approved each year. Chief Franzone said there has been a lot of misinterpretation of the courses. Another problem is that some of the courses are only given once a year. Commissioner Monahan asked if the members are aware of the situation, that they have the option of taking the class at the beginning of the year? Chief Franzone said that Chief Lenahan has e-mailed and texted them with the guidelines. Chief Lenahan and Chris Carillo are enrolled in the Intro to Fire Officer course. 5 people took in the summer and passed. Fire Officer 1 is given in February. Chief Schoen said there are 15 people who have taken Intro to Fire Officer already. Commissioner Monahan asked if those people who have taken Intro to Fire Officer can run for Chief provided they take the Fire Officer 1 course in February. Chief Lenahan said yes.

Chief's Report:

Chief presented an application for membership for Kyle Pomerantz which was approved by the Department. Commissioner Mirras motioned to accept, seconded by Commissioner Monahan; motioned/passed/carried. Chairman Dryer asked how many members this would make in Company 4. Chief said there are 23 members not counting Kyle, he would make 24.

Chief informed the Board that there will be two interim officers appointed, Co. 1 Lieutenant: David Ryan and Company 1 Lieutenant, Steve Sizse as Rob Lucas was just hired by EHTP and until April is not allowed to be active in MFD during training.

Some training will be taking place in Yaphank: Intro to Fire Officer, October 31 – December 12, 2015 and Fire Officer 1, February 14 – April 6, 2016. Commissioner Monahan said Chief need to mention if you want to be Chief, you need to take these and you would still be able to run for Chief if you take both of these now.

Chiefs are trying to get the Wainscott facility designated as a training facility.

There will be a membership drive for firefighters being held on September 30, 2015 at 7PM in the Meeting Room.

Final bid specifications for rescue truck were given to Commissioner Mirras.

Chief Lenahan mentioned that a client of his asked to donate to the fire department and what did we need. Chief told him rescue tools, and Chief received a check for \$22,500.00. This donation was requested to remain anonymous, and specified it should be used for tools. Chief asked Firematic for quote on e-hydraulics. Chief asking Board to accept donation. Commissioner Monahan asked if he wouldn't want to bring to Department first, and Chief said he already did. There were no comments and a round of applause. Commissioner Mirras said the tools are very effective and useful. Do we accept the money and we go buy or do you accept equipment? Commissioner Schoen spoke to Joe Frank, who said District has no authority to dictate how the Department spends its money. However, the District has full control of how the Department raises its money. Now the Department is seeking funds for specified items. He feels this is the wrong way of doing things. One individual should make that determination. Laws of the State of New York dictate any donation that is sought, whether Big Bucks or letters of appeal require approval of the Board. Chairman Dryer reminded that Chief Lenahan is bringing it to the Board for approval, he did not go out and purchase it. Commissioner

Monahan has an issue with accepting the check. Individuals should not butt in and purchase equipment for us. We can approve any donations made to MFD, but we can also say no donations can be specified for a specific purchase of an item. Commissioner Mirras said that means the reverse is true, we can approve the solicitation of fundraising for an item. Commissioner Schoen asked if funds are sought from a donor for a specific piece of equipment and we don't approve, do the funds get returned to the donor? We don't want to be in that position to return the money, we don't want it. Procedure would be that Department accepts a donation without a specification, Department accepts and takes to membership for approval to buy XYZ and then takes to Board for approval. Chief said in last 20 years he has had two donations made that bought confined space trailer and equipment for it. He has never gone out and asked his clients for money. He said then every single donation would need to be brought to the Board. Commissioner Mirras asked if it was taken back to membership and voted on it and brought back to Board for approval, is that OK? Commissioner Schoen would be agreeable to putting a motion on the floor that the Department could raise funds in any manner they wish, provided that they are not dedicated funds. Then Department votes on what they want to spend it on, and then we decide whether to accept or not. Commissioner Marino asked if someone came in, looked at equipment and wanted to give us \$750,000.00 for a new truck, would we say no? Board said we would explain to him what the law is, we would not say take your money and go away. Commissioner Mirras asked if someone approached District to buy a specific piece of equipment, would we be able to accept?

Chief Franzone asked about the porting paperwork. This has already been approved. Chairman Dryer signed the paperwork.

Chief requested approval to send two members to the Vital Signs Conference on October 22-25, 2015. Chairman Dryer motioned to approve at a cost not to exceed \$3,500.00, seconded by Commissioner Monahan; motioned/passed/carried.

Chief Lenahan said a \$600,000.00 grant from homeland security was awarded for a fire boat that will be stationed in Montauk and purchased and maintained by the Town of East Hampton. They are requesting 6 individuals to run boat and 15 firefighters. It will be an ambulance as well and will have two bunks for the injured. East Hampton will own it but we will have full use of it any any time.

Commissioner Schoen mentioned the truck weighing and said Town of East Hampton can do it.

Open to the Floor:

Commissioner Marino motioned to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Schoen; motioned/passed/carried.

Adjourned 20:32 hours