

**Montauk Fire District**

**May 23, 2018**

**Commissioners Workshop Meeting 19:00 hours**

**MINUTES**

**Commissioners Present:** Joseph Dryer, Chairman  
Richard Schoen  
Dick Monahan

**Also Present:** Assistant Chief Dave Ryan, Lieutenant Bob Mautshke, Paramedic Supervisor Walter Lynch and Secretary/Treasurer Dawn Lucas

**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:** Commissioners Schoen and Monahan noted some changes needed to be done on the minutes. Commissioner Schoen then motioned to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2018 Regular Commissioner Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Monahan; motioned/passed/carried.

**Audit of Bills:** Ms. Lucas read aloud invoices totaling: \$20,121.37 (see attached journals). Chairman Dryer motioned to approve payment on the invoices totaling \$20,121.37, seconded by Commissioner Schoen; motioned/passed/carried.

**Workshop topics:**

**Purchase Requisitions;**

- A purchase requisition from EMP for medical supplies totaling \$857.14, Commissioner Dryer motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Monahan; motioned/passed/carried.
- A purchase requisition from Boundtree for medical supplies totaling \$885.60, Commissioner Schoen motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Monahan; motioned/passed/carried.
- A purchase requisition from EMP for medical supplies, totaling \$765.64 Commissioner Monahan motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Schoen; motioned/passed/carried.
- A purchase requisition from Boundtree for medical supplies totaling \$1015.30, Chairman Dryer motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Monahan; motioned/passed/carried.
- A purchase requisition from Boundtree for medical supplies totaling \$695.15, Commissioner Monahan motioned to approve, seconded by Chairman Dryer; motioned/passed/carried.

**New 9-3-3;** Commissioner Dryer wanted to discuss the fact that the drivers side head light is partially obscured by the control panel for the pumps. Brent put the lights on in the garage and shined them on the door, the passenger light is a strong beam, the drivers one is a compromised light. He feels it's a

design flaw and is uncomfortable having a truck with such a flaw. Could it be a liability issue or inspection issue? Commissioner Schoen said since we do not get these vehicles inspected there has to be some sort of regulation or requirement for operating headlights. First we need to bring it to Firematic's attention and have them address our concerns that they have a design flaw in the vehicle where the control box is blocking one of the headlights, what do you propose to do about it. Chairman Dryer to follow up with Firematic.

**Old 9-3-3;** At last meeting it was brought up that we were moving forward with converting 9-3-3 to a brush truck, that is not the case as per Chairman Dryer. In his opinion it's a good idea to make it into a solid brush truck, seems to have everything it needs. Before we do anything we need to get a thorough inspection done by Fully Involved to make sure after taken apart, everything is sound. If it is sound get a solid plan together with specs and move forward, but then we really need to consider getting rid of the Brat. Chief Ryan stated he disagrees, the Brat is actually a small engine, not a brush truck that could go off road and has the capabilities of driving and using a deluge gun along the side of a road if there is a fire. Chairman Dryer agrees it's certainly possible to move forward with old 9-3-3, but a thorough study needs to be done to see if its valuable enough to do. Commissioner Schoen agrees we can get quotes and ideas on what can be done with Old 9-3-3. He would tend to go along with turning old 9-3-3 into a brush truck, provided we get rid of the Brat. Chairman Dryer noted we will move forward on the evaluation of old 9-3-3 to make sure its structural sound, get an idea of specs, and make sure we can drive while engaged down the road.

#### ***Apparatus and Equipment;***

- Commissioner Monahan noted he has been trying to get a dollar amount on that Husky screen for 9-3-4. We are getting nowhere, so he is going to reach out to Mark Tullo from Firematic, who claims he sent John from Fully Involved the information awhile ago but John still has not received.
- 9-3-18- Commissioner Monahan would like to consider keeping 9-3-18 when we decide on purchasing a new ambulance. It doesn't have to be stocked as an ambulance, use as a backup ambulance. Commissioner Schoen noted he is totally against it. Paramedic Supervisor Walter Lynch mentioned that in Nassau County, when his rig needs service he takes all equipment and drugs and transfers to another certified ambulance. This could work here too especially in the summer time. To make sure it gets used we could rotate all the ambulances monthly or every other. Chairman Dryer stated its a healthy discussion that we need to discuss further since Commissioner Mirras and Wright are not here and noted to put on agenda for next meeting. Walter also mentioned to Lenahan and Dustin, he knows we are big on these van ambulances out east, but pick vans have come all way and they come with 4x4 capabilities. This past winter he was able to use one and it was a pleasure to have, where as he used to get stuck with the other ambulances, the four wheel drive was such a pleasure. Chairman Dryer stated we could recommend and make the committee aware of these types of ambulances when the time comes to purchasing a new one.
- 9-3-18- Commissioner Monahan discussed converting to LED lights, cost is \$3,500 to \$5,000, but if we are going to replace this apparatus then might not be needed.
- 9-3-14- there are two issues, the back up camera, Chief Valcich has provided us with a vendor from up island that he has used, his fee is \$1,800 and Fully Involves price cost is \$1,400 but wants to compare and make sure apples to apples. The other issue is the generator, it can not be replaced, it's not being made any longer and a new generator cost is \$15,000.00. John from Fully Involved recommended LED lighting which would work off the battery and not require a generator. He also noted a possibility of an inverter which may be less than doing the LED. Commissioner Monahan will

get more information on both options and get back to us. Its not a question if the generator will go, its when will it go.

***Chief's Report;***

- Chief Ryan stated Dave Grimes is going to flatbed 9-3-8 for the training in Yaphank on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30am. If you did not take the wildfire course you can still go up and learn how to drive on the course.
- Two cadet members are taking the boot camp hybrid course starting tomorrow and should be ready to go for the summer.
- As per Chief Ryan, Chief Valcich was wondering about the back up cameras, he likes the ones he recommended, the three cameras and all come up on the screen. Commissioner Monahan just wants him to look at John's quote to make sure comparing apples to apples.
- A purchase requisition from The Fire Store for extrication gloves and hot stick, totaling \$553.93 Commissioner Schoen motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Monahan; motioned/passed/carried.

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**Open to the Floor:**

–Robert Mautshke at the last Commissioner's meeting discussed the use and abuse of our personal and equipment. Also discussed a program going on in Washington DC and other cities regarding the backlog of 911 calls. As discussed previously, he would like to charge for unnecessary ambulance calls. He is aware there is legislation up in Albany right now discussing this exact dilemma. He feels we should be able to give options, call a cab, drive themselves or if medically necessary take them in the ambulance. Robert also mentioned in the Sunday NY Times, there was an article; Is the ER Trip necessary, an insurer may not think so. Insurance companies are not paying for unnecessary trips to the Emergency Room. Chief Ryan said there is a flip side to this too, people might be worried about incurring an expense so they are starting to call Uber and then what happens when there is an issue. Chief stated there are so many facets to this and can understand the frustration but we need to realize we volunteered for this. Walter stated you can be stern with them and really see if they want to go but bottom line you can not refuse taking them because then it becomes a liability on us. Sooner or later the theory of putting them in a cab might backfire, statistically something bad is going to happen and unfortunately if they say they want to go to the hospital then they have to go. Commissioner Schoen tried to address all subjects that Robert brought up;

–1- We can not charge right now for Ambulance Services.lk;

–2- We have been pushing for 3 years through our representatives, organizations and District Officers to allow us to bill for Ambulances and they are up in Albany right now doing what you said we should be doing. The push back has been coming from paid Ambulance cores that would loose out, upstate where you have associate ambulance services one BLS and one ALS service. Also NYS is the only state that does not allow billing.

–3- If we are permitted to charge, there can be no discrimination given at all. The individual patient would be billed and then they could submit to insurance company and not our problem if they will not cover.

–4- This is not a new problem with the ambulance, frequent fliers, if they want to go to the hospital we have to take them.

5- If the law passes then it would come to the table and we would decide if we are going to charge and if so how much to charge. The rational for charging would be to hold down the tax rate. We would do this to cover our expenses. The representatives are pushing for this.

6- No one would object to putting a letter in the EH Star or at the post office making the public aware that the EMS- Emergency Medical Service is not a taxi service, call 911 only if you have an emergency, please do not call unnecessarily.

Chairman Dryer thanked Robert for his time and passion about this. Commissioner Schoen and Chairman Dryer will draft a letter and see what can be done about this. Chief Ryan wanted to let us know that East Hampton already does this just not sure of the exact wording.

Commissioner Schoen asked what is going on with the extrication pad, he has heard different things. Right now its being evaluated to see if its sound to just add on or should we redo whole thing. If we are going to spend money, we should do it the right way. Will discuss at next meeting.

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

**Adjourned 20:10 hours**