

Montauk Fire District
October 28, 2020
Commissioners Workshop Meeting 18:35 hours

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Joseph Dryer
Richard Schoen
Michael Mirras
James Wright
William Pitts

Also Present: Chief Mitchel Valcich, 1st Asst. Chief Scott Snow, 2nd Asst. Chief Ken Glogg and Secretary/Treasurer Dawn Lucas

Call Meeting to Order:

Chairman Dryer called the Workshop meeting to order at 18:35 hours asking everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

First Chairman Dryer swore in Robert Mautschke as the new Captain of Company 4 and Ellen Cook as 2nd Lieutenant until December 31, 2020 when a new vote will be completed.

Secretary's Report:

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Wright motioned to approve minutes of the October 13, 2020 Regular Commissioner meeting with said corrections, seconded by Chairman Dryer; motioned/passed/carried.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Dryer motioned to approve minutes of the October 20, 2020 Budget Hearing with said corrections, seconded by Commissioner Wright; motioned/passed/carried.

Resolution appointing Board of Elections for Annual Elections of the Montauk Fire District; Commissioner Mirras read aloud Resolution Appointing Board of Elections for Annual Elections of the Montauk Fire District (see attached). Board unanimously approved the resolution.

Audit of Bills:

Audit of Bills: Invoices were presented for payment, totaling \$101,907.93, Commissioner Wright motioned to approve the bills, seconded by William Pitts; motioned/passed/carried.

Workshop Topics:

Montauk Fire District Vehicle Use Policy- (see attached) Commissioner Wright motioned to accept policy, the policy was duly put to a vote and upon roll call was unanimously adopted.

Refuse Removal/Snow Removal Notice to Bidders- Ms. Lucas will put notices in paper and bids will be due by our December 8th meeting. The contract will be for the 2021 season.

Chief's Report

- Physicals- 5 more members still need to schedule. Chief is asking the district to extend the deadline till end of November due to how long it takes for blood work and COVID. Commissioner Schoen stated its a slap in the face to the members that were able to get there physicals done, the district provided a resolution for a reason, you have 10 months to get your physical. Commissioner Wright motioned to extend the physical requirement this year ONLY due to COVID till the end of November, at that time if a member has not had their physical, they will be suspended and if not completed by December 31st they are out of the department, seconded by Commissioner Schoen; motioned/passed/carried. Chief will address at the next department meeting.
- **Company 2's** fan will be here within the week.
- CO detectors for Charlie Grimes and the 3 ambulances and 9-3-80. Brent was working on that, will discuss with him when he returns.
- Santa Claus will be set up so family's can drive up and stockings will be handed to them for the kids.
- The hydrants on Laurel will be flow tested on Saturday with Robert Gosman, Ms. Lucas got approval from SCWA.
- Green mics came in for the portable radios.
- Bracket for the new RAM from Firematic, which is no cost to us will be here next Tuesday.
- The HURST tools need annual inspections, Chief would like to start setting that up.
- Memorium sign completed and it was tested unfortunately
- Chip and Erika still taking EMT class in Southold and Heather Matthews taking heavy Rescue in Yaphank.
- PPE equipment report is about the same as last time. Donna is checking daily on stuff, she set up an account with Grainger for the N95 masks.
- Low band radio really needs to be addressed, Commissioner Pitts stated he has that on his report.
- Floors are slippery when trucks are pulled out, maybe get the custodians to put the absorbent pads underneath.
- Emerald Turnbull out sick, will need a doctors note to return fully but can attend department meetings and fire school.
- 3 Members going to Indy, which was already pre-approved from last year but due to COVID cancelled. They have rescheduled event to this year and now plane tickets need to be arranged. Ms Lucas will work on that.
- Dave Ryan just needs to be sworn in as Lieutenant, Ms. Lucas already took care of that and also swore in Robert Gosman as Captain until the elections in December.
- Chief stated there was discussion about possibly getting telephones for the ambulances and 9-3-80, any further word on that. Chairman Dryer stated that Commissioner Schoen looked further into our insurance policy and found that we were able to get reimbursed for the damaged phone from previous incident. There is no need for separate phones in the ambulances at this time. The Chief's disagree, they feel phones should be in the ambulances and 9-3-80 so they can perform their duties with all tools available to them to help potentially save a persons life. Commissioner Schoen is not against getting phones but not an \$800 smart phone. Commissioner Mirras brought up if an incident gets investigated, personal phones could get subpoenaed and everything on that phone is admissible. Chairman Dryer stated lets continue doing what we have been doing and evaluate it on a case by case basis. Commissioner Pitts suggested discussing with the ambulance company and Walter and find out what they would prefer. Chief Valcich will discuss with all and report back at next meeting.

- Chief brought up getting new chief's vehicles for 9-3-31 and 9-3-32. Commissioner Mirras asked Commissioner Pitts to do some research on the cost of those vehicles and MSA Packs.
- Chief Snow submitted truck checks.

Open to the Floor:

Commissioner Schoen noted that all district regular or special elections, all voting materials, including ballots must be provided in both English and Spanish.

Ms. Lucas presented information from East End Financial about LOSAP. They said if we have any questions to contact them and they will be glad to discuss with you. They usually give a presentation but COVID has put a damper on that. Commissioner Mirras stated it shows a 17% rate of return which means we are doing very well.

Commissioner Wright asked if the Overhead Door Project contracts were signed and sent to Tanzi. Ms. Lucas signed and will be sending out tomorrow.

Commissioner Mirras addressed the Treasurer's reports, he will review them all but at a quick glance he sees the Equipment fund has about \$327,000 and the Building fund has about \$206,000.

Chairman Dryer wanted to clarify the duties of a Chairman that were addressed in a previous meeting with Commissioner Schoen, has more duties than running a meeting. He presented his findings to Commissioner Schoen. Commissioner Schoen rejected his findings, they pertain to a corporate Chairman of the Board has nothing to do with the fire district but Section 176 Powers and Duties of a Fire District commissioner does and presented to Chairman Dryer which he accepted and will read over.

Commissioner Schoen asked about the status of the old Van. Ms Lucas is waiting for the bidder to come with a certified check, she will contact again tomorrow.

Commissioner Pitts discussed equipment information;

- 9-3-17- New stretcher is in.
- 9-3-16- is out to get new stretcher in. No word on fender yet for that repair.
- 9-3-14- Chief will provide information on camera people to get repaired.
- 9-3-18- any word from insurance company. Commissioner Schoen stated the repair will cost \$1,858.49 minus \$500 deductible, so we will be receiving a check for \$1,358.49. Ms. Lucas stated we just received check today. Commissioner Pitts also found that the music radio is not covered under warranty, only good for 1 year. The year starts when the chassis is delivered to the manufacturer. It will cost \$500 to repair or \$527 for a brand new one. Commissioner Wright motioned to purchase new radio, seconded by Commissioner Mirras; motioned/passed/carried.
- For all future purchases, all warranties take effect day we receive the vehicle and that should be stated in the bid.
- 9-3-32- battery issues, no stop lights, drivers side window issues. Brought to T&B and asked for them to fix. They said window is a Buzz Chew issue.

- Also the district pick up truck stopped running, brought in for repairs and found the fuel pump was bad and it dropped a cylinder. The tailgate is not repairable either. Commissioner Pitts found right now we can not get Chevy or GMC on state bid only Dodge or Ford.
- Commissioner Pitts is researching quotes on chief's vehicles and a district truck and SCBA packs.
- Also the district van was pushed from August to December.
- Low band radios were discussed with Eddie Schnell, parts are hard to come by and within the next couple of years fire services will go to UHF radios. Chief stated we need to get some sort of back up system in place in case we go down. Eddie said portable radios could be used. Chief stated he will discuss with Eddie also to see what can be done.
- Commissioner Pitts had some questions for the lawyer, are members covered by the district's insurance if they respond directly to the scene in their own personal vehicle. Commissioner Schoen will contact Eckers office, but his reaction and opinion would be, the district's policy would not cover personal automobile use, that is why we have vehicles in the department and he suggests we utilize the vehicles the district has provided. Commissioner Mirras stated that he thinks there is a provision in New York for insurance policies that if you have an accident responding to a call your insurance would NOT be raised. That is something to look into.
- Chief Glogg addressed the fact that right now there are chief's vehicles that aren't working right, are we going to get compensated if anything was to happen to us with our personal vehicle. Are you going to take it on a case by case basis. We will address once we get an answer from the insurance company.

Commissioner Schoen motioned to adjourn meeting @ 19:40 hrs, seconded by Commissioner Wright; motioned/passed/carried.

Adjourned 19:40 hours