

*Montauk Fire District
March 9, 2021
Commissioners Regular Meeting 18:30 hours*

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Joseph Dryer
James Wright
Richard Schoen
William R. Pitts
John Mark

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

Call Meeting to Order:

Chairman Dryer called the meeting to order at 18:30 hours asking everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

He then discussed that the CDC announced that if everyone has had the vaccination we could skip the distancing although he thought we should keep that, but we could take the masks off. He asked what everyone's opinion was seeing that everyone in the room excluding Ms. Lucas has gotten vaccinated. Commissioner Pitts feels it should be personal preference. He also was curious if we are going to open up for meetings of such.

Chairman Dryer stated we can start in April and continue for another couple of months. For Department meetings, companies 1,2,3 Monday and 4,5,6 Tuesday. Firehouse will still be only for members not open to the public. Company level meetings can still meet as usual. Commissioner Schoen stated since we will be opening up for meetings, the regulations regarding LOSAP will return to normal. He spoke with our attorney Joe Frank and he said as long as there are no restrictions due to COVID on department meetings, drills, company meetings, fire schools then it is up to the board to return to normal LOSAP activities. Chief asked about the points for January, February and March that were given to each member due to COVID, how would those points get applied. Commissioner Schoen explained each member would get 15 points added to their LOSAP total for the year. It has nothing to do with how or where, they will automatically get 15 points. Chiefs thought there were certain amount of points in certain categories needed for LOSAP. Department Good Standing points are where you need a specific amount for a specific category.

Secretary's Report:

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Dryer motioned to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2021 Emergency Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Mark; motioned/passed/carried.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Dryer motioned to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2021, Workshop Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Schoen; motioned/passed/carried.

Purchase Requisitions:

- A purchase requisition for EMP for medical supplies totaling \$485.00, Commissioner Schoen motioned to approve, seconded by Chairman Dryer; motioned/passed/carried.
- A purchase requisition for EMP for medical supplies totaling \$313.94, Commissioner Schoen motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Mark; motioned/passed/carried.
- A purchase requisition for Teleflex for medical supplies totaling \$562.50, Commissioner Mark motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Wright; motioned/passed/carried.
- A purchase requisition for Boundtree for medical supplies totaling \$156.25, Commissioner Pitts motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Schoen; motioned/passed/carried.

Treasurers Report: Treasures Report for December 2020 was reviewed, Bank reconciliation was checked and signed off on by Commissioner Mark.. Commissioner Schoen motioned to accept Treasurer's report, seconded by Commissioner Mark; motioned/passed/carried.

Audit of Bills: Ms. Lucas presented the invoices for payment totaling: \$17,437.29. Commissioner Schoen motioned to approve the invoices totaling \$17,437.29, seconded by Commissioner Wright; motioned/passed/carried.

Committee Reports:

Apparatus and Equipment:

- 9-3-1- lift cylinders have been fixed.
- 9-3-18- fender repaired and back in service.
- 9-3-5- problem with battery, new battery put in, now up and running.
- 9-3-9- is back in back building.
- District Van is at Sagamore Lights, it's getting lettered, light bar and siren installed. Commissioner Pitts discussed an increase in cost for putting 9-3-19 on the roof as per Chief's request. The increase is \$400. Commissioner Pitts motioned to accept increase in price for graphics of 9-3-19, seconded by Chairman Dryer, motioned/passed/carried.
- Sagamore Lights also looked at the Chief's car and explained they would install graphics, LED lights, radios, reflective marks for \$15,325.00. Commissioner Pitts motioned to accept cost, seconded by Chairman Dryer; motioned/passed/carried. Cost for the new Chief's vehicle is \$47, 800, Commissioner Pitts motioned to approve purchase of new Chief's vehicle, seconded by Chairman Dryer; motioned/passed/carried. Since this money will be spent out of the capital account, Ms. Lucas will put in paper at a cost of \$70,000 just in case of any incidentals that might have been missed. Commissioner Schoen motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Wright; motioned/passed/carried.
- Ms. Lucas will schedule DMV appointment to start the process. Can't pay for vehicle until referendum is done which is 30 days from the time of approval.
- Commissioner Pitts also stated Mickey's chief's car is going to Scott, we will be trading in Scott's and then waiting for another one to come in, which should be a couple of months. Just an FYI we will be needing new radios for that car. Chief Glogg's car will possibly be used as a fly car which already has radios in it.
- Commissioner Schoen just wanted to reiterate that we can not pay/purchase any vehicle until the 30 days are up. Commissioner Pitts is aware of it.
- Hose covers for the hose beds, Brent is working with Ricardo on that.

- Commissioner Pitts spoke with Jon Forseberg and he was able separate out the ice machine and work on getting it onto its own circuit. He will also put in all new outlets up over the ambulances, check all wires and then check all the panels.
- The control box is in, Brent has the lock and keys, he is getting keys made for the Chief. The district will send a thank you letter to the person who made it once we get all the information.

Buildings & Grounds:

- Commissioner Wright discussed back building. Our architect asked some questions relative to its use. What will it be used for? Chairman Dryer stated in order to answer any questions we really need to say we will ultimately need a sanitary system, running water, do we need an elevator, will it be open to the public. Commissioner Wright stated we should form a committee to figure out how to utilize that building for future purposes. Commissioner Schoen feels this whole back garage talk stemmed from a letter we received from Walter back in December. He wanted to make us aware that other districts are having issues with volunteers responding to EMS calls. He stated there may be a need to provide paid BLS in the future. Commissioner Schoen personally feels its a waste of money that we may never need. Commissioner Wright stated we already voted to explore this. This is not about construction on the back building it's about possibilities for its potential use for the future. This is a process and we need to establish use so John can start with potential drawings. Chairman Dryer stated this did not stem from a letter, its been talked about for some time. Commissioner Wright stated to not use the building is wasteful. Montauk is growing and its not going to slow down. We will need more space in the next 2-5 years. Chairman Dryer stated we are not proposing to spend \$200,000-300,000 dollars but what we are proposing is prudent use of the building. He feels to get it roughed out for sanitary use and a usable water facility is the right thing to do. We are not saying we are going to spend the money for any construction, we are just getting it ready for if and when we might. Commissioner Wright brought up the Town will eventually want us to update our septic system to include a septic treatment system. Part of this project is to do that. This is a big project, years out and to not plan for it makes no sense. Commissioner Schoen wants to know what are we proposing John Tanzi do tomorrow. Chairman Dryer stated to establish the requirements for a sanitary system, roughing for running water and discuss access.
- Commissioner Wright was curious to know if the soil samples from the footings were what the engineer needed for the antenna. Commissioner Pitts is not sure. He spoke with Brent and wasn't sure if an engineer was actually needed to replace that antenna. He was going to do some research and find out. Commissioner Wright just wanted to make everyone aware that the samples were not core samples. Commissioner Wright feels its not what you will need if you need an engineer. So our next step is to move forward and replace it so Commissioner Pitts motioned to go ahead with core samples, seconded by Chairman Dryer; motioned/passed/carried. OK core samples will be done and then we can get engineer and see what he says.
- Garage Doors will be starting in a month or two.
- HOUSE REPORT- no major issues

Capital Reserve:

- No report at this time, Commissioner Mark will have a report at next meeting.

Communications:

- Antenna previously discussed about core samples.

Fire Advisory:

- No report at this time.

Insurance & Law:

- Tanks were tested and passed their tests. Commissioner Schoen said we should start thinking about replacing those tanks, they have been there for 30 years. Every year we will have to test them. Requested more notice than 2 weeks from insurance company and Ms. Lucas will note to have them tested at least 1 month prior the renewal date.
- We also received a plaque from PERMA for 25 years of service with them.

Personal:

- Chief stated there is one potential applicant ready to be read at the first department meeting of April and possibly 2 more.

Safety:

- No report at this time.

Training:

- Chief was informed that Yaphank is allowing 25 fire personal at the facility. A taxpayer drill is scheduled with Amagansett on April 11th.

Old Business:

- *Antenna/Soil Samples*- previously discussed.
- *Back Building questions*- previously discussed.

New Business:

- None at this time

Chiefs Report:

- Chief wants to know where we are at with the 9-3-81 car. Sounds like we are going to take 9-3-32 and use that as the 9-3-81. According to Chairman Dryer that is the tentative plan.
- Chief handed over the discussion to Rob Rosen who has information on equipment for that vehicle from East Hampton. He found out today that they are decommissioning their 4th ambulance. They are an ambulance core so the Chief is in charge of The EMS there and she is willing to sell us for example a LifePak15 (same as what we use) for about \$8,500 give or take which is usually goes for \$30,000-\$40,000 thousand, we could get a suction, reeves and other equipment for fraction of the cost. The LifePak is on same maintenance schedule as ours. Rob has also used this equipment, same as what we use. The village government has given her the authority to sell it to us if we want it. The cost to equip a vehicle with new equipment is probably \$60,000-\$70,000 being conservative. He doesn't have firm numbers yet but thinks we could get it for approximately \$20,000 with extra's thrown in. They said we could have the safe and refrigerator too. Commissioner Wright asked about life expectancy of the LifePak. They spoke with Physio who is the maker of the LifePak, everything is replaceable except for the main board. It's the component that has the least problems. Rob also stated he appreciates the board offering an old Chief's car for use and since this is experimental, why not experiment with the least amount of cost. And if this experiment was to fail at least we have back up equipment if need be. They are giving us first option to buy this equipment. They are going to be auctioning off or selling to an interested party the ambulance. Rob will have to give the Chief an answer within the next 5 days because the village could turn around and auction the whole thing off. Commissioner Pitts stated we could have a special meeting if need be to determine everything. Chairman Dryer noted that Commissioner Pitts made a good point, we could have a special meeting, just get us a firm price and we can give you an answer. Rob will

check, run and visually inspect the equipment and get a list together with a price within the next couple of days.

- Commissioner Schoen brought up the fact that we were presented several requests for a 9-3-81 vehicle. Have we discussed making this vehicle ALS. It seems like that is what is being done without any discussion. What seems to be happening is this equipment is putting pressure on us to make a decision that the board is not ready to make as per Chairman Dryer. As a board we need to establish the need for it and Chairman Dryer suggested we could do it experimentally with an older vehicle. Commissioner Pitts suggested we have this special meeting to decide and make a firm decision yes or no with car and yes or no with equipment. Commissioner Schoen discussed some items in Walters letter, if we make it an ALS car the cost would be about \$55- \$65,000 vs BLS about \$5-\$8,000. He feels \$50,000 is a lot of money. Also if ALS would need heated cabinets for supplies, medications and cardiac monitor. But Montauk is rated for BLS 12-Lead so any BLS provider can use the LifePak.
- Chief Glogg explained it was always going to be an ALS car and Chairman Dryer asked for a committee to be formed with why it was needed. So a committee was formed with Commissioner Wright and Mark along with paramedics and other members of company four. The committee came back and presented STATS on why it should be an ALS car. Chairman Dryer stated it was never formally presented, it was put in the boards mailbox the day of a meeting, which doesn't give much time to look over. The proper way would have been to present it at a meeting and describe what the presentation is about and then we can absorb and vote on it. According to Chief Glogg this is how it was stated to do, get the proposal over to the board the day before the meeting so they have time to review it. Rob stated that them price of this equipment should have no decision on moving forward or not with the ALS car. Big difference between an ALS and BLS fly car and that could be life or death along with other things. He will get numbers together for the meeting on Monday. Chairman Dryer did say the board needs time to digest. Commissioner Schoen had some more items to discuss, would an ALS car require a narcotics safe, YES (will be able to purchase from EH), would it require to be plugged into an electrical supply to keep the temperatures, YES. Does it need to be in a garage or can it be outside, it can be outside. Rob has been speaking with the Narcotics gentleman from NYS and they would not do anything illegal. They have done the research with the state to meet all of their requirements with the fact of not spending a lot of money to do so. Special meeting will be Monday at 6:30pm.
- The Chief's have put together a list of questions that Commissioner Schoen will present to the owners regarding the Battery Storage facility on Shore Road. Chairman Dryer stated the most important thing out of all this research is the preparedness and Emergency Operational Plan and what to do. That is what we don't have. There have been instances where these facilities have either, blew up, burnt down or either melted. This information is for us to beware of what could happen. Trying to get names of key people within this New Era organization that can either answer our questions or come to a meeting and answer in person. Chief did notice the importance of signage in what he did read. The building is suppose to have some sort of reflective lettering on how to DE-energize the building. Lights were lit and unlit and not sure why or the story behind that either. Commissioner Schoen stated in doing this research learned a lot and what happened to the facility here is very similar to what happened to other facilities. Everyone is aware of a fire triangle, where you need fire, heat and oxygen. These lithium batteries to not require oxygen, they produce their own chemical reaction that becomes explosive. This is something that needs to be brought to the Town Board and why was it even brought into this town. We need to self educate.

- Chaplin Hoffman is requesting another Chaplin helmet for father Bob at the Catholic Church, Chairman Dryer said that would be great, its a department/personal issue.

Open to the Floor:

Commissioner Schoen motioned to adjourn @ 19:56 hours, seconded by Commissioner Dryer; motioned/passed/carried.

Adjourned 19:56 hours