

***Montauk Fire District
February 18, 2025
Commissioners Workshop Meeting 18:30 hours***

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: James Wright
Richard Schoen
Charles “Chip” McLean
Michael Mirras
Carminc Marino

Also Present: Chief Peter Joyce, Jr., 2nd Asst. Chief Joe McDonald and Secretary- Deputy Treasurer Dawn E Lucas.

Call Meeting to Order:

Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 18:30 hours and asked everyone to stand for the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

Secretary's Report:

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Marino motioned to accept the minutes of the February 4, 2025 Regular Commissioner Meeting seconded by Commissioner McLean; motioned/passed/carried.

Time Off Request: Brent Becker is requesting to use 4 personal days- March 5- March 8, 2025. Vice-Chairman Schoen asked who's covering? Ms. Lucas explained Rex works Thursday, Friday and Saturday anyways and will just switch his day off to coincide with Brent's time off. Vice-Chairman Schoen motioned to approve time off request, seconded by Chairman Wright; motioned/passed/carried.

House Report: This was switched from last meeting.

Audit of Bills: Ms. Lucas presented the bills for payment totaling \$282,342.06. Commissioner Marino motioned to approve payment of the bills, totaling \$282,342.06, seconded by Commissioner McLean; motioned/passed/carried.

Workshop Topics:

Audit Response- Discussed and Chairman Wright asked if someone would like to motion to approve audit response. Vice-Chairman Schoen noted after reading how to respond we need to add names, and when the changes were installed before we send out. The audit response will be expanded and sent to Joe Frank for his approval and comments. Vice-Chairman Schoen motioned to approve the response, seconded by Commissioner McLean; motioned/passed/carried.

Tanker- Captain Schnell stated there has been some discussions with Firematic, Ray Muller and the committee. The committee went over specs and typed a 3 and half page list of changes that Ray Muller was hesitant on at first but then changed his tune. In the end the list was 3 pages and the committee was not able to get the deck gun on the roof and 5" inlet on the rear because of constraints with plumbing. The total change order price came to \$31,476.26, there were a bunch of no charge items, clarifications, simple wiring changes and program changes. We are ready to give them the approval. Ms. Lucas checked the paperwork to make sure we wouldn't exceed what was already put in paper. The initial cost was \$850,000.00 so we do have enough to proceed with the change order if we desire to. Commissioner McLean noted he would like to commend the Captain and committee on ironing everything out they wanted or could get. This was not a solo act by any means. Commissioner Mirras motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner McLean; motioned/passed/carried.

LOSAP- 40 to 50 yrs of Service- Ms. Lucas was asked to get speak with Joe Frank our lawyer about LOSAP length of service. She sent him an email inquiring about increasing the years of service for LOSAP since NY State just approved 50 years. Joe Frank responded with this; "The Fire District will need to submit the matter for voter approval of a proposition either at the Annual election in December or in a special election it might hold during the year. A special election must be held on a Tuesday that is not a legal holiday." Joe Frank also stated "You should speak to the firm that handles your LOSAP and get an actuarial evaluation of what the additional cost would be to the program." Ms. Lucas already reached out to our LOSAP firm (PenFlex) via email and just waiting on a response. Joe Frank also stated; "If the amendment was approved by the voters the program would be deemed amended as of January1, 2026, since amendments to LOSAP programs are prospective and not retroactive. That would mean that the first year a firefighter participant could earn year 41 of credit would be the 2026 calendar year. I do not know when your program started so I do not know when your personnel will be in their 41st year of service credit." Vice-Chairman Schoen also noted we would need to potentially budget for this as it could be a significant cost factor. Ms. Lucas asked it doesn't mean we have to increase the years, the state is allowing us to, correct? Vice-Chairman Schoen noted it is not mandatory but proposed so now we need to get all the details. Commissioner McLean motioned to table this until we get the actuarial information, seconded by Vice-Chairman Schoen; motioned/passed/carried.

Data Request Package- LOSAP 2024- Ms. Lucas presented the 2024 LOSAP data to the board. Chief Joyce signed the other day and Ms. Lucas notarized. Now the board needs to to review and sign, then it will go the the next step.

Paramedics- Discussion arose about the equipment that was requested last year during budgeting. Ms. Lucas received quotes from Stryker for a new and refurbished LifePak 15 with trade-in value, LUCAS -CPR devices, also with trade-in value and stair chairs with trade-in values. Commissioner McLean asked Ms. Lucas to explain again the LifePak 15. Ms. Lucas explained the LifePak 15 in 9-3-81 is not serviceable anymore so they need to replace that one. Chris Boccabella stated we do not necessarily need to get a new one because they are coming our with the LifePak 35 which we will eventually need to upgrade to. It would be beneficial to upgrade all the LifePak's at the same time. The refurbished one has the service contract just like the others. Chairman Wright is all for purchasing, but wanted to inform the board and Ms. Lucas about grant opportunities. There are certain priority items, LUCAS devices, breathing apparatus, etc that we could probably get grants for if we work at it. Chairman Wright has the information, this is not for trucks, but it is for life-saving stuff. He believes we need to start looking into grants, it's free government money. Commissioner McLean asked if these items are under state list. Ms. Lucas explained Stryker is Sole Source and the quotes came directly from Stryker.

Commissioner McLean also clarified that we belong to a buying service, correct? Yes, Ms. Lucas confirmed, SourceWell. So since Stryker is Soul Source there is no need for other quotes. Chairman Wright believes we need to approve this equipment. Commissioner McLean motioned to approve the purchase of equipment, seconded by Chairman Wright; motioned/passed/carried. Vice-Chairman Schoen asked where is this money coming from. Ms. Lucas stated it was approved in the budget for this year, coming from the Equipment Reserve Fund. She also noted she has to put in paper for 30 days before we can spend the money. Commissioner McLean amended the motion to include, the funds for the purchase of the equipment will come from the Equipment Reserve Fund. The total purchase price is about \$158,120.89. Ms. Lucas will put in paper for \$175,000 to come out of Equipment Reserve after the 30 day time frame.

Pumpers (Engines)- Ms. Lucas explained she received an email about having a pre-construction meeting for the two engines the week of March 17th at Firematic. Vice-Chairman Schoen asked why do we have to go Firematic, why can't they come here? Chief Joe McDonald explained he spoke with Ray and he has all the information on big screens and it would be easier to see everything to scale in person. This meeting will take about 2-3 hours and someone that is authorized to sign has to be there. Discussion arose about date or time, afternoons works better and Chief will find out from the committee and get back to board.

Miscellaneous items:

9-3-1- Rental Update- Commissioner McLean gave his report

- Rental arrived in quarters today (9-3-1-A). Delivered by Fully Involved. They did a PM (preventative maintenance) and installed some of our equipment (radios, chargers, thermal imaging camera base, etc) and examined upon it's arrival by the Captain, 2nd Asst. Chief McDonald and Lieutenant of the company.
- Joe Frank is still working with St. James attorney to come up with the final rental agreement.
- Commissioner McLean stopped by John Ecker's office to update him with all the information. We want to add to our policy and Mr. Ecker will speak with the underwriter. St. James stated they will continue to insure it during the rental period. It was asked if there was a fire can it roll. Commissioner McLean asked the Chief and officers to hold off until the rental agreement is finalized. It is also the discretion of the chief's when they believe the members are properly trained and orientated. It can only go on property when being trained. It is in the bay as we speak where our 9-3-1 usually sits and in front of it is the district pick up still.
- Commissioner McLean motioned to send St. James a check for the rental in the amount of \$10,000 that was previously agreed upon, seconded by Commissioner Marino; motioned/passed/carried.
- Chairman Wright asked about trading in our old engine, are we still doing that or scrapping it? Commissioner McLean explained the adjuster was there and is working with Fully Involved on a comprehensive plan. We will be presented with cost factors on rebuilding the engine and see what the insurance will give us. Chairman Wright thanked Commissioner McLean for his work on this.

Chief's Report

- Chief Peter Joyce, Jr just wanted to remind Commissioner McLean that when equipment goes in and out of serve to please let a chief know, they need to be aware of what is going on with the equipment/apparatus. A discussion arose and Chairman Wright noted we just need better communication in the future. Commissioner McLean will continue to text the Chef with equipment/apparatus updates and offer to alert dispatch if need be.

- Chief Peter Joyce, Jr. presented a purchase requisition for Home Depot for 9-3-14 for a battery charger and fans totaling \$847.00. Commissioner Mirras motioned to approve/ seconded by Chairman Wright; motioned/passed/carried.
- Chief Peter Joyce, Jr also noted the next Commissioner meeting on March 4th is also the department's turn to host Town Chief's. It was suggested the board can start the meeting with the Chief's report and go from there.
- Chief Joe McDonald noted it looks like we will be drilling at the donated house on Monday. The only thing that was needed is updated paperwork which Ms. Lucas was able to provide to Chief McDonald.
- Chairman Wright asked if anyone was able to make the Tree meeting at the Down's. Chief Joyce did go and it was a public rendition of what he has already been to. They are doing the best by trimming/cutting down and then eventually burning but now they are running into a federally protected bat. The whole plan as is stays is that there will be no burning till 2026. Chief also noted in those first meetings about live burns he made it very clear that he was not donating individuals time for hours on end and that was understood. It should be the burning of the State and we get notified it's happening. They have taken the suggestion of cutting the stumps so if we had to go in it wouldn't take out a radiator.
- Commissioner Mirras noted this was brought up by the chief's, active and inactive fireman and also light duty. This discussion is due to a recent incident that occurred. There is nothing in the department bylaws or by the district that allows light duty. Vice-Chairman Schoen asked what constitutes light duty? Because if a member is out on medical they can still attend parades, meetings. Chief Joyce states it's not clear in the bylaws, if you go out on medical you are suppose to provide a doctors note and go inactive and then to become active again supply another doctor's note stating you are good to go. Chief just wants some clarification on how to handle this. Vice-Chairman Schoen stated he will look into the District's policy and the department's bylaws are up to them.

Commissioner Marino noted he received a quote to replace the side door and frame downstairs by 9-3-1, the frame is rotted out and the door is twisted. This quote is from the vendor we use for our doors, Advanced Door Solutions totaling \$4,997.60. Vice-Chairman Schoen motioned to approved door and frame replacement, seconded by Commissioner Mirras; motioned/passed/carried.

Commissioner Marino also noted the back garage is in need of some exterior work. We received quotes from Eurell, Inc. for the work to be done;

- Wash exterior of garage building with bleach to remove mold and algae, rinse with fresh water upon completion, total cost \$600.00
- Preparation work and painting of window trim, door trim, and corner boards (see estimate for more details) \$2,800.00
- Preparation work and painting of soffets- fascia trim (see estimate for more details) \$2,960.00
- Exterior preparation work and painting of steel doors and iron railing. (see estimate for more details) \$2,720.00
- Painting of concrete foundation (see estimate for more details) \$2,800.00 Commissioner Marino states there is nothing wrong with it now and if we start doing it then we have to do it all the time. The estimates were presented because we wanted to know what it would cost to do each project and if all projects were needed. Commissioner Marino would like to start with just power washing and then do an assessment on everything else. Commissioner Mirras motioned to do the power washing, seconded by Commissioner McLean

Chairman Wright discussed painting and it was brought to his attention that the siren on Industrial road is in need and if we don't do anything, we could loose the siren. He went over and checked it out himself. This wouldn't be done till March or April, we should put it out to our painters and get prices from both. Commissioner Marino will get quotes. The quotes will need to include a lift of some sort to get to the siren.

Commissioner Mirras motioned to go into Executive Session @ 19:21 regarding Personnel, seconded by Commissioner Marino; motioned/passed/carried.

Chairman Wright motioned to go back into Regular Session @ 20:20, seconded by Commissioner Marino; motioned/passed/carried.

Commissioner Marino motioned to adjourn meeting @ 20:23 hrs, seconded by Commissioner McLean motioned/passed/carried.

Adjourned 20:23 hours