

Montauk Fire District

July 1, 2025

Commissioners Regular Meeting 18:30 hours

MINUTES

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

Also Present: Chief Peter Joyce, Jr., and Secretary- Deputy Treasurer Dawn E. Lucas

Call Meeting to Order:

Chairman Wright called the regular Commissioner Meeting to order at 18:30 hours and we all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Secretary's Report:

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Mirras motioned to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2025 Workshop Meeting with said correction, seconded by Commissioner Marino; motioned/passed/carried.

Building Use Request:

- Montauk Public School Camp is looking to have the 3rd through 6th grade students come on July 9th to take a tour of the fire department. Talk about both Fire and EMS sides and find out what the trucks are used for and what the EMS side does. Commissioner Marino motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Mirras; motioned/passed/carried. As long as the Chief has someone to do this.

Audit of Bills:

Treasurer's Report: May 2025- Commissioner Mirras gave a quick presentation since Bob was absent. He did have a question about a \$11,616 bill. Ms. Lucas explained it was for a pro-care service contract for stretchers not for the new ambulance. Commissioner Mirras also noted that Ms. Lucas put in insurance recoveries on the front page which is nice so we can now see the offset. We budgeted 4 million plus and the balance is \$1.2 and thinks we should be good till end of year. A little concerned with some line items, utilities, fuel oil, spent \$20,000 and budgeted \$34,000. Also we spent \$12,000 on gasoline and budgeted \$17,000 but we get reimbursed from the Town on the fuel usage (keep that offset in mind). Main Building Repairs we budgeted \$30,000 and only have \$800 left for the rest of the year. We have plenty of money and can always do a budget code transfer if need be. Commissioner Mirras will work with Bob on this in the next couple of months. Chairman Wright

noted for future expenditures he wanted the board to be aware our fuel tanks are outdated and will need to be upgraded which would include being shut down for a bit. Ms. Lucas noted we can ask the Town to chip in on this since they do utilize the pumps also. Chairman Wright motioned to approve Treasurer's Report for May, seconded by Commissioner Mirras; motioned/passed/carried.

Ms. Lucas presented the invoices for payment totaling \$36,030.95, Commissioner Marino motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Mirras; motioned/passed/carried. Ms. Lucas also noted 2 more bills that just came in for SCBA repair of \$75.46 and the electric bill of \$1937.36, totaling \$2,012.82. Chairman Wright motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Marino; motioned/passed/carried.

Committee Reports:

Apparatus: Commissioner McLean gave his report;

- 9-3-1A- updated mirrors were installed
- 9-3-1- parts were ordered and then Richie Valcich from Emergency Mechanical will finish the repair. It was asked in there is any time frame on completion, answer was NO. Vice-Chairman Schoen thought that when it was done being repaired we put original 9-3-1 back in service and take 9-3-1A out of service to make it easier for advertising/listing purposes. It would eliminate the potential buyer to call the Montauk Fire Department directly and bypass the listing agent. Commissioner McLean acknowledged the concern but at this point it would not be cost effective because of all the work that was done transferring the portables, radios, lanterns, etc. Commissioner McLean also noted that a picture can be altered to remove the name, just need the pictures put together and can have someone work on that. Vice-Chairman Schoen thought there could be an issue if the potential buyer bypasses the listing agent and goes directly to us, we might have to pay the listing agent a finders fee, Vice-Chairman Schoen will check with our attorney Joe Frank.
- Now that the new ambulance is in Chairman Wright asked Commissioner McLean to let Chris Boccabella know when the narcotics safe is being transferred over since the narcotics information is under his name. Commissioner McLean said if he had a date he would have let him know. But no problem he will.

Equipment: Commissioner Marino gave his report;

- nothing to report

Buildings & Grounds:

- Commissioner Marino noted the re-pointing project has been ongoing and believes the cutting is almost done or completed and started the re-pointing in a lot of areas and some bricks might need to be added. The letters went out to be powder coated.
- Garage door company came last week to fix the issue and then the #5 door got caught up with one of the trucks and they came back to fix. We tried to replicate the scenario for them. There seems to be an issue sometimes with sunlight and the photocells. They had it happen before but need some pictures to better diagnose the issue. Chairman Wright brought up the relays, can we bypass them, don't think we use them. They might be on order but will check with Brent on that.

Budget and Capital Reserves:

- Commissioner Mirras noted the Building Capital Reserves has \$677,888.35 and the Apparatus and Equipment Reserves has \$3,245,424.01 and that is through May 2025. The interest is

about \$89,773.75. When the audit is done the expectation is that we should have a reserve. And for budgeting purposing we will need to bust the 2% cap for 2026. In previous years Commissioner Mirras would go and speak to AARP and explain the reasoning why we have to bust the tax cap but it's up to the board if we should or not.

- Budget work begins next meeting and we will start meeting at 6pm instead of 6:30, all Commissioner's agreed, except Commissioner McLean will not be present.

Insurance:

- As per Commissioner McLean, no active claims.
- Vice-Chairman Schoen has not heard back about our appeal for 9-3-1

Communications:

- **Siren-** Commissioner Mirras noted after last meeting there was an issue with the power for the siren but Ex-Chief Peter Joyce was able to get PSEG to fix. Now the board has to figure out if we are going to replace with a new one or just replace the shield part (trumpet). Chairman Wright asked Chief Peter Joyce, Jr. what he thought. He feels the board should budget for an entire replacement. You really don't know what you have until you take it down and fully inspect. Commissioner Mirras noted the board will put in the budget to replace the siren with another one.
- Commissioner McLean noted at last meeting the board voted to buy 30 replacement EMS radio batteries, we ordered from Integrated Wireless at a price of about \$89 per battery and they are on state contract. No delivery date as of yet. Commissioner Mirras just wanted clarification from last meeting, he thought we were getting a charging bank not chargers. Ms. Lucas confirmed we are only getting one charging bank that can fit multiple radios. Commissioner McLean also confirmed the individual battery charger that everyone gets is suppose to recondition the battery too. Commissioner Mirras asked if there was anything they could do about those other batteries, he was told NO.

Paid Personal:

- Chairman Wright will discuss in Executive session.

Department Personal:

- Chairman Wright will discuss in Executive session.

Law:

- Vice-Chairman Schoen noted the legislature extended the ability to charge for ambulance calls till July, 2031. We do not participate.
- Vice-Chairman Schoen would like to advertise for old 9-3-16, he has 8 different outfits interested. He received information from FireTec but wanted to run it by Joe Frank first, After review with our attorney it appears that if the ambulance is sold with another outfit or on open bid, we could be responsible to pay you 10% commission. FireTec stated they are only paid if they sell the ambulance. Vice-Chairman Schoen suggests we put old 9-3-16 out to bid in the paper with a bid opening of August 12, 2025. All agreed.
- Vice-Chairman Schoen noted he contacted Joe Frank about rewriting the LOSAP resolution and Joe's response was the resolution written in 2014 is sufficient to cover the clarification and does not think it's necessary to redo the resolution. The pertinent information is on page 2 under Participation in Department Responses; 0-500 calls- 10% of total calls, 501-100- 7.5% of

total calls and 1001-1500 calls- 5% of total calls. Also members can earn 25 points for fire and 25 points for rescue/EMS calls. Ms. Lucas will post 2 separate point sheets, one for LOSP and add this resolution so there is no confusion and one for Good Standing with department by-laws attached in the game room.

Old Business:

- **Ambulance-** Commissioner McLean noted new 9-3-16 was received and Ms. Lucas registered it last Friday with New York State, it is also insured. It looks like next Tuesday one vendor will be here and the other will follow. The DOH (Department of Health) sticker is needed to be a certified ambulance. Ms. Lucas found out it is a new procedure, everything is done online through a portal. The Captain is on standby to transfer the inventory and equipment once it's ready to go. Commissioner Mirras asked if the invoice for Clinical Clean that was in for payment included the new 16, Ms. Lucas's response was NO. Should we clean it b4 it is put into service? Commissioner Mirras motioned to have Clinical Clean sanitize the new 9-3-16 before it is put into service, seconded by Commissioner Marino; motioned/passed/carried. Commissioner McLean was notified that the lead time on a new ambulance is 2-3 years and also with that to budget for a new stretcher system.
- **Remediation Plan- Audit-** Ms. Lucas gave all board members the finger reader report for May and the Audit trail reports which include, Who's On, Change Recorded Reports, Vendor Change Report and History of Changes to Pay Rates for May. These reports are all part of the remediation plan. Chairman Wright also noted we received an email from the state excepting our letter from the second part of the audit.
- **2026 Budget Prep-** Commissioner Mirras has a question before we start on the budget. Department Physicals, we have so much in that line should we keep it, add more what is the status. Vice-Chairman Schoen noted we are under OSHA regulations effective July of last year. If we were to follow everything to a tee, we would not be here, you can not tax people enough. We are doing our best to follow the rules, trying to update as quick as possible but it is a lot and we can not afford it and doing the best we can. We will discuss the whole Budget at the next meeting.

Chiefs Report:

- Chief Peter Joyce, Jr. is requesting 2 couplings assembly's, 2 nipples, coupling for air cart for 9-3-2, totaling \$499.08. Commissioner Mirras motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Marino; motioned/passed/carried.
- With fireworks on Friday the department is going to standby with some Apparatuses by Kirk Park. Chief McDonald is also going to extend an invitation to Amagansett to come out with their new brush truck. It also gives us an opportunity to check it out.
- Chief would like to see the district potentially put a posting in the East Hampton Star reminding residents that flag lots and driveways are their responsibility to maintain at least 14 tall and 14 wide and to clearly post their house number. Every 3-5 years we run into situations where there is overgrowth and hose numbers are black on black.

Chairman Wright motioned to go into Executive Session @ 19:32 hrs regarding Personnel issues, seconded by Commissioner Mirras; motioned/passed/carried.

Commissioner Mirras motioned to go back into Regular Session at 19:57 hours, seconded by Commissioner Marino; motioned/passed/carried.

Commissioner Mirras motioned to adjourn @ 19:58 hours, seconded by Commissioner Marino; motioned/passed/carried.

Adjourned 19:58 hours