

Board of Fire Commissioners
Regular Monthly Meeting
February 7, 2024

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Magerle.

In attendance:

- Chairman Andrew Magerle
- Commissioner Brad Gaito
- Commissioner Craig Lanigan
- Commissioner Rick Oh
- Commissioner Jeffrey Schondebare
- 2nd Asst. Chief Mike Conforti
- District Manager Larry Northcote
- District Secretary/Treasurer Denise Spada

Salute to the Flag and a moment of silence.

New Member Application:

A membership application for Grace Stolfa was put before the Board. Commissioner Oh put forth a motion to approve the application, seconded by Commissioner Schondebare and unanimous. Chairman Magerle swore Grace Stolfa into the Hook & Ladder Company.

Chief's Report:

- 2nd Asst. Chief Conforti was in attendance as Chief Spada was unable to make the meeting. 2nd Asst. Chief Conforti raised a discussion on the 2025 Installation dinner as it will be an incoming and outgoing Chief's dinner. He requested to book the Crescent Club at an estimated cost of \$34,000.00 and requested a \$2,000.00 deposit. 2nd Asst. Chief Conforti asked for a budget of \$45,000.00 for the dinner and \$2,500.00 for the Chief's ring for Chief Spada. Commissioner Schondebare put forth a motion to approve the deposit, the cost of the dinner at \$45,000 and the cost of the Chief's ring. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Oh and unanimous. 2nd Asst. Chief Conforti informed the Board the Chief Spada would like to surplus the Arc Trainer and purchase a leg press. The Board agreed to the surplus and suggested posting it at a minimum bid starting at \$50.00. Commissioner Lanigan told 2nd Asst. Chief Conforti that he needed a list of pins for the upcoming dinner. 2nd Asst. Chief Conforti was excused at 7:12 p.m.

District Manager's Report:

- Fire District Manager Northcote presented his report and highlighted the following:
 - Apparatus: An air intake preheat relay was installed on vehicle 226 and a broken passenger door lock was repaired on vehicle 2217. District Manager Northcote informed the Board that 2024 Chevrolet orders are not being filled because of supply issues; which could delay the new Chief's vehicle. District Manager Northcote and Chairman Magerle agreed to go to the showroom and look at what is currently in stock.

- Equipment: The annual fire extinguisher inspection has been completed and five members were measured for new turnout gear; the order was expedited due to a price increase on February 1, 2024. Three inches to one-and-a-half-inch coupling reducers were received and installed on vehicles 222 and 223.
- Communications: A proposal for approximately \$15,000.00 from Adept to upgrade computer hardware, P.C.s and monitors was presented. Commissioner Oh put forth a motion to move forward with the proposal, seconded by Commissioner Schondebare and unanimous. District Manager Northcote informed the Board that the Juniors advisor asked to use surplus radios for training purposes. The Board agreed as long as they are used for training purposes only and are closely monitored. It was also stipulated that if the Juniors are training and using the radios, if a call comes in they must immediately discontinue use.
- Building and Grounds: A proposal for \$7,600.00 was presented to update the men's bathroom on the ground floor and a second proposal of \$7,300.00 was presented to update the woman's bathroom on the ground floor. Commissioner Schondebare put forth a motion to move forward with both proposals, seconded by Commissioner Gaito and unanimous. A proposal for \$42,000.00 from Tierney & Courtney was presented to replace the downstairs roll up doors as they are on the Ten-Year Plan. The Board asked District Manager Northcote to get two additional quotes. The Quarterly Air refill machine was repaired for \$3,500.00 and antique lights for the front of the fire house have been rewired and painted. District Manager Northcote will reach out to the electrician to have them installed.
- Personnel: Members Scheff and Burke have been added to the FDIC conference trip and tickets/hotel have been booked. District Manager Northcote informed the Board that January was a light month on overtime.

District Secretary/Treasurer Spada presented her report:

- The minutes from the 2024 Organizational Meeting, the Public Hearing regarding the Tax Exemption provided by Property Tax Law 466-a, and the January 2024 Meeting (including Executive Session minutes) were approved on a motion by Commissioner Lanigan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Oh and unanimous.
- Correspondence:
 - Huntington Fire District/Halesite Fire Vehicle – Apparatus Service Agreement for 2024: hourly rate remained \$75.00 per hour; approved.
 - Request for Facilities Use from the Nathan Hale Garden Club to hold monthly meetings on: March 19, 2024, April 9, 2024, May 14, 2024, September 10, 2024, October 8, 2024 and December 10, 2024; approved.
 - Request for Facilities Use from The Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 014-22-01 to use the upstairs meeting room on the following Wednesdays: February 21, March 20 and April 17, 2024 from 7 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; approved.
 - Notification from Fire News about a meeting on “the future of Ambulance Service in Fire & EMS” to be held on February 28, 2024 at the South Country Ambulance Corps.

- Secretary/Treasurer Spada informed the Board that an electronic funds transfer for \$\$47,961.90 was received from FEMA from the 2021 AFGP grant for eight mobile trunked radios.
- Secretary/Treasurer Spada informed the Board of a FOIL request from Daniel Ortiz (President of IAFF Local 4875) and a phone call from an ex-member (Sheila Evers). The Board instructed Secretary/Treasurer Spada to contact the attorney regarding both.

- Bills:

PAID BEFORE THE MEETING:

AT&T Mobility	\$ 697.12
Met Life	\$ 1,702.92
National Grid	\$ 3,115.38
NYSHIP	\$ 21,151.39
Wex Bank/Sunoco	\$ 640.60

Medicare Part B Reimbursements

Betty Reddy	\$ 174.70
Bonnie Sammis	\$ 174.70
Doug Anthonsen	\$ 174.70
John McKenna	\$ 349.40
William Kaiser	\$ 174.70

PAID AFTER THE MEETING:

Adept Technology	\$ 1,475.60
Alco Truck Repair	\$ 1,275.00
Borg & Borg	\$ 1,171.00
Capital One Public Funding LLC	\$123,029.22
Cardiac Life	\$ 106.82
CARR Business Systems	\$ 71.25
Centerport FD/Engine Co. 2	\$ 90.00
Chase/INK	\$ 5,124.23
Complete Plumbing & Heating Sys.	\$ 600.00
Country Printer	\$ 132.76
Dominic Spada	\$ 39.11
Dominic Spada	\$ 50.00
Edmer Sanitary Supply Co.	\$ 455.50
Edmer Sanitary Supply Co.	\$ 52.26
Erik Weber	\$ 70.65
Firematic Supply Co. Inc.	\$ 660.50
Home Depot	\$ 156.84
Huntington Crescent Club	\$ 2,000.00
Huntington Fire District	\$ 1,212.26
Huntington Fire District	\$ 342.79
Inis Fada Gaelic	\$ 1,300.00
Integrated Wireless Technology	\$ 117.00
Integrated Wireless Technology	\$ 12,508.50
K.C. Anna	\$ 36.93
Konica Minolta	\$ 24.83
Konica Minolta	\$ 51.31

Kyle Cook	\$	300.00
Long Islander	\$	40.04
Long Islander	\$	42.74
Martelli's Florist	\$	375.00
McKesson Medical	\$	248.01
MES Municipal Emergency Services	\$	401.00
MES Municipal Emergency Services	\$	68.30
MES Municipal Emergency Services	\$	394.00
New Era Technology	\$	98.32
Newsday	\$	575.84
Optimum	\$	420.69
Premier Building & Renovations Corp.	\$	53,979.00
PSEG LI	\$	2,361.12
PSEG Long Island	\$	25.82
Robinson Industrial Gas	\$	101.15
Savasta Medical Services	\$	1,865.00
SCM Products	\$	220.76
South Shore Fire & Safety	\$	85.00
South Shore Fire & Safety	\$	41.80
Suffolk County Board of Elections	\$	98.05
Terminix	\$	50.00
Tesori Digital Marketing	\$	65.00
Tesori Digital Marketing	\$	270.00
TOHFDOA	\$	500.00
Verizon	\$	850.59
Verizon	\$	1,976.19
W.B. Mason	\$	584.00
William Glass	\$	557.00

The bills were approved as read on a motion by Commissioner Lanigan, seconded by Commissioner Schondebare; unanimous.

- Chairman Magerle:
 - Old/New Business:
 - Chairman Magerle presented a draft of a Police regarding Ongoing Service for District Employees and suggested that the Board adopt a similar policy. After reviewing the Policy, Commissioner Schondebare put forth a motion to adopt the Halesite Fire District Policy regarding District Employee Ongoing Service. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lanigan and unanimous.
 - Chairman Magerle informed the Board about activities during Juniors meeting/drills and indicated he was concerned about insurance coverage for Junior members. Secretary/Treasurer Spada informed the Board that the Juniors are currently covered on the Accident and Sickness Policy for \$10,000.00 for medical expense benefits. She also informed the Board that she contacted Borg & Borg for quotes to increase the medical expense benefit: to raise the benefit to \$50,000.00 there would be an increase of \$47.00 to the annual premium and to raise the benefit to \$100,000.00 would increase the annual premium \$104.00. Commissioner Schondebare

put forth a motion to raise the medical expense benefit to \$100,000.00.
The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lanigan and unanimous.

- Apparatus:
 - No report.

- Buildings and Grounds:
 - Commissioner Schondebare informed the Board that he met with Frank Relf to discuss the parapet and the property at 10 N. NY Ave. Relf and associates asked for a detailed survey, so they could better gauge the scope of the work. Commissioner Schondebare presented an estimate from Harold F. Tranchon Jr., Surveyor for \$2,440.00 for an updated survey. Commissioner Schondebare put forth a motion to move forward with the survey, seconded by Commissioner Lanigan and unanimous. Commissioner Schondebare referenced an email from Frank Relf about concerns with the epoxy floor project; District Manager Northcote refuted the concerns. Lastly, Commissioner Schondebare informed the Board that he is looking to reserve Arlo Restaurant for the District Dinner which will include both employees and chiefs.

- Communications:
 - Commissioner Oh informed the Board that a lot of members have questions and concerns as the EPCR section on ESO is different from the training paperwork provided by ProClaim. A training session will be scheduled with members and ProClaim in the coming weeks. The Board suggested contacting legal council to ask for a template regarding privacy practice.

- Personnel:
 - Commissioner Gaito suggested the Board vote on the candidate for the District Manager position. After a lengthy discussion, a vote was called for by Commissioner Gaito: Commissioners Gaito and Schondebare both voted for Brian Nelson and Commissioners Oh and Lanigan voted for Jamie Magerle. Chairman Magerle recused himself from voting. As the Board was deadlocked, Chairman Magerle excused District Manager Northcote and District Secretary/Treasurer Spada from the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Spada
District Secretary/Treasurer

ADENDUM TO THE MINUTES: Chairman Magerle and Commissioner Gaito informed Sec./Treas. Spada the following morning that after she was excused, discussions on the District Manager position continued. Commissioner Schondebare put forth a motion to offer the position of Fire District Manager to James Magerle. Commissioners Oh and Lanigan were in favor of the motion, Commissioner Gaito was against and Chairman Magerle abstained. The motion carried.

A second motion was made by Commissioner Schondebare to offer Brian Nelson a position of Senior Firehouse Attendant with an increase of \$5,000.00 to his salary and an additional 40 hours of comp. time. (as he will be responsible for additional duties including but not limited to LOSAP and IT work.) The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gaito and unanimous.

Chairman Magerle informed Secretary/Treasurer Spada that Erik Weber was sworn in as 1st Asst. Chief.