

# STAMFORD JOINT FIRE DISTRICT

## Minutes

January 10, 2023

### Organizational Meeting

Meeting called to order by District Secretary Ellen Kennedy at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Nomination for Chairman                      Deidra Hill            1<sup>st</sup> by Tim, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill

Appointment of Vice Chairman              Tim Powell            1<sup>st</sup> by Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Peter

The following recommendations were made for 2023:

1. Young, Fenton, Kelsey & Brown and Hannigan Law Firm as legal representation.
2. The Mountain Eagle & Schoharie News as official newspaper with The Daily Star as a secondary newspaper
3. Wayne Bank and The Bank of Greene County as official banks for depository of funds.
4. Regular monthly meetings to be held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00p.m. It was noted with the exception of the firefighter's parade in August, and the budget workshop night (dates TBD).
5. Annual budget hearing to be held at 7:00p.m. on the third Tuesday in October.
6. Lucy Chichester appointed Treasurer with salary set at \$7,875.00.
7. Ellen Kennedy appointed Secretary with salary set at \$5,000.00.
8. Approval of membership in the Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York.
9. Mileage rate to be set at .655 (IRS rate)

Motion to adopt with no discussion – 1<sup>st</sup> by Tim, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill – none opposed.

Oaths of Office administered to Peter, Lucy and Ellen.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

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The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Stamford Joint Fire District was called to order at 7:10p.m. by Chairman Deidra Hill.

Present were:

Deidra Hill	x	Dusty King	x	Stamford Fire Chief Don VanEtten	x
Lucy Chichester	x	Peter Pioppo	x	1 <sup>st</sup> Assistant Fire Chief AJ Vamosy	
Ellen Kennedy	x	Tim Powell	x	2 <sup>nd</sup> Assistant Fire Chief Joe Hornbeck	
		Bill Sharick	x	Stamford EMS Chief Ryan Hejnal	x

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at beginning of the Organizational Meeting.

The Minutes from the December meeting were read and approved, with one minor correction – 1<sup>st</sup> motion by Tim, 2<sup>nd</sup> motion by Dusty – none opposed.

### **Presentation of Bills**

<b><u>Vendor</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
AFDSNY	\$ 300.00
Donny Stone	\$ 360.00
Greenwood Auto	\$ 1,230.78
John's Body Shop & Argo Sales	\$ 588.95
Margaretville Telephone	\$ 100.69
Mark Powell	\$ 500.00
NYSIF	\$ 1,829.42
The Daily Star	\$ 47.76
The Mountain Eagle	\$ 111.36
Village of Stamford	\$ 51.00
Village of Stamford	\$ 70.00
WEX Bank	\$ 877.91
	<b><u>\$ 6,067.87</u></b>

Approval of bills as presented – 1<sup>st</sup> motion by Peter, 2<sup>nd</sup> motion by Dusty – none opposed.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Bank account balances as of 1/1/2023:

Checking Account	\$ 3,217.00
General Fund Account	\$ 71,283.59
Total General Fund Balance	\$ 74,500.59
Apparatus Reserve	\$ 80,161.52
Repair Reserve	\$ 15,791.32

Actual balances after:

\$71,283.59	General Fund Savings
\$20,000.00	Transfer to Apparatus Reserve from 2022 budget (balance now \$100,161.52)
\$8,000.00	Transfer to Repair Reserve from 2022 budget (balance now \$23,791.32)
\$6,800.00	Transfer to Checking Account
\$10,000.00	Encumbered to Apparel
\$10,000.00	Encumbered to PPE
\$6,441.00	Encumbered to Building Repair
\$1,000.00	Encumbered to New Equipment

Remainder of \$9,042.00 for roof repair  
Internal transfers were done on negative budget accounts

### **Privilege of the Floor**

No comments at this time.

### **Reports / Requests from Fire Department Chiefs**

Chief VanEtten –

- VFA DEC grant for hi-band radios (10) = approximately \$3,300.
  - Grant is for \$1,500 which needs to be used by end of June, the District to fund the balance.
  - Monies would come out of this year's budget.
  - Cost is \$262/radio, \$64/speaker

- Discussion might be able to swap out – 10 portables to 8 portable and 1 mobile. Will need approval from DEC first before moving forward with order.
- Approved – 1<sup>st</sup> motion by Dusty, 2<sup>nd</sup> motion by Peter – none opposed.
- Bill asked about ordering cold weather hats. Discussion that it should be a department purchase and go through the SFD Board of Directors. Further discussion to order through District.
  - 40 hats total – 20 of current Port Authority 'short' hats, 20 of Carhartt roll up hats
  - Port Authority 'short' hat is approximately \$9/hat + embroidery
  - Carhartt roll up hat is approximately \$19/hat + embroidery
  - Order will be placed with Delco Creative
- Discussion about department member status changes:
  - Mike Brosnan – to non-emergency
  - Jerry Austin – to emergency
  - Both approved – 1<sup>st</sup> motion by Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> motion by Tim – none opposed.

Ryan –

- EMS medical supply order – \$96.03 – approved. 1<sup>st</sup> motion by Tim, 2<sup>nd</sup> motion by Bill – none opposed.

### **Old Business**

- Various jobs around firehouse – still a work in progress.
- Landing zone at DEC updates – Tim needs to speak with Stamford Central School BOE to get on their agenda regarding lighted windsock at the LZ. The area will be painted when weather permits.
- Credit application with Stamford Farmer's Co-op has been set up.
- Roof project –
  - Currently in a holding pattern. Tim needs to get the contract back from S&L roofing, need to get resolution back from Town of Kortright (Ellen has reached out to them), next step would be to solicit for bond. Tim also noted that he needs to finalize grant for O'Connor, which is due in March.
- Deidra noted that the Treasurer and Secretary contracts have been updated, reviewed and corrected. Approved – 1<sup>st</sup> motion by Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> motion by Dusty – none opposed.

### **New Business**

- Notary public discussion that the SJFD currently covers the cost for Lucy's renewal every three years and that it would be a good idea to have another notary. Discussion that Deidra had started the process prior to COVID but it was not completed. Discussion that Deidra and/or Ellen could apply to be notary as their schedule permits, and cost would be covered by SJFD – approved. 1<sup>st</sup> motion by Tim, 2<sup>nd</sup> motion by Bill – none opposed.
- Bill asked about the firefighter property tax reduction and what do we need to do as a fire district.
  - Need to pass a resolution – every taxing entity needs a resolution, so would need to provide to the five towns, county, school and fire. They would all need to pass the resolution.
  - Property tax credit for firefighters which could be an incentive or could be less than the \$200 per year we receive. All is due by mid-March for this year, which is tight and may not be able to happen.
  - Need letters to the Board of Directors for Schoharie and Delaware counties.
  - Support and adopt resolution with other entities – 1<sup>st</sup> motion by Tim, 2<sup>nd</sup> motion by Bill – none opposed.
- Tim – floor scrubber batteries may need to be replaced or the batteries might just need water. Would like pre-approval if batteries should need to be replaced – approximate cost for the batteries is \$130-\$140/battery (need 2). Approved to purchase batteries if they are needed – 1<sup>st</sup> motion by Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> motion by Peter – none opposed.
- Tim – there may be a boiler issue – number one was not firing. Josh Mason was here and the issue may have been fixed, but wanted to note.
- Tim – spring seminar/conferences at Turning Stone (5/17-5/20). May be interested in attending – whether stay or drive to/from. Approximate cost is \$850pp for anyone else who is interested. Approved – 1<sup>st</sup> motion by Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> motion by Peter – none opposed.

### **Commissioner Reports / Discussion**

- Deidra –
  - Reviewed remembrance section of the website, any member updates and noted that November minutes were posted.

- Dusty –
  - No building issues to note.
  - Need to install two overhead door controllers.
- Peter –
  - Nothing to report.
  - Dusty noted that 2712 and 2713 should get serviced at Gerster's.
  - Discussion about getting siren fixed on 2713.
- Bill –
  - SJFD boundaries and coverage – nothing to report.
  - Pagers/radios/batteries – batteries are on order.
  - Discussion about 911 signs/numbering in the Village. Bill will try for early April to meet with Jim Kopp and with Chief VanEtten.
- Tim –
  - Transfer of firehouse to the District update – nothing to report. Tim noted that the Village is on it's fourth or fifth attorney – no longer Shawn Smith. Michelle Storm is the new attorney and all documents are being transferred to her Albany office.

### **Other Business**

- Discussion to have Headwaters EMS administrator, Ray Baker, attend the next SJFD meeting.
  - Further discussion to move the February meeting date from Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> to Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup> with 7:00p.m. start time.
  - Ellen will notify the newspapers
  - This will be a meeting with Ray Baker + have regular monthly District meeting.
- Discussion that it would be a good idea to invite Kevin Hull from Reynard Insurance to both SJFD and SFD upcoming meetings to discuss truck policies/coverages (SJFD) and beneficiary forms (SFD).
  - Ellen will invite Kevin to the March 14<sup>th</sup> SJFD meeting and invite him to either the February 7<sup>th</sup> or March 7<sup>th</sup> SFD meeting.
- Tim noted that the DVD player in the public meeting room downstairs does not work properly. Will research regarding purchase of another.
- Reminder for December 2023 – interior list to Kevin + annual claims report to OFPC.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30p.m.

Respectfully,

Ellen Kennedy  
District Secretary