

RUSH FIRE DISTRICT, BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
1971 Rush-Mendon Road, Rush, New York 14543
Meeting Minutes November 21 , 2023

Roll Call: Chairman Scott Goodman called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present: Commissioners Goodman, Faugh, Sweet, Terzo; Secretary Stappenbeck; Chief Jon Faugh, Asst Chief Mike Terzo, Jr.

Attended via Zoom - no voting rights: Commissioner Platt

Rush Fire Department member(s) were also in attendance: Jim Princehorn Fire Department, Fire Department President Heidi Sweet, Fire Department Secretary Diana Pfersick

Town of Rush: Fire Marshal Doug Scarson

Report From the Town: Commissioner Sweet asked about the barn the fire department had previously been using. The Fire District was notified that the building was condemned by the Building Inspector (per Mr. Scarson). Question by Mr. Scarson: do you want to maintain the use of the second floor of the barn? Answer was yes. Mr. Scarson indicated that the outside stairs to the second floor need to be rehabed. He will take our concerns back to the Town and report back at our January meeting.

Fire Department President Sweet spoke next with questions, comments, concerns:

- Election Process: President Sweet and Secretary Pfersick came to the director's meeting in order to discuss the chiefs' election process. Two issues were brought up, along with one question:
 - A member on the ballot 'in district' vs. 'out of district'
 - Determination of qualifications for positions
 - Whose responsibility is it to vet the candidates?
- After discussion, it was determined that, for 2023, the ballots would be prepared with whomever was nominated and the Commissioners would make the determination whether to leave the ballot as submitted to the Board. (comment by Secretary Pfersick: there are no absentee ballots this year)

- On another matter, President Sweet brought up a situation at a prior Monday night drill relative to beer dropped off to the firehouse for a specific member. Once the details were shared, the commissioners as well as the chief decided that this did not violate any fire district/department rules.

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Meeting October 2023 minutes: The District Secretary made a correction to the total amount for the billed approved at the October meeting. The change is from \$14,622.94 to \$16,505.95.

Motion to approve the meeting minutes with correction, by Commissioner Terzo, seconded by Commissioner Sweet and approved 4 - 0.

Chief's Report:

Not much to report; just another busy month.

Commissioner Goodman asked about 400 Rush Scottsville Road (corrected from W.Rush at 12/19/24 board meeting) and if members know what to respond to. Does the Chief have a document that outlines the situations and how, for example, the laborers should respond. The Chief responded that you can't write a policy for every situation, but if they (400 Rush W. Rush Rd) need an ambulance and if the station is manned, then depending on the severity of the call, they can and should go. No one from Rush should be going there alone - and if they do, they should not enter the gate until/unless someone else comes directly to the site. They should ask what the problem is and if they need an ambulance. During the day, if an ALS/BLS call, either CHS or Honeoye falls should be started so there is NO delay.

Commissioner Terzo wants a process spelled out for the laborers so there are no grey areas.

Buildings and Grounds: Terzo still has to get the ballast for the lights. Not much else to report

Vehicles: no report

Equipment: no report

Information Technology:

- Commissioner Goodman reported about the phones; discussion about .wav files
- He took care of the FCC license. Although Commissioner Faugh said we do not need the license, now that it is done, we don't want to lose it because it would be hard to get it back. There was no cost to renew.

SOGs and SOPs:

- Commissioner Terzo asked if anyone was looking at updating any of the policies. Commissioner Goodman responded no.
- Asst Chief Terzo provided a slide deck regarding training: overview of policy and why we have to do it . Will help with our ISO rating (we are currently a 4, this could help us get to a 3) - divided it into three categories:
 - Online
 - Hands On
 - Driver Training
- Asst Chief suggested a new timeframe for completing all the training. Jan through September (changed from March completion)

8:30 PM: Motion to go into executive session by Commissioner Terzo, seconded by Commissioner Sweet.

8:51 PM: Motion to return to regular meeting by Commissioner , seconded by Commissioner Faugh.

Personnel: No report

Publicity and Associations:

Commissioner Faugh sent information to the town for the newsletter

Physicals: Tentative 2/19/2024

- Commissioner Platt reported that he had talked again with Dr. Carlson from Healthworks. Dr. Carlson has put a PO in for a Pulmonary Machine and will get someone hired/trained after Jan. 1. If we want to move the date of our physicals we can, or if we keep the date and do the pulmonary test later, we could do that as well.
- Chief Faugh suggested that we should have the same number of slots as the number of firefighters.
- Diana Pfersick told Commissioner Platt that FASNY is looking into performing physicals in NYS via a mobile unit.

Bills:

Following a review of the November General Fund Invoices, Commissioner Terzo made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Faugh and approved to pay vouchers in the amount of \$40,667.08; voucher #'s 2023- 221 through 2023-248. Passed 4 - 0.

- The Vouchers were reviewed by Commissioner #1_Terzoz, #2 Faugh_, #3_Sweet

Election Update:

List from the Board of Elections was received. The secretary will vet against the signatures on the petitions.

Inventory, Inspection and Dinner:

Bill for dinner included in November bills: \$1600.20

Insurance/Budget/Attorney:

- Commissioner Sweet gave the secretary information relative to a new company for background checks.
- Wilkins told Commissioner Sweet about Cyber Liability and Data Breach policy, cost to be \$440 - \$500 per year. It was suggested that the District talk to Kables to see what he thinks. Are we already covered?
- Cancer policy has to be renewed - Commissioner Terzo asked if FIT testing is a requirement of the policy. Yes, members must have 5 years of FIT testing, but anyone active prior to 2019 is covered. Members who leave the department, must be kept on the policy for 5 years afterwards.
- Commissioner Sweet will send Truck replacement values to Wilkins insurance.
- Updated drivers list will be sent to Wilkins as well

Liaison Town Board:

2023-9P: 592 Flshell Rd; by Joel & Tammy Schmid for the Site Plan Approval to construct 1,568 square-foot single-family residence on a lot of previously demolished single-family home. No issues from commissioners.

Membership:

Commissioner Sweet said there were 2 new applicants - they did not get voted on yet.

Old Business: HarRob gave Commissioner Terzo the information on updating 582; compiled and sent to the committee to review. This would allow the Fire District more time to save money for a new fire truck. Commissioner Sweet put it in perspective by discussing the cost of repair per year over 10 years as opposed to trying to purchase a new fire truck this or next year.

New Business: nothing discussed

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Faugh, seconded by Commissioner Terzo. Meeting adjourned 9:35 PM by common consent.