

RUSH FIRE DISTRICT, BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
1971 Rush-Mendon Road, Rush, New York 14543
Meeting Minutes– April 16, 2024

Meeting called to order 7:02 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Commissioner Scott Goodman, Commissioner Doug Platt, Commissioner Dale Sweet, Chief Jon Faugh, Assistant Chief Mike Terzo Jr., Assistant Chief Dan Kwiecien, Treasurer Aletha Steehler, Secretary Kitty Stappenbeck

Absent: Commissioner PeeWee Terzo and Commissioner Bob Faugh

Also Present: Jim Princehorn from the Rush Fire Department, Councilwoman Jeanne Morelli from the Town of Rush

Report From the Town

- Councilwoman Morelli reported that the town has an estimate on the roof for Barn #3 in the amount of \$47,050. Would the district be able to replace the roof - per Commissioner Sweet, NO because cannot use tax dollars to upgrade a non district owned building. Commissioner Goodman indicated the district will just wait for the engineer's report.
- Ms. Morelli brought the study of the water project she spoke about at the March meeting and shared with the board members

Approval of Minutes: Mar 19, 2024 - Commissioner Sweet had items to correct, but the minutes cannot be approved because we don't have a quorum of commissioners who were at the March meeting. One item to correct is to change the voting results - we were short one commissioner, so all of the motion approvals need to be changed to 4 - 0; the second item was under the bills: Commissioner Sweet also approved the bills; Approval will be moved to the May meeting. *(Secretary made changes to the minutes and will distribute prior to the May meeting).*

Tax Levy: Treasurer Steehler discussed the overpayment of the tax levy by the town. This was an error on the part of the town in picking up the budget amount including 'other income' from the budget summary delivered to the town. The tax was updated with the State Comptroller's website to reflect the \$20,500 overcollected by the town. The funds cannot be given back, as they were collected. The funds are now in a savings account and the tax levy for 2025 budget year will be reduced by that amount.

Chief's Report

The eclipse came and went - chief can stop going to meetings regarding planning. Not a lot of other issues to report.

Buildings and Grounds HVAC agreement was signed and sent to the vendor, per email from Commissioner Terzo.

Vehicles

- 588 sustained damage, Commissioner Terzo may have a fix for that (per Chief)
- Rescue truck and three pumpers were inspected; 587 is not due yet (per Chief)
- Meeting on refurbishing 582: input was made on what would be needed, will be put together and go out for bid (per Commissioner Sweet)

Equipment - no report

Information Technology

- The Lenel software maintenance needs to be paid as well as the invoice for software for the Lock box - Commissioner Sweet has a concern about the box on 582. The knob on the lock box bumps against the windshield - it moves. Concern if hard stop on the brakes, it may go through the windshield. Should be looked at.
- Email from President Sweet regarding updating the address list in Red Alert. No decision was made, email is attached to minutes

SOGs and SOPs no report

Personnel

- Brian Ely started today - April 16. He went on a couple of calls, but not in Red Alert yet so his activity can't be tracked yet. Secretary will put him in the system. Needs to be set up with training - per Asst Chief Terzo.
- The laborer on duty today clocked in late and left early. Commissioner Sweet asked who would have been notified of this (mainly due to deliveries at the Fire Station). Conversation, but no real answer.
- John Morabito is all set to be onboarded
- Commissioner Sweet mentioned the email sent by President Sweet regarding updating addresses for the fund drive in Red Alert. (Email is attached). The Secretary will ask the assessor if it is possible to send a listing of just changes in the town street listing/homeowner instead of the entire listing.

Publicity and Associations

Commissioner Goodman will temporarily pick up preparing the report for the town of Rush newsletter

Physicals: Date 04/22-23/24

- The Secretary will let Dr. Carlson know that there are no appointments on Tuesday after 2:00 pm
- Commissioner Platt has a letter that he will revise for use by Rush for new members regarding several different items - including physical and chest x-ray.

Treasurer's Report: Tax levy update - updated through the comptroller, \$20,500 overcollected. The money is now in a savings account - we cannot give it back, but

when the 2025 budget is produced, the amount of \$\$ in the 2025 budget will be adjusted

Bills \$ 21,766.66; voucher numbers 80-106

Motion to approve the bills by Commissioner Platt, seconded by Commissioner Sweet, passed 3 - 0

The bills were reviewed and signed by Commissioners Goodman, Platt and Sweet.

Inventory, Inspection and Dinner - no report

Insurance/Budget/Attorney

- Commissioner Sweet got renewal quote - Gary Wilkins confirmed that renewal policy does include mutual aid and liquor liability insurance per email from Mr. Wilkins - email will be attached to meeting minutes
- Refund check included overpayment from overpayment made in 2023
- From Gary Wilkins: grant opportunities for workers comp, vfbl - Asst.Chief Terzo will let Commissioner Sweet know of what they want to replace; Commissioner Sweet will notify Mr. Wilkins (get product description so they know what we are talking about)
- Volunteer accident coverage?? \$3.55 per volunteer annually - Event volunteers
 - Does the board want Commissioner Sweet to look into this - yes

Liaison Town Board

2024-04P: Kusse, exchange of parcels <1 acre between 45 and 55 Rotzel Rd lot line alteration - simple exchange of parcels to make it easier for them to maintain their property- doesn't affect the fire department.

2023-05P: Bailey subdivide - has been presented prior, but more info received - subdivide two lots off the main property to build a house on either side of the main house - 2670 Rush Mendon Road. Lehigh trail goes through there as well - not a problem as long as the driveways built to spec and accessible to the Fire Department

- Ms. Morelli will see if we can start getting hard copies of the maps, such that we can read them

Membership: no report

Old Business

- Asst Chief Terzo talked about the grant for the boiler. He reached out to Senator Helming's office and got a letter of support. Reached out to Dan Chase to get a letter of support from the town.
 - Dave Reitano, Mary Beth and [Guy Salama](#) working on the grant - Commissioner Terzo is getting quotes to make sure we are within the purchasing policy.
 - Rick Milne, Joe Morelli, Adam Bello - reach out to them all for support and see what we get back.
 - Send them what you want them to say (form letter) that the recipient can put on their letterhead and send back.
 - Commissioner Sweet has all the information that may be needed - i.e. SAMS number/letter (DUNS)

New Business:

Pat Stephens reached out to Commissioner Goodman- wants to borrow 6 garbage cans for Fall Festival - Location for 2024 will be East River Road/White Springs Barn - They may want a truck but definitely want EMT's available.

Small Room use: Debbie David (Ladies Auxiliary) requested use for the Monroe Country Ladies Auxiliary meeting on May 6 - 10 pm.

Motion by Commissioner Sweet, seconded by Commissioner Platt; passed 3 -0

Adjourn:

Motion by Commissioner Platt and seconded by Commissioner Sweet to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned by common consent at 8:30 pm.