

RUSH FIRE DISTRICT, BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
1971 Rush-Mendon Road, Rush, New York 14543
Approved: Meeting Minutes, October 15, 2024

Roll Call: Chairman Scott Goodman called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present: Commissioner Scott Goodman, Commissioner Doug Platt, Commissioner Bob Faugh, Commissioner Dale Sweet, Commissioner Michael Terzo; Chief Jon Faugh, Asst Chief Michael Terzo; Treasurer Aletha Steehler and Secretary Kitty Stappenbeck

Absent: Asst Chief D.Kwicien

Town of Rush: Councilmember Jeanne Morelli and Fire Marshal Rick Tracy

Rush Fire Department Member(s) in attendance: Jim Princehorn

Report From the Town:

Councilmember Morelli: Town has public hearing to discuss preliminary budget on Oct 23 - does include 4% rate hike for town, exceeds tax cap.

Fire Marshal Tracy reported that the person responsible for the multiple alarms at the children's detention center will go to assisted living. He wanted the Chief to be aware if there is a pattern or issue with the children's center. He has a good relationship with Tom Dettinger, who is responsible for fire safety inspections for the county and would be happy to assist with communication.

Tuff Trucks has installed a new alarm system.

7:10 Open Budget Hearing

Motion to open the budget hearing by Commissioner Sweet, seconded by Commissioner Terzo, passed 5 - 0.

No members of the community were present. No Comments

7:15 Close Budget Hearing

Motion to close the budget hearing by Commissioner Terzo seconded by Commissioner Sweet, passed 5 - 0.

Approval of Minutes: Corrections to the 9/17/24 meeting minutes by Commissioner Sweet: 1. Add Alvin Sweet to the Rush Fire Department attendees;
2. Add to statement about tax cap resolution: 'recommendation from Jason Schwartz to pass a resolution to exceed the tax cap'.

Motion to approve the Sept 17, 2024 meeting minutes with corrections by Commissioner Platt, seconded by Commissioner Sweet, passed 5 - 0.

Chief's Report:

- Reported that DO DuBois is working on closing charts from October backwards. Because DuBois and EMT Jenna Merdak are on many of the same charts ; they cannot quality review each other's charts, there is a delay in completing. In addition some charts are from the laborers - they need to help close them.
- There was a discussion on whether Rush could lease our ambulance to CHS so Rush would still be responsible for repairs? Is it possible for Rush EMT members to become mutual aid members to CHS?
 - Commissioner Goodman will discuss with Frank Manzo at CHS to see next steps - makes sense for Rush to be volunteers to CHS
 - It was recommended that the Chief talk to the stakeholders about this issue and a meeting will be set at a later date.

Asst Chief provided update on Training:

- 1st year with new date (Sept 30) to complete mandatory training through Vector Solutions in addition to annual on-hands training
 - 45 people, 38 at 100%; Asst Chief Terzo told members at the last department meeting that he appreciates their commitment to complete the training
 - those that are not finished will be suspended until they get it done
 - In addition some members need specific on-hands training for Interior, Exterior, etc.

Executive session to discuss specifics

Buildings and Grounds:

- Commissioner Terzo reported that the gas leak in the boiler room has been taken care of
- He will look at gutters on house 1 to see if they need to be cleaned and will have Monroe Gutter clean
- Gutters on house 2 have been cleaned
- Asst Chief Terzo asked if there could be a part white board, part chalk board in radio room as an additional place to put important information - He was asked to get prices
- Commissioner Sweet met with members of the Ladies Auxiliary - Debby David, and Sally Faugh to make recommendations on moving some of the items in the kitchen cupboards to another location
 - EMS supplies will move to the room behind the commissioners conference room.
- Commissioner Goodman asked if we could get rid of treadmill. Commissioner Sweet indicated it is owned by the district so the district should decide what to do with it

Vehicles:

- Ambulance work: Set up PO with Caledonia Diesel - they should be able to repair
- **582** - hose for foam has been taken care of by HarRob

Equipment:

- Ordered portable radio batteries thru Western New York Radios instead of Skywave - Commissioner Terzo will send supplier information to Secretary and Treasurer
- Asst Chief Terzo led discussion about thermal imaging camera - it does NOT work - 20 years old, out of date
 - It is in the budget to get it replaced
 - 582 is 20 years old, 588 is 14 years old (same model). 584
 - Asst Chief Terzo asked if there is an interest in purchasing 3 camera; one by each district, department and Ladies Aux. It would provide good PR. CThermal is the brand, built by firefighters. Camera is \$3,000 - \$3,600 with vehicle charger. NFPA version is available for \$1000 more. The only difference is the label. Take 588 and put it in 582 for now. Asst Chief Terzo will get actual pricing

As a followup to the September meeting, **Motion** to buy battery for the guerney by Commissioner Terzo seconded by Commissioner Sweet. Approved 5 - 0.
The Chief will communicate this to DO DuBois.

Information Technology:

It was discussed at the Department Board meeting that the Presidents' office will purchase a new computer. It will be maintained by Kables in conjunction with the district computers. Commissioner Terzo will notify Knycos that Kables should purchase and send the bill to the Department.

SOGs and SOPs:

The Secretary and Treasurer asked for the Board to approve the updated SOGs for their respective job descriptions, **SOG 15.2 and 15.3** There was discussion around the education requirements. The Commissioners want the required degrees replaced with 'combination of education and experience will be considered'.

Motion to accept job descriptions with changes made by Commissioner Terzo, seconded by Commissioner Platt, passed 5 - 0.

SOG 9.7-7: LUCAS Device Procedures - not ready to vote on yet.. Changes to be made by Commissioner Goodman and Asst Chief Terzo

SOG 9.7 is *General Guidance EMS Operations*; it made sense to put the new SOG here.

Commissioner Terzo asked about Prop 2 in the town election this year. If the building that the fire department used in the past has been condemned, how is the county getting their materials out of there?

The Fire Marshal will follow up with the town.

Personnel:

8:05 pm: Motion to go into Executive Session by Commissioner Terzo, seconded by Commissioner Platt, passed 5 - 0.

8:45 pm: Motion to return to regular meeting by Commissioner Terzo, seconded by Commissioner Platt, passed 5 - 0.

Publicity and Associations:

Commissioner Goodman and Secretary Stappenbeck attended the September meeting of the MCFDOA. There was a representative from the County Real Property Tax Department who spoke about submitting Fire District budgets to her office.

Nov 19, 2024 - The next MCFDOA meeting is at Red Fedele's. Presentation on Mental Health- Commissioner Platt indicated he will attend.

Physicals: March of 2025 - actual date to be confirmed.

As far as the full body scan, Rush can piggyback on the date with Henrietta Fire. Commissioner Platt will confirm the date (1/27 and 1/28/2025) 7 am - 3 pm and will get pricing for 10 people. The approach will be to ask everyone in the department who wants it done; take the first 10 people and the next 10 can be done next year. This is an optional test. Question: does the company charge for someone who doesn't show up.

Bills:

Following a review of the General Fund Invoices, Commissioner Terzo made a **motion**, seconded by Commissioner Sweet and approved 5 - 0 to pay the bills in the amount of \$29,547.76, voucher numbers 2024- 229 through 253.

- The Vouchers were reviewed by Commissioner Terzo, Commissioner Faugh and Commissioner Sweet
- Treasurer Steehler reported that a CD came due and was rolled over.

Inventory, Inspection and Dinner:

- Nov 9, 2024; Wildwood Golf Club: 5 - 9 pm
- Update on # members who have completed their gear inventory: 13
- Remaining Dates
 - *Monday, October 21: 6pm – 9 pm Commissioner Goodman*
 - *Monday, October 28 : 6pm – 9 pm Commissioner Terzo*
 - *Saturday, October 19: 9 am – noon Commissioner Terzo*

Insurance/Budget/Attorney:

Commissioner Sweet noted that there was nothing new on insurance -

Motion by Commissioner Sweet and seconded by Commissioner Terzo to adopt the budget in the amount of \$513,904.00 for 2025 that was presented at the public hearing. Passed 5 - 0

Liaison Town Board:

2024-09P: Councilmember Jeanne Morelli brought the plans for Sri Vidya Temple's new Site Plan Application as the map was too large to scan to the Secretary. The intent is for a separate entrance and exit. Everything else was approved prior to this application.

The Secretary will send a letter to the planning board noting no issues.

Membership:

- J.Pischerer background check OK, secretary notified him to get physical on 10-8 - send John Commissioner Platt's info if any problems
- Two more potential members will be presented to board
 - Randy Hubbart
 - Warren Jones
 - Secretary to do background checks

Motion by Commissioner Sweet to accept both Hubbart and Jones pending background check by Secretary, seconded by Commissioner Terzo, passed 5 - 0

Old Business:

Permissive referendum to purchase trucks published in the Genesee Valley Pennysaver on Aug 30, 2024 ; thirty days given for Town of Rush Residents to comment. As no comments were received by the due date of September 30, 2024 by the Secretary of the Rush Fire District, the referendum stands as written.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Rush Fire District in the Town of Rush, Monroe County, New York, at a meeting held on the 20th of August, 2023, duly adopted the following Resolution, subject to a permissive referendum.

RESOLUTION #1

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF THE FIRE DISTRICT, TOWN OF RUSH, MONROE COUNTY, NEW YORK, TO PURCHASE TWO FIRE CHIEF PICK- UP TRUCKS FOR THE PURPOSE OF QUICKLY ATTENDING AN ACTIVE CALL AND FURTHER REPRESENTING THE TOWN OF RUSH AT THAT CALL.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Rush Fire District, Monroe County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Fire Commissioners is of the opinion that purchasing two fire pickup trucks for the use by the Fire Chiefs will potentially allow a more rapid response by the Rush Fire Chiefs to get to the scene of the call, while leaving other fire apparatus in service. These pick-up trucks can also be used to attend training outside of the area, again leaving other fire apparatus in service.

Section 2. That it is determined that the monies to be used for this purchase will come from the EQUIPMENT RESERVE Account of the Rush Fire District

Section 3. This resolution is adopted subject to a permissive referendum.

By Order of the Commissioners of the Rush Fire District.

Catherine Stappenbeck, Secretary

Rush Fire District

Dated: August 20, 2024

As a result of no inquiries from the town, the pick up trucks have been ordered - the installer who will install the lights also agreed to install the radios - (TD installation)

New Business

- Large Meeting Room: October 10, 2024 from 6 - 9 for Court of Honor Boy Scouts **Motion** to approve by Commissioner Platt and Commissioner Sweet, passed 5 - 0
- Chiefs nomination Dec 5
- Commissioner Election date: December 10, 2024; 6 - 9 pm
 - Commissioner Terzo's seat is up for re-election
 - Date to provide intent to run and signed petition with at least 25 signatures no later than November 20, 2024.
 - Reminder: Absentee ballots are not allowed

- Potential Dates for final end of year meeting(s)
 - **12/26/2024**; 7 PM End of year meeting final bills and Fund Balance Transfer
 - **1/6/2025**; 6 PM Organizational Meeting

NOTE: Secretary let the Commissioners know that 'Read receipt' in gmail: don't assume that because you get a read notification that the individual has actually 'READ' the email. This is an implied understanding rather than an absolute response.

Election dates:

- Chief Nomination - Dec 5 - Voting
- Commissioner Election: December 10, 2024
 - Letter of intent to run along with petition with at least 25 Town of Rush residents eligible to vote : November 20, 2024.

Adjournment: 9:35 pm

Commissioner Platt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Faugh and approved 5 to 0 to close the meeting. It was adjourned by common consent at 9:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kitty Stappenbeck, Secretary