

HIGHLAND FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
November 10, 2015
7:00 PM St 1

Page 85

Commissioners:	Stephen DiLorenzo	(Present)
	Benjamin Bragg	(Present)
	Christian Erichsen	(Absent)
	John Fraino	(Present)
	Lindy Palladino	(Present)

Secretary/Treasurer:	James Passikoff	(Present)
District Clerk:	Denise A. Holzberger	(Present)
Chief	Peter Miller	(Present)

1. Opening of meeting- Chairman DiLorenzo called the meeting to order, led the salute to the flag and called for a moment of silence for all fallen firefighters.

2. Approval of minutes- Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2015 regular meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Palladino moved to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2015 regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner John Fraino. Commissioner Bragg abstained.

VOTE: 3 Yes 0 No 1 Abstain 1 Absent
Motion carried unan.

3. Bills- Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to pay the bills as reviewed by Commissioners Fraino and Palladino and Chief Miller on November 9, 2015.

MOTION: Commissioner Fraino moved to authorize payment of the bills totaling \$35731.77 seconded by Commissioner Bragg.

VOTE: 4Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent
Motion was carried unan.

4. Correspondence-District Clerk Holzberger reported the following received:

Town of Lloyd -letter regarding drinking water

Direct Energy-regarding natural gas contract

Bank of Green County- letter regarding funding products

Room Requests-

Saturday Nov 21 2015- birthday party for granddaughter 12 Pm to 4 Pm requested by Lindy Palladino.

MOTION: Commissioner John Fraino moved to approve the request for use of the community room by Lindy Palladino for a birthday party for his granddaughter, seconded by Commissioner Bragg.

VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

**NYS AVET course-November 30, 2015 6 PM to 10 PM , community room
December 2, 2015 6 PM to 10 PM and
December 6, 2015 8 AM to 4 PM. Community room and
bays/parking lot**

NYS Firefighter Survival December 19,2015 8 AM to 5 PM

As requested by Chief Peter Miller

MOTION: Commissioner Ben Bragg moved to approve the request for use of the community room by Chief Miller for the NYS AVET courses to be held on November 30, December 2, and December 6, 2015,and the NYS Survival Course to be held on December 19, 2015, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Wed Jan 20, 2016-Pine Wood Derby Weigh In 6 pm to 8 Pm requested by Mike Bakatsias Cub Scout Pack 70

Friday Jan 22 2016 Pine Wood Derby Set up 6 pm to 8 pm requested by Mike Bakatsias Cub Scout Pack 70

Saturday Jan 23, 2016 Pine Wood Derby 8 AM to 1 PM requested by Mike Bakatsias Cub Scout Pack 70

MOTION: Commissioner Bragg moved to approve the requests for the Pine Wood Derby Weigh-In, Set-Up and Derby, Wednesday January 20, 2016, Friday January 22, 2016 and Saturday January 23, 2016, seconded by Commissioner Lindy Palladino.

VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Friday February 19, 2016 Blue & Gold Dinner 5 PM to 9 PM requested by Mike Bakatsias Cub Scout Pack 70

MOTION: Commissioner Ben Bragg moved to approve the request for use of the community room by the Cub Scouts Pack 70, represented by Mike Bakatsias for their Blue and Gold Dinner on Friday February 19, 2016, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Feb 27, 2016 Bridal Shower 12 pm to 4 pm requested by Steve Sorbello. Hold for further information.

5. New Membership-

Domenic Bellacicco-absent

Patrick Gethings

Kevin Catale

Chairman DiLorenzo thanked the new members for coming. He explained that attendance at training is very important; we have a good record regarding no injuries. Involvement in Duty nights is very important; there are social events, as well as meetings and fundraisers to participate in. We are glad to have you here.

Commissioner Bragg stated we are well respected by the community and we welcome new members. It was noted that the physical exam is very important; in some cases it can be a lifesaving. Chairman DiLorenzo stated that we have pride in our building and equipment as well. Commissioner Palladino stated that if injured in the line of duty the Highland Fire District is considered your employer.

MOTION: Commissioner John Fraino moved to approve the membership of Patrick Gething and Kevin Catale pending their successful completion of a physical exam, seconded by Commissioner Bragg.

VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings and Grounds ST 1-C Mrs. Bragg and DiLorenzo

Verizon Micro-Cell - in process

Generator- one part pending from Gentech

Safeco- chairman DiLorenzo reported that Safeco made repairs; replaced a key pad and the alarms seem to be working okay.

Town of Lloyd Police- having a problem with Verizon line/cable to the police station; being worked on.

Stucco Repair- Chairman DiLorenzo met with the architect regarding developing specifications for Spring 2016. Then we will be prepared to go out for bid. This would include sealing the sidewalks.

General Elections- general election voting took place here at St 1 in the meeting room. We may want to move them to the community room as the space seems to be getting tight for them.

New Telephone System-seems to be working well; however there is a delay when calling out.

Buildings and Grounds St.2-Cmrs. Erichsen and Fraino
Storage Building- concrete floor needs to be sealed; recommends not storing Christmas Trees (due to sap)

7. New Apparatus-

2015 1750 GPM Pumper- new 31-35 Inspection Trip to take place next week.

8. Executive Session-

MOTION: At 7:40 PM Commissioner Ben Bragg moved to go to executive session to discuss a legal issue, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

9. Return to Regular Session

MOTION: At 7:42 pm, Commissioner John Fraino moved return to the regular session of the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Bragg.

VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

10. Insurance/Workers Compensation-

Renewal sent to Fire District's Mutual

11. Physical Fitness-

\$37 disbursed to two members for the 3rd quarter 2015.

12. Ulster County Fire District Association-Commissioners Bragg, DiLorenzo, Erichsen

November 19, 2015 at Ulster Hose

January 19, 2016 at Glasco

13. Service Awards-October 2015 Activity posted November 12, 2015

Commissioner Fraino reposted that as per Phil DeAngelo we are approx. 84 % funded.

14. Treasurer's Report-Treasurer Passikoff presented the 2015 October financial report to the Board. He stated that we are in good shape for the end of the year. He noted he will not be available for the December 8, 2015 Board meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Bragg moved to accept the October 2015 financial report as submitted by Treasurer Passikoff, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

15. Public Comment-none

16. Old Business-

MLSS contract- Chairman DiLorenzo stated that he and Commissioner Fraino spoke with Supervisor Paul Hansut regarding the MLSS contract. It was noted that MLSS is a separate issue from the Town of Lloyd Police agreement. (Police Bond payment and \$12,000 annual payment for maintenance, etc.)

17. New Business-

Penflex invoice- \$3100 is for administration fees.

MOTION: Commissioner John Fraino moved to approve payment of the Penflex invoice in the amount of \$3100, seconded by Commissioner Bragg.

VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

2016 Budget-

MOTION: Commissioner Bragg moved to approve 2016 Proposed Budget as our final budget consisting of \$1,146,583 operating budget with \$1,069,020 to be raised by real property taxes, seconded by Commissioner Palladino. When the Board was polled the vote was as follows:

Commissioner Bragg Aye

Commissioner Palladino Aye

Commissioner Fraino Nay

Commissioner DiLorenzo Aye

Commissioner Erichsen Absent

Motion was carried.

Snow Plow Proposals-Chairman DiLorenzo reported that we received two proposals as follows:

FB's Property and Facility Maintenance- St 1 No bid

Station 2 plow as per our Fire District's Specifications \$450 per storm

Salt \$350

\$175/ hr. push back snow as per Commissioner

Garone's -Station 1 \$650 per storm as per Fire District's specifications

Station 2 \$425 per storm as per Fire District's specifications

We will call to clarify per storm and every 3 Inches.

Certification of Insurance to be provided.

MOTION: Commissioner Fraino moved to accept Garone's proposal at \$650 per Storm for Station 1 and \$425 per storm for Station 2 upon clarification of every 3 Inches as per our specifications, seconded by Commissioner Bragg.

VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

18. Chief's Report-Chief Miller reported the following:

Chief Miller noted that a recent newspaper article reflects our budget as \$1.6 million and Clintondale Fire District's as \$92,000; Clintondale covers only a portion of the Town of Lloyd.

ISO- our rating reflected improvements in the Fire Department and Water Department; our rating is 3/3Y rating. It was noted that there are 3000 Class 3 departments in the United States. (we were only points away from being classified as a class 2; note there is only one class 1 in the New York State.)

There are 60 class 1's in the United States.

Commissioner Bragg stated that it is very difficult to obtain a class 3; it takes a lot of work to achieve such a rating. This benefits the consumer with lower insurance rates. It should be noted that Insurance carriers' criteria for rating premiums can differ.

Damaged Gear-claim is over \$21,000 and has been submitted to our insurance. Gear has been sent to Minerva for inspection.

Training-Approval is needed for pumper to IBM on November 11, 2015

November 9, 2015 Fire- we need to review a plan for an evacuation site.

FEMA Grant for SCBA's-received a letter that we were denied due to lack of demonstration of need. Chief Miller stated we still need to move forward as the expiration of the air packs is approaching. Bonding is a possibility; not to exceed \$300,000. Chairman DiLorenzo asked if the entire air pack is outdated. Chief Miller explained it is currently usable-for how long it is unknown. To purchase bottles is approx. \$1000 plus each and could be outdated in five years. Technology has changed drastically. 2001 and 2015 - the difference is dramatic. There have been safety enhancements and keep in mind, this is a highly used piece of equipment.

Chief Miller noted that this equipment is on NYS contract but would go out to bid. Treasurer Passikoff asked how long would the Board want to bond. Keep in mind bonds are part of the 2% tax cap. WE could use \$75,000 out of the reserve and each year increase the reserve by \$75,000 as a "payment". A permissive referendum would be required.

Pagers-Chief Miller noted that we need 45 replaced by May 2016 and will have to be high band.

19. New Business

Approval of Pumper to IBM November 11, 2015

MOTION: Commissioner Fraino moved to approve the pumper to IBM for NYS Pump Operators Course, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Approval to Advertise for Bid to purchase SCBA Equipment

MOTION: Commissioner John Fraino moved to advertise for bid to purchase a maximum of 38 SCBA with the necessary related equipment to replace the existing expiring SCBA equipment, seconded by Commissioner Ben Bragg.

VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Resolution to Adopt Subject to Permissive Referendum-New SCBA Equipment

MOTION: Commissioner Bragg moved to move \$325,000 from the Apparatus Reserve Fund for the purpose of purchasing new Self-contained Breathing Apparatus including the necessary related equipment, seconded by Commissioner John Fraino.

When the board was polled the vote was as follows:

Commissioner Stephen Dilorenzo Aye
Commissioner Dominick Palladino Aye
Commissioner Benjamin A. Bragg Aye
Commissioner John Fraino Aye
Commissioner Christian Erichsen Absent
Motion was carried.

Fire November 9, 2015- Commissioner Bragg noted that he wanted to give credit to Chief and officers for the way the fire was handled on November 9, 2015 at the park and ride. This was a very dangerous scenario; if there had been an explosion the impact would have been felt a mile away. It is a credit to the Chief and officers that no one was injured or killed.

20. Executive Session-

MOTION: At 8:20 PM, Commissioner Bragg moved to go to executive session to discuss a legal matter, seconded by Commissioner Palladino.

VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

21. Return to regular session and Adjournment

MOTION: At 9:50 PM, Commissioner Fraino moved to return to the regular session, and there being no further business, moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Bragg.

VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent

Motion carried unan.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise A. Holzberger, District Clerk

Approved Dec 8, 2015 BOFC mtg