

Port Ewen Fire Commissioners Meeting

Date: May 2nd, 2023

Location: Port Ewen Fire Department Headquarters

Roll Call (X = Present)

<u>X</u> 5yr Scott Sammons	<u> </u> Chief Clark R. Mains	Floor:
<u>X</u> 4yr Roger Boughton	<u>X</u> Asst. Roger Brandt	<u>F. Banks</u>
<u>X</u> Appt. A.E. Stokes	<u> </u> Asst. Mike Lange	<u>G. Banks</u>
<u> </u> 2yr William McNamara	<u> </u> Asst. Joseph Mains	<u>R. Naccarato</u>
<u>X</u> 1yr David Brechter		<u>T. Halpin</u>
<u>X</u> Sec’y Mike Dauner		<u> </u>
<u>X</u> Treas. Wendy Trojak		<u> </u>
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Meeting was called to order by: Chairman Sammons at 19:30 hours.

Minutes: Additions/Corrections to the previous month’s meeting(s): None. Motion to accept minutes was made by Commissioner Brechter 2nd by Commissioner Stokes. 3ok motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report – Treasurer’s report read by Treasurer Trojak. Motion to accept Treasurer’s report was made by Commissioner Stokes 2nd by Commissioner Brechter. 3ok motion carried.

District Vouchers were presented and were audited by the Commissioners in attendance.

1. Reviewed the budget vs. actual report with Commissioners.
2. A bank check was issued thru the district’s bank to Rycor.
3. Treasurer will be attending conference this month at Turning Stone.
4. June 30th thru July 30th Treasurer Trojak will be away – she will have laptop with her and pay utility checks.
5. Treasurer ordered new checks for firehouse account which allows them to be printed on computer.
6. Treasurer Trojak will begin preparing for the 2024 budget and will have preliminary figures at the June meeting. She was advised by Fiscal Advisors that the first payment of \$255,366.53 is required to be paid on the bond by February 1st which conflicts when the check from the town is received. The total bond payment for the year is \$378,229.03 and the balance is due August 1st. She will look into the matter.

Correspondence/Communications:

Secretary Dauner:

1. Letters were received from the Department advising that Eric Sammons and Aidan Henn were dropped from the rolls as members and they were requested to turn in all District owned equipment. Letters will be entered into their personnel record.

2. A letter was received from Bank of Greene County advising of their services which they offer.
3. Kathleen Banks has been approved for membership in the department and her appointment letter was sent to the district for consideration of her appointment as a firefighter.
4. Dave's Tree Service sent a thank you card for recent work they performed.

Unfinished Business:

Commissioner Stokes:

1. Commissioners' Stokes and Brechter will be meeting soon to go over the Headquarters rules packet.

Secretary Dauner:

1. Secretary Dauner gave a report on the firehouse project since planning board approval in end of March. Ablen reported that the design is complete and they are having a third party review the cost estimates for accuracy. Delaware Engineering believes it could come in over budget due to the delay with buying the property after referendum and the time it took for planning board approval. As soon as the third-party report is complete, Ablen advised he would report back with a course of action. The district's attorney is finalizing the easement for the stormwater retention pond and upon completion it will be forwarded to the town for consideration.

New Business:

Commissioner Stokes:

1. He advised that the heaters in Sta #2 are not working and after troubleshooting still are not working. It was suggested that batteries might need to be changed in the thermostats. After discussion the board asked Frank Banks as custodian to look at thermostat issues on both units checking batteries. A service appointment will be scheduled as well.

Commissioner Boughton came in at this time.

2. There is a roof leak in the entrance hall for headquarters. Chief Mains looked up on the roof and did not find anything noticeable. Contractor who performed recent repairs had noticed other areas which needed attention. **A motion was made by Commissioner Boughton, 2nd Commissioner Brechter authorizing up to \$500 to be spent to have AR Home Remodelers repair roof leak at Headquarters in entranceway. 4ok motion carried.** If price to repair is higher than \$500 an estimate will be brought back to the board.

Commissioner Boughton gave a report on the recent Rycor installation. Unit was installed today and work was very professional. There is a remote for the unit however he recommends securing it with the Chiefs as it is expensive. The remote will change the mode, etc. Ron

Naccarato asked if the old a/c unit was decommissioned. Commissioners advised that the old unit had previously been removed.

Commissioner Boughton:

1. Would like to revisit Assistant Chief vehicle purchase. There was a recent opportunity to buy a used vehicle from Glasco however no longer is available. He would like to see the pick up used in the interim until a vehicle can be purchased. Discussion followed. Secretary Dauner stated that the truck is heavily utilized for traffic control and as a utility to pick up equipment and should be kept available for the firefighters. If it was used by the Assistant Chief that wouldn't happen. He also stated that the vehicle was bought on a grant for that purpose. Commissioner Boughton asked where the records on the truck were kept so he could look at number of calls it is used on – Secretary reported Chief has records of that.
2. Addressed the buildings the district has and bills we are incurring. He would like to look into sale of buildings. It was mentioned that there is still a significant time before new firehouse is to be open so we need current buildings. Discussion continued on where meetings would be held and whether it was right time to bid the firehouse. Secretary Dauner stated that the district still needs to have a referendum authorizing the sale of the buildings and recommended that the Board and the Chiefs sit down and have a serious discussion on buildings, apparatus, and staffing and how future planning factors into these matters in light of these conversations. The sale of district buildings could be used to address cost overruns on the project and to help pay down the debt of the bond. **A motion was made by Commissioner Brechter, 2nd Commissioner Boughton to hold a referendum authorizing the sale of Station #1, Station #2, and Headquarters. 4ok motion carried.** Secretary will begin work on the referendum with Attorney Hannigan.

Commissioner Sammons:

1. There is a roof leak in the second-floor ladies' room at Sta #1. Commissioners asked that the roofer look into repairing when he is here for Headquarters. Authorized up to \$500 in repairs as well.

Secretary Dauner:

1. Brought before the board the application for appointment of Kathleen Banks who was approved by the department for membership. **A motion was made by Commissioner Stokes, 2nd Commissioner Boughton to appoint Kathleen Banks as an Active Firefighter. 4ok motion carried.**
2. Secretary Dauner asked the board to consider paying for defensive driving for the membership. This has been a past practice and during Covid classes were taken online and members were reimbursed. He asked this continue and all members be reimbursed up to \$35 each for defensive driving taken from January 1st 2023 with a cutoff by August 1st. Ron Naccarato mentioned there may be interest in an in-person class and he will look into it. **A motion was made by Commissioner Brechter, 2nd Commissioner Boughton authorizing reimbursement of up to \$35 per member for defensive driving certification completed between January 1st and August 1st, 2023. Class can be**

taken on-line or in-person on date to be determined and proof of completion must be submitted with a voucher. 4ok motion carried.

3. Uniform Committee met and completed an inventory of closet and ordered uniforms for 2023 – copy attached. Service has been an issue and committee is looking at possibly switching companies.

Commissioner Stokes asked to use district credit card for his commissioner training, Secretary Dauner will provide it to him.

Chief's Report:

Nothing to report

From the Floor:

Ron Naccarato:

1. Ron met last Wednesday with Linda Flanagan and our new representative for VFIS, Sarah Talerico, regarding the LOSAP program. Ron gave a report to the board on LOSAP (see attached) and addressed adjusting the plan from a \$20/yr. benefit to \$25/yr. benefit and from a 25-year plan to 30 years for a maximum benefit of \$750 per month. The plan is in good shape at this time. Report submitted to board for their consideration on changes.

Roger Brandt:

1. Roger advised the board that the department's current AEDs are no longer supported and have been discontinued. They are all currently working however if there is a problem parts are being discontinued after a year and a new one would need to be purchased. A new AED would cost \$1,672.00 with a \$100 trade in and he recommended authorizing one to be pre-approved for purchase if needed. Commissioner Sammons felt no need to pre-approve as the board meets regularly and can purchase if needed. A discussion followed at which time **a motion was made by Commissioner Stokes, 2nd**

Commissioner Boughton to pre-approve the purchase of (1) AED as needed should a current AED fail and need immediate replacing. Vote: Commissioners' Brechter, Stokes, Boughton – yes. Commissioner Sammons – No. Motion passed.

Commissioner Sammons stated he voted no as he was not in favor of pre-approval.

Motion to adjourn made at 20:39 by Commissioner Boughton, 2nd by Commissioner Brechter. 4ok Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Dauner
District Secretary

Attachments:

1. Treasurer Report
2. Correspondence on AED discontinuance
3. LOSAP Report May 1st, 2023
4. Letter from Department to Eric Sammons and Aidan Henn advising they are dropped as members – *placed in personnel files*
5. 2023 Uniform purchases and Inventory