

## **Port Ewen Fire Commissioners Meeting**

Date: March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Location: Port Ewen Fire Department Headquarters

Roll Call (X = Present)

<u>X</u> 5yr Roger Boughton	<u>    </u> Chief Clark R. Mains	Floor:
<u>X</u> 4yr Gregg Pugliese	<u>X</u> Asst. Roger Brandt	<u>R. Naccarato</u>
<u>X</u> 3yr William McNamara	<u>X</u> Asst. A.E. Stokes	<u>T. Halpin</u>
<u>    </u> 2yr David Brechter	<u>    </u> Asst. Mike Lange	<u>                    </u>
<u>X</u> 1yr Joseph Mains		<u>                    </u>
<u>X</u> Sec’y Mike Dauner		<u>                    </u>
<u>    </u> Treas. Wendy Trojak		<u>                    </u>
		<u>                    </u>

Meeting was called to order by: Commissioner Mains at 19:30 hours.

### **Correspondence/Communications:**

Secretary Dauner:

1. AFDSNY Fire District Affairs Newsletter was received. Moving forward copies will be distributed electronically to Commissioners by AFDSNY.
2. Copy of Fitness Reimbursement Letter was posted and sent to the membership via I am Responding – copy attached.

### **Unfinished Business:**

Commissioner Boughton:

1. Provided Secretary copy of Headquarters parking lot light work invoice. Secretary will forward to Treasurer Trojak.
2. Addressed Assistant Chief vehicle up for sale. Vehicle is being listed through Auctions International and Commissioners agreed they will accept the highest bid offered on the auction. Commissioner Boughton advised the board that Esopus Fire Department was selling a surplus Chief Vehicle and offered to Port Ewen. Commissioner Boughton stated the Board should consider purchasing and possibly could be purchased for \$10,000 and he stated it was in good condition. Secretary Dauner stated that if the Board was to consider purchasing Esopus’ vehicle they should keep the current vehicle as it was of approx. the same age and mileage. Discussion followed on purchasing Esopus’ vehicle, another used vehicle, or a new vehicle. Commissioner Boughton suggested looking at making the current utility pickup the Assistant Chief vehicle. The Secretary again suggested the Board look at forming a committee of Commissioners and Chiefs to look at all options before they go ahead with a purchase of a vehicle as well as consider waiting until year end funds could be used to purchase a vehicle so as not to affect the availability of money for an engine. From the floor, Tim Halpin suggested the Board have someone with mechanical knowledge look at any used vehicle. He further stated that there are vehicles at Ulster Hose and Spring Lake which are available and that a vehicle will

depreciate in value; a newer vehicle with lower mileage may want to be looked at. Commissioner McNamara felt that the equipment on the Esopus vehicle was not worth money to increase price of purchase and that the price of the vehicle is for the vehicle only. He felt that the Esopus vehicle was not worth \$10,000. Commissioner Mains stated that he, Commissioner Boughton, Chief Mains, and Assistant Chief Brandt will look at the Esopus vehicle and address at the next meeting.

Commissioner McNamara:

1. Micky Lane has submitted his resignation as Sta #1 & #2 Custodian effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Commissioner McNamara provided the Board with copies of the custodial job description as proposed. Commissioner Boughton asked that salting and snow removal from doors if not already done be added as well as replacing light bulbs, batteries for smoke detectors and general maintenance as needed. Assistant Chief Stokes stated the Board should consider not adding the requirement for Custodian to meet contractors /vendors as needed. Commissioner McNamara and Secretary Dauner stated that it was flexible and could be around their outside work. Secretary Dauner stated that he and Treasurer Trojak take on additional duties of meeting lawyers, bank, etc around their schedule so Board members don't have to and this would be no different. Ron Naccarato stated the custodian should not climb a ladder to replace a light bulb without someone present and the Commissioners' agreed. After review and discussion, **a motion was made by Commissioner Pugliese, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Boughton to adopt the Custodian Job Description for all District Buildings as presented. 4ok motion carried.** Commissioner McNamara stated reiterated the Boards' wish to consolidate the two custodians into one position required for all district buildings. The Board discussed a yearly rate for the one custodian and agreed to \$6,500. Assistant Chief Stokes felt that interviews should be given to all interested candidates. Commissioners' Mains and McNamara spoke with Mike Miller about whether he would be interested in remaining on and advised Mike would be provided the job description now it was created. It was stated if Mike is not interested applications will be taken for the position. Discussion continued and upon conclusion, **A motion was made by Commissioner McNamara, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Boughton to consolidate Headquarters custodian and Sta 1 & 2 custodian effective April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and create the position of Custodian which will be responsible for all District Buildings at the rate of pay of \$6,500.00 annually. Vote: Commissioners' Mains, McNamara, Boughton – Yes. Commissioner Pugliese – No. Motion Passed.** Commissioner Pugliese stated he voted no as he felt the position was not being compensated enough for work performed. Commissioner Mains and McNamara will speak to custodian Mike Miller to ask his interest in position and an appointment will be made at a later date.

Secretary Dauner:

1. Inquired whether Commissioner Mains spoke with Spectrum, he offered to set up new account. Commissioner Mains stated he will call Spectrum tomorrow.
2. Secretary Dauner addressed the delay in closing on the firehouse property. The district's attorney as well as the seller's attorney are both in agreement on matters and are working on the contract amendment as well as the proposed easement and the Secretary was assured the closing would be shortly. Secretary Dauner stated that contrary to some rumors the price is

still firm and bound by the contract and both sides are working together. A concern was raised on whether the timeline still held for design and going out to bid for construction to which the Secretary advised that Delaware Engineering advised if the closing is held within the next couple weeks, they will be able to continue on schedule.

### **New Business:**

Secretary Dauner:

1. In an effort to keep momentum going, the Secretary asked the Board for authorization to move forward with necessary work required to demolish the vacant house on the property as soon as the district owns the property to lessen liability concerns and begin the land clearing phase. The Secretary stated a lead and asbestos inspector would need to be retained prior to demolition and that there was an interested party in town who wished to donate their time to demolish the building if the district rented equipment and hauled material away. The board members had concerns of individuals performing work and wished to look at bidding work considering location and all involved with the matter. Secretary Dauner asked the Board to pass a resolution authorizing him to work with Delaware Engineering on conducting inspections of the building and retaining services of a contractor to demolish the vacant house on the new firehouse property. **A motion was made by Commissioner Mains, 2nd Commissioner Boughton to retain services of Delaware Engineering for the purposes of conducting necessary work to inspect and bid demolition work for vacant structure at 288 Broadway upon ownership of the property. 4ok motion carried.**
2. Secretary Dauner stated that in 2018/2019 prior to Covid the current district properties were appraised in preparation for their sale once the referendum passed. Since then, property values have increased dramatically and he asked the Board to authorize him to retain the services of Ackerly & Hubbell Appraisal Corp. to reappraise the district properties. **A motion was made by Commissioner Mains, 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Boughton authorizing the Secretary to retain the services of Ackerly & Hubbell Appraisal Corp. to appraise all district properties currently owned. 4ok motion carried.** Secretary asked that members of the Board and Firehouse Committee present think of suitable realtors for sale of the properties and that at the April meeting the Board of Commissioners consider retaining the services of a realtor to begin listing properties as soon as the property closing occurs.

Commissioner Boughton addressed the Truck Committee and work towards soliciting bids for a new Engine 1. He stated that Seagrave has expressed interest in meeting the Board to discuss the district's interest in purchasing a truck. Assistant Chief Lange has spoke with Seagrave prior and Commissioner Boughton spoke with Commissioner Mains about having them attend the meeting. Seagrave will be coming to the April meeting. Ron Naccarato stated companies will not bid on selling truck typically unless they meet with the district prior. Currently two companies have requested Specs to bid on new Engine 1. Discussion followed on the spec and how it was created as well as who would bid on the truck now it was put out to bid.

**From the Floor:**

A.E. Stokes:

1. Assistant Chief Stokes asked if the Board could ask the custodian to put chairs in meeting room at Headquarters back to the way they were pre Covid now that Covid restrictions are no longer in place. He stated Custodian will not do this until he is told to do so by the Board.

Tim Halpin:

1. Asked if cold patch in Sta #1 parking lot placed by the Town could be looked at. Secretary Dauner stated he would address tomorrow when he was at work.

Secretary Dauner asked if now that Covid restrictions are not in place if the signs on buildings advising Firefighters only are able to be removed? Board stated yes they could.

Motion to adjourn made at 20:28 by Commissioner Boughton, 2nd by Commissioner McNamara. 4ok Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Dauner  
District Secretary

Attachments:

1. Resignation Letter from Myron Lane as Sta #1 & #2 Custodian
2. Attorney Correspondence pending litigation
3. Notice of Bid for 2000 GPM Engine Apparatus
4. Correspondence to membership on Fitness Reimbursement