# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF THE FAIRVIEW FIRE DISTRICT WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK 11 MARCH 2021

Present:

Commissioner John Malone

Commissioner Vikki Simmons Commissioner Daymon S. Yizar Commissioner Emma Walthall-Moon Commissioner James Robinson

Absent:

None

Also Present:

Chief Howard Reiss Treasurer Matilde Abate Secretary Sarah Senior

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Fairview Fire District, Westchester County, New York, of Thursday, 11 March 2021, convened at 18:36 hours at Fire Headquarters at 19 Rosemont Boulevard, Greenburgh, New York. The presiding officer was Chair John Malone.

#### R21-03-01

Upon the motion offered by Commissioner Walthall-Moon and seconded by Commissioner Yizar that the meeting shall be called to order:

Commissioners Simmons, Yizar, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Malone voting aye, nays none, none absent. The motion was carried.

Chair Malone called the roll: Commissioners Simmons, Yizar, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Malone present.

### R21-03-02

Upon the motion offered by Commissioner Yizar and seconded by Commissioner Simmons that the minutes of the regular meeting of 11 February 2021 shall be approved as submitted by the Secretary: Commissioners Simmons, Yizar, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Malone voting aye, nays none, none absent. The motion was carried.

### House & Grounds Committee

The House & Grounds Committee met on 22 February 2021. During this meeting, the committee listed all necessary repairs and projects that need to be addressed at the stations. The current priorities are the Boardroom and replacing lights at headquarters.

### **Insurance Committee**

Chief Reiss and Secretary Senior met with the insurance broker Bruce Niles of the Niles Agency to discuss rate increases industry-wide. Across the fire service, there have been rate increases greater than 15%.

Chief Reiss also reviewed the auto policy with Mr. Niles to assure that all of the District's vehicles' values are appropriate.

Chief Reiss also reported the new insurance regulation in regards to the use of Class B Foam. Insurance will not cover incidents that occur during training but will cover any incidents in the field.

## Finance Committee

The Finance Committee set a meeting date of 29 March 2021 at 13:00 hours.



### Chief's Report

An insurance refund of \$1,227 was received from the sale of the apparatus.

A certiorari bill for Section 1 of the Granada Crescent Condominiums in the amount of \$21,411.66 was received. The new 5-year agreement with EAP through the Westchester County Department of Community Mental Health is in effect, at a total cost of \$1,800.

Spring Training Days are being planned. Members will train on the new Con Edison simulators at the Westchester County Fire Training Center. The first part of the program is classroom based and can be completed while on duty. The second part is hands-on and will be done at the Training Center.

Members are in the process of completing necessary SCBA and N-95 fit testing.

There are no members currently positive for COVID-19 or being quarantined due to COVID-19. The membership is approximately 70% vaccinated. The Chief is currently reviewing new CDC guidelines regarding mask use among vaccinated individuals. Effective 1 April 2021, New York State guidance will no longer require those traveling domestically to quarantine or test for COVID-19 upon return to NY

Engines 174 and 175 were sent to Hudson Valley Fire Equipment in Brewster for a day to address minor warranty issues.

IT Connection had begun the work to upgrade the computer server.

Annual Department Physicals started on 1 March at Partners in Safety in White Plains and are scheduled to be complete by the end of the month.

Greenburgh Housing Authority had initially discussed allowing members to train on the senior housing structures before they were demolished. However, due to environmental remediation, we were unable to use to site for training.

During the 24 February Town Board meeting, residents discussed fire districts having the opportunity to bid on Fire Protection Districts. The Town explained the bid process and that fire districts could always bid if they wish to.

Chief Reiss asked the Board which conferences they were interested in attending this year. Commissioners Yizar, Malone, Walthall-Moon, and Robinson, and Chief Reiss expressed interest in the Fire House Expo. Commissioners Yizar, Malone, and Robinson, Chief Reiss, and Secretary Senior expressed interest in attending The AFDSNY Conference.

The Department responded to 179 alarms in February 2021, including 90 EMS and Extrication calls, 11 mutual aid-out responses, and 7 mutual aid-in responses. End of Chief's Report

Commissioner Walthal-Moon asked what a Fire Protection District is. Chief Reiss explained that it is an area inside the unincorporated Town of Greenburgh but outside an existing fire district's boundaries.

The Board discussed how bidding on Fire Protection Districts could affect the budget, taxpayers, current response times, and other department operations.

#### R21-03-03

Upon the motion offered by Commissioner Yizar and seconded by Commissioner Simmons that the Tax Anticipation Note Resolution dated 11 March 2021 shall be adopted to wit:

A RESOLUTION DELEGATING TO THE FIRE DISTRICT TREASURER OF THE FAIRVIEW FIRE DISTRICT OF THE TOWN OF GREENBURGH, WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK, THE POWER TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF AND TO SELL \$1,500,000 TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES OF SAID FIRE DISTRICT IN

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ANTICIPATION OF THE COLLECTION OF TAXES LEVIED OR TO BE LEVIED FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OF SAID FIRE DISTRICT COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2021.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Fairview Fire District in the Town of Greenburgh, Westchester County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell \$1,500,000 tax anticipation notes of the Fairview Fire District in the Town of Greenburgh, Westchester County, New York, including renewals thereof, in anticipation of the collection of taxes levied or to be levied for the fiscal year of said Fire District commencing January 1, 2021, is hereby delegated to the Fire District Treasurer. Such notes shall be of such terms, form, and contents and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said Fire District Treasurer, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Roll Call: Commissioners Simmons, Yizar, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Malone voting aye, nays none, none absent. The resolution was duly adopted.

## **Public Participation**

Claire Pizzuti inquired about the House & Grounds Committee's plans with the Headquarters Boardroom. Chair Malone stated that updating the Boardroom is one of the immediate priorities of the committee.

#### R21-03-04

Upon the motion offered by Commissioner Robinson and seconded by Commissioner Simmons that the Board shall enter into Executive Session to discuss matters relating to the medical history and employment of particular persons and to review the Sick and Late Report for February 2021:

Commissioners Simmons, Yizar, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Malone voting aye, nays none, none absent. The motion was carried.

The Board entered into Executive Session at 19:13 hours.

The Executive Session was concluded at 20:10 hours.

### R21-03-05

Upon the motion offered by Commissioner Simmons and seconded by Commissioner Walthall-Moon that the Public Session shall resume:

Commissioners Simmons, Yizar, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Malone voting aye, nays none, none absent. The motion was carried.

### R21-03-06

Upon the motion offered by Commissioner Simmons and seconded by Commissioner Walthall-Moon that the Board shall authorize payment to employees for periods of illness/sick time set forth in the Sick & Late Report for February 2021:

Commissioners Simmons, Yizar, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Malone voting aye, nays none, none absent. The motion was carried.

# R21-03-07

Upon the motion offered by Commissioner Simmons and seconded by Commissioner Yizar that the bills shall be approved as submitted by the Treasurer and recorded in the Account QuickReport as of 20 February 2021 in the amount of \$273,990.49 and the Account QuickReport as of 11 March 2021 in the amount of \$510,853.17: Commissioners Simmons, Yizar, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Malone voting aye, nays none, none absent. The motion was carried.

# R21-03-08

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon the motion offered by Commissioner Yizar and seconded by Commissioner Robinson that the meeting shall be adjourned at 20:13 hours: Commissioners Simmons, Yizar, Walthall-Moon, Robinson, and Malone voting aye, nays none, none absent. The motion was carried.



Regular Meeting of 11 March 2021

Sarah Senior

Fire District Secretary

