

APPROVED

THE PITTSFORD FIRE DISTRICT

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 20, 2020

Present: Commissioners Peets, Willard, Lusk, Schenkel, Shalvoy, Rickett, and Wallace

Absent: None

Also, present: Chief Yeager, Assistant Chiefs Payne and Ryan, Administrator Ockenden and Treasurer Henry

Commissioner Peets called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM with the pledge to the flag and moment of silence for first responders and members of the armed forces.

Chiefs Report

-Reported that the fire department responded to 672 calls year to date, with a working fire response to Mendon. Mendon was very appreciative and complimentary of our response.

-Requested approval for a training seminar

-Requested approval for the purchase of turnout gear

-Reported on a minor accident involving apparatus. An accident report has been filed and the line has taken appropriate measures.

Commissioner Lusk moved, seconded by Commissioner Wallace, to approve the attendance of firefighter Khalil at a New York State training seminar in Henrietta, NY November 5-8 at a cost of \$375.00.

The motion carried by an Aye vote of Commissioners present. Note: Commissioner Schenkel had not yet joined the meeting

Commissioner Willard moved, seconded by Commissioner Rickett, to authorize the purchase of turnout gear per listing submitted in the amount of \$2,750.00.

The motion carried by an Aye vote of Commissioners present. Note: Commissioner Schenkel had not yet joined the meeting

Pittsford Fire Department President Cline submitted a letter on behalf of Chief Yeager and department leadership requesting further easing of Covid related restrictions. The proposal would allow for increased access to fire stations and activities, while also maintaining social distancing and sanitation procedures as previously adopted. A copy of the letter is attached to these minutes.

After discussion, Commissioner Shalvoy moved, seconded by Commissioner Rickett, to approve the modifications as proposed by the fire department while maintaining social distancing and sanitation policies.

The motion carried by an Aye vote of Commissioners present. Note: Commissioner Schenkel had not yet joined the meeting

Chairman Peets complimented the line officers and specifically the training department for the excellent job on providing interesting and engaging training while keeping firefighters safe.

Chairman Peets reported that the Bushnell's Basin Fire Department has decided to save for the purchase of a new apparatus and has withdrawn their interest in purchasing Engine 383. There are no other pending offers for the apparatus.

Administrators Report

- Reported that all HVAC air filters had been changed in the stations
- Submitted five quotes received for purchase of a new chief's vehicle.
- Reported that one sealed bid had been received in response to an RFP issued for snowplowing services for the 2020-21 season. The Secretary opened the sealed bid and read the results aloud.

Commissioner Wallace moved, seconded by Commissioner Shalvoy, to award a contract for snowplowing services for the 2020-21 season to Swagler Tree Service, LLC in the quoted amount of \$4,800.00. An additional \$75.00 per hour will be charged for snow removal when needed.

The motion carried by an Aye vote of Commissioners present. Note: Commissioner Schenkel had not yet joined the meeting

Commissioner Willard moved, seconded by Commissioner Wallace, to purchase one new and unused 2021 Chevrolet Tahoe in the quoted amount of \$36,224.49 from Hoselton Chevrolet as they were the lowest responsible bidder.

The motion carried by an Aye vote of Commissioners present. Note: Commissioner Schenkel had not yet joined the meeting

Approval of Minutes

Following a review, Commissioner Shalvoy moved, seconded by Commissioner Schenkel, to approve the minutes of the September 10th regular meeting and September 24th special meeting as submitted.

The motion carried by an Aye vote of Commissioners present. Note: Commissioner Schenkel had not yet joined the meeting and Commissioner Willard abstained from voting to approve the September 24th minutes as he was not present.

Public Input

-Steve Laboski inquired as to the status of air filtration systems at station one truck bays. Commissioner Peets advised that research is being conducted on options. Specifications and public bidding must be conducted. It is hoped that a system can be in place in late 2020 or early 2021, but the district must contend with engineering and vendor schedules.

NOTE: Commissioner Schenkel joined the meeting at this point.

Commissioner Rickett Report

-The YMCA is going to reimburse the district for one repeater for the new trunked radio system.
-Reported on the status of current VHF radio equipment that has been rendered obsolete by the new trunked radio system. He recommended that the equipment be declared as surplus and has no monetary value.

Commissioner Rickett moved, seconded by Commissioner Willard, to declare specific radio equipment per list submitted to be surplus as it is not working or obsolete and of no value to the district.

The motion carried by an Aye vote of Commissioners present.

Commissioner Rickett moved, seconded by Commissioner Willard, to transfer twelve surplus portable radios and accessories to the Otter Lake Fire Department.

The motion carried by an Aye vote of Commissioners present.

Commissioner Lusk Report

-No report

Commissioner Wallace Report

-Presented the 2021 fire district budget with a recommendation that it be adopted. The final document is unchanged from the Proposed Budget adopted on September 24th. He noted that no public comment had been received relative to the budget.

Commissioner Wallace moved, seconded by Commissioner Rickett, to adopt a resolution to override the New York State Tax Levy Cap.

The motion carried by an Aye vote of Commissioners present, with the exception of Commissioner Lusk, who vote Nay. The affirmative vote constituted more than 60% of the voting power of the Board of Fire Commissioners as required by law.

WHEREAS

Local governments are subject to a tax levy limitation as a result of the New York State Property Tax Cap Legislation set forth in General Municipal Law Article 2, §3-c; and

WHEREAS

There is a provision within the legislation that requires a Fire District that states that it wishes to override said tax cap limit if the tax levy limit established by this Proposed Budget will exceed the tax cap limit, and

WHEREAS

A local government may adopt a budget that requires a tax levy that is greater than the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year if the governing body enacts a resolution, approved by a vote of sixty percent of the total voting power of such body, to override such limit for such coming fiscal year only.” and

WHEREAS the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Pittsford Fire District hereby held a public hearing on the 20th day of October, 2020 to adopt a resolution overriding said tax cap limit, at which time all persons desiring to be heard were heard; and

WHEREAS

In excess of sixty percent of the total voting power of the Board of Fire Commissioners has approved adoption of a budget that requires a tax levy that is greater than the tax levy limit for 2021; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED

That the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Pittsford Fire District be and hereby adopts a resolution overriding said tax cap limit which shall read in full:

Pursuant to ¶15 of §3-c of Article 2 of the General Municipal Law, the Pittsford Fire District overrides the tax levy limit imposed pursuant to §3-c of Article 2 of the General Municipal Law for tax year 2021

Commissioner Wallace moved, seconded by Commissioner Shalvoy, to adopt the 2021 Pittsford Fire District Budget as submitted.

The motion carried by an Aye vote of Commissioners present, with the exception of Commissioner Lusk, who vote Nay.

Commissioner Schenkel Report

-No report.

Commissioner Shalvoy Report

-No report

Commissioner Willard Report

-Reported that the county district officers association had cancelled meetings for the remainder of the year due to the Covid crisis.

Commissioner Peets Report

-Reported that new Engine 384 is in engineering at the factory and should be finished in late March or April

-Reported that the parking lot project at station 1 is progressing smoothly and is ahead of schedule.

Communications

-Notification from the Pittsford Fire Department regarding a firefighter that was approved to reside outside of the fire district

Commissioner Schenkel moved, seconded by Commissioner Wallace, to approve the application of Firefighter Jeffrey Neufeglise to reside outside of the fire district at 67 Stoneledge Way, Penfield, New York.

The motion carried by an Aye vote of Commissioners present

Unfinished Business

-None

New Business

Commissioner Schenkel moved, seconded by Commissioner Willard, to appoint Allen Reitz as Chair of the Board of Elections for the 2020 fire district election at a rate of \$75.00. Also, to appoint as election inspectors: Jessica Reitz, Scott Fairbrother and Lynne Drake at a rate of \$50.00.

The motion carried by an Aye vote of Commissioners present

Treasurers Report

-The Treasurer submitted a monthly financial report and listing of audited invoices for payment.

-Recommended that the district join a group which is constituted to safely invest reserve funds to realize a higher rate of return on funds.

Commissioner Wallace moved, seconded by Commissioner Schenkel, to authorize the fire district to enroll in a Municipal Cooperation Agreement under authority of NY General Municipal Law Article 5-G, Section 119-o. This allows the district to enter into an agreement with New York Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System (NYCLASS) to safely invest reserve funds that will earn a higher rate of return, thereby benefiting taxpayers of the fire district. As Treasurer, Timothy Henry is authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of the district.

The motion carried by an Aye vote of Commissioners present

Commissioner Willard moved, seconded by Commissioner Wallace, to approve the Treasurer's report for October 2020 as submitted.

The motion carried by an Aye vote of Commissioners present.

Commissioner Schenkel moved, seconded by Commissioner Wallace, to approve the payment of the audited invoices as submitted and amended, with the addition of an invoice for a training seminar in the amount of \$375.00.

The motion carried by an Aye vote of Commissioners present

Adjournment

Having no further business to discuss, Commissioner Willard moved, seconded by Commissioner Schenkel, to adjourn the meeting.

The motion carried by an Aye vote of commissioners present and the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Edwin R. Jeffries, Secretary