

LaGrange Fire District  
MINUTES

4678

Re-organization and Regular Meeting  
January 6, 2009  
7:30 PM FH3

The 892nd meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the LaGrange fire District was held on January 6, 2009 at FH 3 at 7:30 PM. Present were Commissioner Smith, Lantzky, Hines, Canero, Zeidan; Chief Barry Ward; Assistant Chiefs Dan Trier, Bob Green, Brian Odendahl; Secretary Holzberger and firefighters. This meeting was a re-organization and regular meeting.

Hines called the meeting to order and led the salute to the flag. Hines welcomed everyone. Secretary Holzberger administered the oath of office to newly elected Commissioner Jeff Canero. The Board congratulated and welcomed Canero. Secretary Holzberger stated that a temporary chairman needs to be appointed. Zeidan moved that Hines be appointed temporary Chairman, seconded by Smith and carried unan.

Hines asked for nominations for Chairman for 2009. Smith nominated Hines, seconded by Lantzky. Canero nominated Zeidan for Chairman. Zeidan nominated Smith. Smith declined the nomination. Ziedan declined the nomination. The Board was polled for the nomination of Hines and the vote was as follows: Smith Aye Lantzky Aye Canero Aye Zeidan Aye Hines Aye  
The motion was carried unan.

Hines thanked the Board for the appointment to Chairman. Hines asked for a motion to appoint the Secretary. Smith moved to appoint Denise A. Holzberger as Secretary/Treasurer for 2009, seconded by Lantzky and carried unan.

Hines requested that Lantzky be appointed to act as Deputy Chairman. Zeidan moved to appoint Lantzky as Deputy Chairman, seconded by Smith and carried unan.

Secretary Holzberger read the following resolutions:

1. That the Secretary /Treasurer will be authorized to pay the telephone, electric and fuel oil bills as they are received provided they appear to be in order.
2. That Mahopac National Bank is designated as the Official Depository for all LaGrange Fire District Funds and funds be invested at any other local commercial bank offering the best interest rates.
3. That the Poughkeepsie Journal be designated as the Official Newspaper for placing legal advertisements when necessary.
4. That the Secretary/Treasurer prepare a monthly financial report and furnish a copy to each commissioner at the regular monthly meeting.
5. That a complete report be furnished by the Chief annually to be presented to the Board no later than the March regular meeting.
6. That the District provide a \$20,000 term life insurance policy and medical benefits for the Secretary/Treasurer.
7. That the annual salary for the Secretary/Treasurer will be \$40170 for 2009.
8. That the hourly rate for the part time clerk will be \$14.00 per hour for 2009.
9. That Rod MacLeod is designated as the attorney for the LaGrange Fire District.

10. That Rose & Kiernan will be the insurance agent for the LaGrange Fire District.
11. That mileage will be reimbursed when appropriate at the current rate as designated by the Internal Revenue Service.

Lantzky moved to accept the resolutions for 2009 as read by the Secretary, seconded by Smith and carried unan.

Secretary Holzberger read the Procurement Policy for review and the Investment Policy. Page 4680. Lantzky moved to accept the Procurement Policy and Investment Policy as read by the Secretary, seconded by Ziedan and carried unan.

Chief Barry Ward asked for clarification regarding purchases over \$1500. A commissioner or Board's designee will approve purchases over \$1500.

2009 Meeting Schedule-Lantzky discussed entertaining the possibility of changing the meetings to a different night to avoid conflicts. Zeidan stated that he has other commitments on other nights which would make it difficult for him to attend if the night is changed from Tuesday. Smith stated that it has been tradition to hold commissioner meetings on Tuesday nights which are usually the second and fourth Tuesday of each month with an occasional exception. Smith also suggested returning to Firehouse #2 for Board meetings. Zeidan moved to hold the commissioners meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month seconded by Smith and carried unan.

Zeidan moved that the commissioners meetings be held at Firehouse #2, seconded by Smith. Lantzky discussed the Fish Fry that is held in the February –March time period. Smith stated that Firehouse #2 is district headquarters and we have worked around the fish fry in the past. The Board was polled and the vote was all in favor and carried unan. Hines stated that we would develop a schedule for the meetings and would finalize at the next meeting. Lantzky moved to hold the next meeting on January 27, 2009 at 7:30 PM at Firehouse #2, seconded by Zeidan and carried unan.

Committee appointments-Hines stated that he would like each commissioner to think of what are he would be interested in leading, and asked Smith to continue to be in charge of Buildings and large equipment. Hines stated that he would like their feedback to discuss at the next meeting.

Correspondence:

December 2009 Financial report distributed to Board

Request for use of Co.3-Smith stated that Anthony Champion had requested the use of Station3 for the purpose of square dancing. Smith moved to approve the use of Firehouse #3 for square dancing, seconded by Zeidan and carried unan.

Appointment of Chief Officers-Smith moved to accept Chief officers as elected by the Department, seconded by Zeidan. Jeff Canero discussed the qualifications of an elected Assistant Chief. Chief Barry Ward noted that Bob Green needed a fire police class and Dan Trier needed to complete the maze and Physical Exam, which he has done. Chief Barry Ward noted that he is not sure of the schedule for the maze as NYS has cut back on courses being offered and that creates a challenge for us to get members into classes. Lantzky stated that as an FYI at the time of the nominations it was illegally/improperly made as the person who seconded it was not qualified to vote. Zeidan stated that is not our issue but

the Department's. Hines asked if the vote was unanimous. Lantzky stated yes. Canero stated that there was another candidate. Smith stated that it appears that he was duly elected. Canero asked if Greg Heneka would be eligible. Chief Barry Ward stated that he needs EMT. Lantzky stated that we need to review the minutes of the Department. Smith stated that more than one person seconded the motion (to nominate). Hines stated that the second was made and the vote was unanimous.

The motion was then voted upon and was as follows:

Lantzky Nay Canero Nay Zeidan Aye Smith Aye Hines Aye

The motion was carried.

Smith thanked former Chief Jim Dawson for his service.

Exterminator Quotes-Zeidan reviewed quotes that he obtained from Bud Busters and JP McHale. Hines asked for his recommendations. Zeidan stated that he likes the second year arrangement offered by McHale. Zeidan moved that we employ JP McHale for extermination services seconded by Smith and carried unan. Zeidan asked that the Secretary send a letter to end the arrangement with Terminix. Secretary Holzberger stated that she would need a date when the new service provider would start. Zeidan stated he would follow up with her on that.

Check received-Secretary Holzberger reported that a check was received from Professional Underwriters (Safety Group Manager for Workers Compensation) in the amount of \$318.57 for refund of fee due to experience modification. Zeidan moved to allocate to the 2009 Insurance Budget, seconded by Lantzky and carried unan.

Bills-The following bills were presented for payment, Page 4682.

Compensation Consulting Services- Zeidan stated that he spoke with Martin Silver regarding the bill and he recommends payment.

Zeidan stated that regarding M & M Mechanical, he would like to obtain quotes for service; cost per service is high; we should look at a service contract.

Lantzky moved to authorize payment of the bills as submitted, seconded by Smith and carried unan. Hines asked the Secretary to contact Bottini regarding propane price. Canero asked if the price is higher than Quinlan. Smith stated that Quinlan was higher in price than competitors' fuel oil and when informed that we would be looking at another supplier, the propane tanks were pulled. ST.3 is still staying with Quinlan and will pay their own. Canero stated that ST.1 and 2 are with Star Gas now.

Public Comment-Gerry Burke asked what the status on snow removal at the firehouses is. Chief Barry Ward stated that the companies have taken care of shoveling walkways and the career staff plows. Chief Barry Ward stated that he could contact the Town Highway regarding salting.

Budget- Chief Barry Ward stated that he would meet with the Secretary/Treasurer to sync up.

Hydrant-Zeidan stated that the hydrant on Michael Lane does not have a pole. Chief Barry Ward stated that the Town is responsible for poles and he will follow up with the Town.

Chiefs Report-none at this time

EMS Report-none at this time

New Business- Zeidan addressed the Chairman and stated that we need to get together as a Board to develop a package to offer to the candidates (for Deputy Chief). Hines asked if there is a revision of terms. Zeidan stated that we need to look at the length of the contract. Chief Barry Ward stated that he wished to reconsider the position and presented the Board with of letter and the Secretary read it.

Hines stated that we need to grab a Saturday morning to prioritize what we need to tackle this year. Zeidan stated that we should not drag our feet.

At 8:41 PM, Smith moved to go to executive session to discuss various matters with legal counsel, seconded by Lantzky and carried unan.

At 9:02 PM, Zeidan moved to return to the regular meeting, seconded by Lantzky and carried unan.

Hines thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as chairman and stated that we need to work together. Hines added that he welcomed all comments and suggestions.

Chief Barry Ward stated that staff vehicles have been assigned to each chief and we have one extra; we can re-evaluate our needs periodically.

Hines reminded Board members to think about the committee assignments. Smith noted that he is sometimes not available on Saturdays.

There being no further business, Smith moved to adjourn at 9:05 PM seconded by Zeidan and carried unan.

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise A. Holzberger, Secretary/Treasurer

\*\*Reminder-next meeting Jan 27, 2009 7:30 PM FH#2\*\*