

MINUTES
LAGRANGE FIRE DISTRICT
WORKSHOP/SPECIAL MEETING
January 27, 2009
FH#2 7:30 pm

Present were Commissioners Lantzky, Smith, Canero, Zeidan, Hines; Chief Barry Ward; EMS Admin Michael Benenati.

Hines stated that he would like to open every meeting with the statement that this is a meeting in public of the Board of Commissioners, not a public meeting; the public is invited to attend. Hines stated that this will ensure control and the public will be asked for comments at least once if not twice during the meeting. Zeidan stated that he is okay with as long as the public has the opportunity to ask questions. Lantzky stated that we are trying to maintain control of the meeting without getting sidetracked answering questions, so that we may conduct business.

Zeidan stated that he feels that it is getting too technical. Hines stated that we are making more out of this; let's just try it. Hines stated that things can get out of hand; this is just a simple statement. Zedian stated that it is up to the Chairman to maintain control.

2009 Equipment Bids-Two received MES and Garrison

Lantzky moved to allow the acceptance of a bid if there is another bid at the Post Office, if it is received tomorrow, seconded Smith and carried unan.

Public Comment-Jason Lopes, Local President stated that the Local is ready to begin negotiations; perhaps we can get some ground rules set either by our counsel or yours. Hines asked if we can set the ground rules; Rod MacLeod stated that both counsels can work on that. Rod MacLeod stated that it would not take long to print out some ground rules. Hines asked Rod Macleod to obtain those rules; and Rod agreed. Letters will follow regarding.

Jan 6 2009-Lantzky moved to approve, seconded by Ziedan and carried unan.

2009 Meeting Schedule-Zeidan moved to accept seconded by Lantzky and carried unan.

Donations-Equip Fund, Smith, moved to allocate to the Equip Fund, seconded Lantzky and carried unan

Bills-Smith, seconded Lantzky and carried unan.

Verizon cell phone-Hines to contact Ed Mulford regarding his phone.

Chiefs Report-Chief Barry Ward reported injuries and employees on 207(a). QA/QI needs to be appointed in the interim while that employee is out; stipend needs to be switched.

Lopes reported that there is a safety issue regarding ice flowing off the buildings at ST.1 and ST.3.

Hines asked to Smith to look into it. Paul DeMillo

Pre reg by March 16-\$125.00 Wallkill High School. Leadership. Lantzky would propose that 10 be permitted to attend. Lantzky moved to permit the Chief to allow up to 10 to attend this class if there is interest, seconded Smith and when the Board was polled the vote was Ziedan Nay; all others aye

FDIC-Chief Barry Ward seeks approval for up to 4 to attend; cost would be approx \$4245. Zeidan moved to approve, seconded by Lantzky and carried unan.

Kingston-\$100 Tactic Seminar. Chief Barry Ward requested up to 10. Smith moved to approve, seconded by Lantzky and Zeidan Nay; all others Aye.

IT-Chief Barry Ward stated that we need maintenance contract \$3350; on-site support for \$1100 for 10 hours. Zeidan moved to approve, seconded by Smith, discussion. Zeidan asked what service will be provided. Chief stated that this ensures upgrades, etc. Hines asked for any additional comments and polled the Board; all in favor motion carried unan.

On-site support-Smith moved to approve, seconded by Zeidan and carried unan.

Adoption of RE-stocking agreement-ST. Francis Zeidan moved to authorizes Michael Benenati to sign the agreement on behalf of the District, seconded by Smith and carried unan.

IT Policy-Chief Barry Ward will re-send the policy and asks the Board to review to adopt at the next meeting.

Roles and Responsibilities-Chief stated that he has been working on this with staff.

LOSAP-Chief Barry Ward stated that we need to communicate the changes to the members; suggests using the company meetings to disseminate the information and requests a commissioner

47-55-working well

Tanker Bid-Chief stated that a bid date 30 days from Feb 2. Smith moved that the tanker be put out to bid to be opened on March 10, 2009, seconded by Zeidan and carried unan.

Commissioner Committee Assignments-Hines explained that he tried to keep preferences and experience in mind. Secretary Holzberger read the assignments. Canero asked if a vote was necessary; Hines stated no. Hines stated that all of us may participate; it is just to maintain a point of contact. Hines asked for comments. Zeidan stated that the Chairman should not be on the committee for negotiations as the Chairman should be overseeing things. Canero feels that it is not the position for the Chairman as you have the deciding vote. Chairman feels that in order to make an informed decision he needs to be involved. Canero asked if there should be a vote. Lantzky feels that the Chairman should be overseeing things but will support this decision. Zeidan stated that perhaps we should go with the original plan and have a negotiator. Hines stated that is a separate question. Canero stated that the problem is not with the assignments, just the Chairman's decision to be part of the negotiating.

Agenda items-Hines asked for input for the agenda .

Commissioners Uniforms-Hines stated that we voted on this previously. Hines noted several recent occasions would have warranted the wearing of uniforms. Zeidan does agree that at Fairview we had a hat and a dark blue suit. Hines stated that cost is \$1500 for all five uniforms; similar to a Chief's uniforms. Zeidan personally feels that a class A is not for him; prefers a suit because we are elected and class A uniforms are for the volunteers and career; we are more on the civil side. Canero does not feel that the cost warrants the purchase. Hines feels that it is recognition. Lantzky is not opposed to wearing a uniform; but agrees with Jeff Canero. Lantzky stated that he would not push the issue. Smith stated that he agrees that it is recognition and more formal. Hines stated that it is a matter of record that we voted on. Smith stated that he agrees, Lantzky agrees and Canero and Zeidan stated no. Zeidan asked why the class A. Hines stated that we voted on it previously and never we moved on it; there was a question regarding brass and insignia. Zedian asked if the motion still stands; Rod MacLeod stated that the motion stands.

Rules,Policies and Regulations-Lantzky expressed his frustration that policies will be re-visited; a draft copy will be provided to the Board and the hope is that we will approve these policies; copies will be sent to legal counsel and Chief Barry Ward.

Drug/Alcohol Policy-Set date Feb 11 at ST 2 at 5 PM. Smith and Hines to meet with Rod.

Workshop-Hines stated that Saturdays are problematic. Zeidan stated he has a commitment on second Mondays. Canero-later the better on Wednesday s or Thursday. Smith and Lantzky stated Thursdays in the afternoon. Hines stated that we will look at the current contract first, ground rules will come later. Feb 5 2009 4 :30 PM at FH3. Lantzky moved to hold the workshop at ST 2 on Feb 5, seconded Zeidan and carried unan.

Team Building-Hines asked if there would be interest in getting someone in for team building time permitting. Lantzky stated that the speaker at Walkkill is a motivational speaker and suggests the Board members should attend. Hines will encourage all of us to attend and asked if he should pursue it. Zeidan stated he feels that it is good; all agreed.

Utility uniforms-Lantzky stated that a review of uniforms for a standard uniform day so that all staff look the same. Hines stated that the Chief and Lantzky will take care of this by next meeting.

Access to Personnel Records-Hines stated that we need to agree on access to personnel records. Hines stated that we need to address. Personnel records will be under lock and key and controlled by the Secretary.

Public Comment-Jason Lopes appreciates the meetings being moved to Firehouse 2.

Executive Session-Smith moved to go to executive session at 9:16 PM, seconded by Zeidan .

Back to regular session-10:08 Pm

Smith moved to approve payment of the life insurance renewal portion of the LOSAP payment in the amount of \$50,122, seconded by Lantzky and carried unan.

There was a discussion regarding class A uniforms.

Hines stated that we have a lean year ahead of us;

Adjourn 10:25 PM Smith moved to adjourn at 10.25 PM, seconded by Lantzky and carried unan..