

LAGRANGE FIRE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 22, 2009
7:30 pm FH 2

The 910th meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Lagrange Fire District was held on September 22, 2009 at 7:30 PM at Firehouse 2. Present were Commissioners Hines, Smith, Lantzky, Canero; Chief Brian Odendahl; Deputy Chief Barry Ward; EMS Administrator Michael Benenati; Assistant Chief Greg Heneka; Legal Counsel Rod MacLeod; Secretary Holzberger and firefighters. Ziedan was absent.

Hines called the meeting to order and led the salute to the flag. Hines welcomed everyone. Hines stated that this is a meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners in public and not a public meeting; we will offer the opportunity for public comment at least once during the meeting and time permitting a second time.

Hines stated that he was suspending the normal order of business to present an award for service to Ed Mulford. Hines asked Ed Mulford to come forward for the presentation. Hines stated that on behalf of the Board of Fire Commissioners, he would like to present to Ed Mulford a token of appreciation for 40 years of service to the LaGrange Fire District. Ed Mulford has served in the ranks as Lieutenant, Captain of the Rescue Squad, Chief and most recently as Commissioner and Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners. Hines asked Lantzky to read the inscription on the shadow box containing the various badges corresponding to the office held. Hines thanked ED Mulford for his dedicated service.

Correspondence-Secretary Holzberger reported the following was received: \$66.06 check received from Co.3 for cablevision. Lantzky moved to allocate to the 2009 Telephone Budget, seconded by Smith and carried unan.

Minutes-Smith noted that there was a typographical error related to the date. Secretary Holzberger noted that the date of the minutes should read September 8, 2009 not September 9 and the reference to September 11 should read September 11, 2001 not 2009. These corrections have been made. Smith moved to approve the minutes of September 8, 2009 as amended with the aforementioned corrections, seconded by Canero and carried unan.

Chiefs Report-Chief Brian Odendahl stated that there was no new membership to report.

Accidents/Injuries-Chief Brian Odendahl reported that there was a burn to the wrist; first aid only was necessary.

Santa Claus Run-Chief Brian Odendahl reported that Company #3 was requesting approval for a Santa Run which they have done in the past. Lantzky moved to approve, seconded by Smith and carried unan.

Training-Chief Brian Odendahl requests approval for attendance at a Health and Safety Class at Montour Falls. The Cost is under \$200. Lantzky moved to approve, seconded by Smith and carried unan.

Hose Test- Deputy Chief Barry Ward reported that quotes were received for hose bids as follows:

.21 Per foot from Waterway

.228 Per foot Reliant

.24 Per foot Fire One

Waterway was the least and total cost would be approx. \$5222.70

DC Barry Ward recommends Waterway. Lantzky moved to authorize Waterway for the hose testing, seconded by Smith and carried unan.

FPAT Training-DC Barry Ward explained that the FPAT is the physical screening of firefighters after they have taken the written civil service exam. The FPAT is cost effective in that it screens out those candidates that cannot meet the physical requirements for firefighting before entering the Fire Academy. This is cost effective as it prevents fire districts from hiring candidates and paying for them to attend the academy only to find out they cannot meet the physical requirements. Fairview, Arlington and Lagrange have participated in this in the past and upcoming dates for the FPAT are October 24, November 7 and November 8, 2009. DC Barry Ward explained that it requires 3 to 4 firefighters and one medic for the day. Smith moved to approve, seconded by Lantzky and there was discussion. Hines asked if this impacts overtime for career staff. DC Barry Ward stated it does. Smith stated that we should participate as it is past practice and benefits LaGrange in the long run. Hines polled the Board and all were in favor.

Safety Day- DC Barry Ward stated that Firefighter Anthony Champion did a great job organizing the event-we had a positive response from the public. Hines extended congratulations to FF Anthony Champion for a job well done.

EMS Report- EMS Administrator Michael Benenati reported that the Ambulance specs are progressing.

H1N1-EMS Admin. Michael Benenati reported that we may be able to get these vaccines through Dutchess County Health Department at no cost-we are currently exploring the details of this.

2010 Budget- we are working on this.

Conferences-EMS Admin. Michael Benenati reported that we have upcoming conferences which include Firehouse Software and the NYS EMS Conference.

Physical Exams-EMS Admin. Michael Benenati explained that we have met with the Workplace regarding the components of our physicals and tonight Judy Polchopek will be giving a presentation.

The Workplace-DC Barry Ward explained that we do Physical exams every year as per NFPA standards and 5082 standards; we are looking at updating what we do. DC Barry Ward introduced Judy Polchopek. Judy stated that she had a brief power point presentation for tonight. Judy explained that LaGrange does a robust physical exam and it is one of the best in the County if not the Hudson Valley and it most closely mirrors NFPA standards. Volunteer firefighters and career firefighters are considered the same under NFPA standards. There is a need for written job descriptions and knowledge of OSHA requirements to help define the components of the physical exam. PSA screening is mandatory under NFPA as well. Auditory testing is done-when the physical is off site, a whisper test is done and when the physical is done at The Workplace an audiogram is done. Base line chest X-rays are suggested upon entry into the Fire Department and when exiting the fire department.

C-Reactive Protein-Judy explained that in lieu of a stress EKG, the C -reactive protein Blood test is a valuable tool which can be used to determine cardiac risk.

Blood-borne Pathogens-in addition, The Workplace has a blood-borne pathogen hotline which can be used in the event of an exposure.

Drug Screen-Judy stated that an Annual Drug Screen is done at physicals; random drug screening may be considered, however, this is not easy with volunteers.

Fit for Duty-Judy stated that Fit for Duty exams are done as per NFPA guidelines. A topic for further discussion is consolidation of OSHA/NFPA standards. Judy explained that the primary cause of death for firefighters is cardiac arrest. DC Barry Ward stated that the objective is to minimize risks and try to improve the physical exam. Hines thanked Judy for the presentation.

Hines stated that at this time he would ask Tim Moot from Clark Patterson to review the various repair issues at Firehouse #1 and #3. Tim Moot stated that he reviewed the status of Firehouse 1's repairs with Lantzky. These issues include a trip hazard at Station 1's bay door; this strip is severely corroded. Concrete cutting would be less costly and could fix the uneven concrete and eliminate the trip hazard. Quote is \$35-40 per foot. The metal is cast into the concrete and that would involve more work to repair. The floor drains are heavily corroded and the frame is cast into the concrete and the grease trap is involved. Total Budget is estimated at approximately \$45,000.

Smith stated that this estimate is out of line compared to the original quote that he received from a contractor. Hines stated that he had asked Tim Moot to go around with Lantzky to get an assessment of the repairs and asked the Board the following:

1. if we agree that this work needs to be done
2. should we go forward and prepare a bid
3. should we pursue this with Clark Patterson

Smith stated that this is considerably more work than we expected. Tim Moot stated that Syracuse Castings gave the estimates. Lantzky stated that he took advantage of Tim Moot's presence to look at other items as brought to the attention by other members. Tim Moot stated that he gave the worst case scenarios when estimating cost; bids could come in much lower. Canero suggested that we table this issue for further discussion at the next meeting. Hines thanked Tim Moot for understanding.

Grants-DC Barry Ward stated that he spoke with Greg Becker, grant writer, regarding other grant opportunities available to us and if we would like to pursue this with him.

Bills-The following bills were presented for payment, page 4792. Lantzky moved to authorize payment, seconded by Canero and carried unan.

Capitalization Policy- the Board agreed to table for the next meeting.

Budget 2010-Hines asked for input from the Companies regarding any needs as we prepare the 2010 Budget. Cody Vetter, Co.2 was present and Hines asked for Company 2's list by October 8, 2009.

Hines asked for a motion to hold a Special meeting to discuss the 2010 Budget. Lantzky moved to hold a special meeting on Friday September 25, 2009 at 7 PM at FH2 to discuss the proposed budget, seconded by Canero and carried unan.

Public Comment-Hines asked if there was any additional public comment. There was none.

At 8:35 PM, Lantzky moved to go to executive session, seconded by Canero and carried unan. There was a five minute recess. Secretary Holzberger was asked to leave the room for executive session.

At 9:10 PM, Hines called the meeting back to order and Secretary Holzberger returned.

2010 Budget Hearing-Hines asked for a motion to hold the 2010 Budget Hearing. Canero moved to hold the 2010 Budget Hearing on October 20, 2009 at 7PM at Firehouse #2, seconded by Lantzky and carried unan.

There being no further business, Lantzky moved to adjourn at 9:15 PM, seconded by Canero and carried unan.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise A. Holzberger, Secretary/Treasurer