

RE: Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Vischer Ferry Fire District held on Monday, November 8, 2021.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Vischer Ferry Fire District convened at 7:30 pm on Monday, November 8, 2021 in the Commissioners' room at Station #2. Those in attendance were Commissioner Kevin Bowman, Commissioner Marty Schanz, Commissioner Andrew Casucci, Commissioner Grant Keeler, Commissioner Dave Pettis, Treasurer Carl Visconti, Secretary Karan Donohue, Administrator Tim Brousseau, Administrative Assistant Lisa Castaldo, Chief Ken Bowman, Assistant Chiefs Patrick Canale and Tim Kimball, Captain Allen VanCleaf, Attorney Tim Hannigan and President Phil Brousseau.

### **Bills**

1. A listing of transactions numbered 14928 through 14973, totaling \$\$12,462.51, was presented to the Board for approval.

Commissioner Pettis made a motion to pay the bills. Commissioner Keeler seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

### **Old Business**

Commissioner Marty Schanz made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Pettis seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report**

1. Bank statements, account reconciliations and check images for October 2021 and the listing of transactions approved and paid in October 2021 were given to Commissioner Casucci for verification.
2. Bank statements, account reconciliations and check images for September 2021 were returned to the Treasurer.

Commissioner Casucci made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Commissioner Pettis seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

### **Chief's Report**

1. Commissioner Schanz made a motion to approve Zachary Halkowicz to membership in the Vischer Ferry Fire Company. Commissioner Pettis seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.
2. Ed Vargas resigned from the Company and all District property has been returned.
3. Commissioner Pettis made a motion to approve the following:
  - a. Attend "ABCs of Company Operations" on November 16<sup>th</sup> at Clifton Park:
    1. Captain Andy Stadel
    2. Lt. Brittany Keleman
    3. Lt Dominique Scaringe
    4. Lt Trevor Bobrow
    5. FF Peter Kudrewicz
    - 6.. FF Ron Bruzdinski, Jr.
  - b. the use of the Colonie training tower on November 17<sup>th</sup>, with West Crescent attending with us.

Commissioner Casucci seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

4. Commissioner Schanz made a motion to approve the following apparatus:
  - a. ETA-621 and ETA-625 to attend the Colonie training tower for a propane simulator drill on November 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. ETA-621 to participate in the Schenectady Christmas parade on November 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. Apparatus for Santa detail throughout the District on December 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - d. ETA-625 to attend a mutual aid drill on November 10<sup>th</sup> at Jonesville.

Commissioner Keeler seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

### **Administrator**

1. EM Tech will be fixing the heating and air conditioning so that they are not on at the same time.
2. Received a notice of expanded legal obligations under NYS prevailing wage laws. Commissioner Pettis made a motion to purchase the Labor Law posting updates for \$203.85, to begin in February 2022. Commissioner Schanz seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.
3. We have a new fax number (518-280-2484). It is now up and running on the printer.
4. The physicals are booked for January 8, 2022.
5. The new phone system is now in service.

## Administrative Assistant

1. As attached

Attorney Tim Hannigan discussed the following:

1. A resolution is needed to declare R-631 surplus. Commissioner Schanz moved and Commissioner Pettis seconded a resolution to declare R-631 surplus. The Secretary called the roll:

Commissioner Bowman	Yes
Commissioner Schanz	Yes
Commissioner Casucci	Yes
Commissioner Keeler	Yes
Commissioner Pettis	Yes

The resolution was adopted

2. Bond proceeds for the Station #3 project: The funds should be wire transferred to the new Capital Projects Fund account with TD Bank within the next week. A total of \$4,250,000 was borrowed. All documents for this were signed by the Treasurer and Secretary.
3. Attorney Hannigan recommended yearly blood tests. Our Medical Director will be contacted.
4. We should have a comment for a medical leave option that a firefighter should contact the Chief or Board if they have a medical problem.
5. Light duty was discussed. The option of light duty shall include:
  - a. Driver/pump operator
  - b. Assist with water supply
  - c. Exterior operations, no SCBA
  - d. Accountability
  - e. Safety Officer
  - f. Any other fireground or administrative duty that may be ordered by the Chief which does not require the performance of firefighting with use of SCBA.  
This will be added to our current policy.
6. Cancer benefits –
  - a. A firefighter must have been a member from January 1, 2019 and 5 years since leaving the Company to be considered for coverage.
  - b. All members on the current roster are considered.
  - c. Self-insurance is ok for our district. There should be at least \$150,000 in the account and a contribution of up to \$33,000 per year is allowed.
  - d. Lung cancer is not covered. This is covered under VFBL.

- e. If an insurance company is involved, the cost would be approximately \$137 per member per year.
- 7. Stove – the committee will send all correspondence to attorney Hannigan. He will contact the stove company.

**New Business**

- 1. The Governor has signed new legislation for election compensation. Commissioner Schanz made a motion to change the compensation for election board members to \$70 each for the chairman, inspector and ballot clerk for any election effective December 14, 2021 forward. Commissioner Pettis seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.
- 2. Received the minutes of the October 6, 2021 meeting of the Vischer Ferry Fire Company.
- 3. Received a nominating petition for Commissioner for a 5-year term beginning January 1, 2022 from Andrew Casucci.
- 4. Received the letter of credit from TD Bank.
- 5. Received the following from UBS:
  - a. Client statement for October 2021
  - b. Confirmation updates
  - c. Transactions
  - d. Trade confirmations

**Miscellaneous**

- 1. Testing for asbestos was done at Station #3. The results are not in yet.
- 2. The compressor at Station #2 was improperly installed. This was remedied and the compressor at Station #1 should be checked.
- 3. We need to have a list for the electrician.
- 4. The ice/water rescue trailer should be here by early December.
- 5. R-631 will be stripped on Wednesday.
- 6. Receipts will be required for meal expenses paid for with district credit cards for the ER-631 inspection trip to Ohio this weekend. We need to obtain an invoice from Fire & Marine.
- 7. Commissioner Schanz moved and Commissioner Pettis seconded a resolution to withdraw up to \$75,000 from the Apparatus and Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for upfitting ER-631 compartments at Fire and Marine. This is subject to a permissive referendum. The Secretary called the roll:

Commissioner Bowman	yes
Commissioner Schanz	yes
Commissioner Casucci	yes
Commissioner Keeler	yes

