

March 27, 2024

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:24 PM Chairman Dixon made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel issue. Seconded by Commissioner Freer.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Those members present were: Chairman Dixon, Vice-Chairman Shultis, Commissioner Jodlowski, Commissioner Freer, District Chief J. Jackson, 1st Assistant Chief D. Jackson, Secretary Beyer, and Firefighter Perrotti. Commissioner Zboinski was excused.

At 8:00 PM Chairman Dixon made a motion to adjourn the executive session. Seconded by vice-Chairman Shultis and carried.

There were no actions taken as a result of this session.

MEETING OPENED:

The East Fishkill Board of Fire Commissioners held their regular board meeting at district headquarters. Chairman Dixon called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance led by District Chief Jackson.

MOMENT OF SILENCE: For all fallen firefighters, police, EMS and military personnel.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Those members present were: Chairman Dixon, Vice-Chairman Shultis, Commissioner Jodlowski, and Commissioner Freer. Commissioner Zboinski was excused.

All motions were unanimous, unless otherwise stated.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The minutes of the February 28, 2024 and the March 11, 2024 meetings were accepted on a motion by Commissioner Jodlowski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Shultis. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer's Report for February, 2024 was approved on a motion by Commissioner Freer and seconded by Commissioner Jodlowski. Motion carried.

BILLS PAYABLE:

Vice-Chairman Shultis made a motion that the bills payable in the amount of \$326,317.60 from the General Fund, Voucher numbers 256 – 355 be approved. Seconded by Commissioner Freer and carried.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:

None.

MEMBERSHIP TRANSFER:

None.

DRIVER APPLICATIONS:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Request from Red Cross to hold a blood drive on 9/12/24 from 12 PM – 5 PM.
2. Letter from Sons & Daughters of Italy regarding fireworks at the 5/23-26 carnival.
3. Request from Wiccopee to use the bays on Friday 4/12 & Saturday 4/13 for the Auxiliary Spring Craft Fair.
4. Request from the Republican Club to use the building on Wednesday, April 17 at 6:00 PM for the Caucus.
5. Letter from NDP regarding expansion of services and requesting letter of support.
6. Letters/Certificates of recognition from Assemblyman Beephan, Senator Rolison, County Executive Serino, and Congressman Ryan regarding the Wappingers explosion.
7. Letter from Hopewell Hose Fire Company listing activities for 2024. This was approved on a motion by Chairman Dixon and seconded by Vice-Chairman Shultis.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Commissioner Freer made a motion to transfer the 2024 Reserve Fund budget amounts of \$600,000 to NYClass Equipment from Tompkins Checking, and \$84,073.20 to NYClass B&L from Tompkins Checking. Seconded by Vice-Chairman Shultis and carried.

On a motion by Commissioner Freer and seconded by Vice-Chairman Shultis a transfer for 2023 carry over funds from Tompkins Checking to NYClass Equipment for \$341,204.10 and NYClass B&L for \$100,000.00 was made. Motion carried.

Commissioner Freer made a motion to transfer the remaining 2024 tax funds from Tompkins Checking to NYClass General Fund in the amount of \$2,500,000.00 and \$10,000 from Tompkins Checking to Tompkins Business Builder. Seconded by Commissioner Shultis and carried.

On a motion by Commissioner Freer and seconded by Commissioner Jodlowski, Firefighter 63's suspension will be continued until the April 8th, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

Commissioner Freer made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jodlowski, to accept the auction results from Absolute Auction in the amount of \$3,537.00

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Jodlowski made a motion to allow Wiccopee to use the bays for their Craft Fair 4/12 & 4/13. Seconded by Commissioner Freer and carried.

On a motion by Commissioner Jodlowski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Shultis the contract for Ben Howell for grant writing for NYS Infrastructure Grant was accepted.

On a motion by Commissioner Jodlowski and seconded by Commissioner Freer, Ruperto Painting & More was hired to do the painting as per the proposal in the amount of \$8,000.00 plus materials, with a 50% deposit approved to be paid with tonight's bills.

Commissioner Jodlowski made a motion to allow up to 10 fire police to attend training on 4/17 & 4/24 at no cost, plus transportation. Seconded by Commissioner Freer and carried.

Commissioner Jodlowski made a motion to allow 1 member to attend Water Rescue on 4/12/24 at Orange Co. Training Center at no cost. Seconded by Commissioner Freer and carried.

On a motion by Commissioner Jodlowski and seconded by Commissioner Freer, up to 3 people are authorized to attend 2024 CAFDA conference 4/25-26 with hotel, transportation, and meals.

Participation at the fireworks detail on 5/26/24 was approved on a motion by Commissioner Jodlowski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Shultis.

Participation at DC Firefighters Day at the Firefighters' Home 5/19/24 was authorized on a motion by Commissioner Jodlowski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Shultis.

On a motion by Commissioner Freer and seconded by Vice-Chairman Shultis, the Republican Club will be allowed to use the facility on April 17th for their caucus.

Commissioner Jodlowski made a motion to allow the Red Cross to hold a blood drive on 9/12 from 12 PM – 5 PM as long as there is not building conflict. Seconded by Vice-Chairman Shultis and carried.

Tonight the Board met with Ralph Lemme from USB and did the semi-annual review of the LOSAP funding. On a motion by Commissioner Jodlowski and seconded by Vice-Chairman Shultis, the Board approved changes to the UBS Portfolio as recommended by Mr. Lemme, the District's UBS Advisor.

COMMENTS AND UPDATES FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Jodlowski stated he and Vice-Chairman Shultis attended the DCAFD meeting last night and the topic of discussion was the proposed changes to OSHA. Many concerns were raised. The Association is asking for two items: 1) asking for a 90 day extension to have time to review the entire document. 2) Everyone should write to OSA in opposition of these changes. Letters need to be specific as to what areas will have what expected negative impact. This law affects 27 states. Commissioner Jodlowski will outline a letter and make it public for people to sign Vice-Chairman Shultis stated these proposed changes affect chief offices and they should all write letters. Chairman Dixon stated the District has already implemented many of these changes, but there are smaller companies who won't be able to stand up to the financial burden this will place on them. Commissioner Jodlowski stated it appears this is being supported by the Unions for paid departments. Firefighter Vollmer asked if the proposed law was on the website and Commissioner Jodlowski said it will be. He will get additional resources out soon. There are webinars out there and there is only about 40 pages of the 600 page document that outline the bulk of the changes. Some of the additional concerns are insurance coverage for injuries if districts aren't following this. Most people think this won't get passed as it is currently written. This District does do things very well, but accidents still happen. We budgeted \$114,000.00 for w/c and the invoice came in at \$145,000.00. Commissioner Jodlowski stated we need to make an effort to push back every chance we get.

They also discussed the countywide EMS issues at the county meeting. Dana Smith is meeting with the County Legislator to discuss EMS items.

Commissioner Jodlowski has been taking some classes discussing mental health issues. As Dutchess County creates its team they will need help from everyone. He met with Melissa Lawler a few times and there are some very good ideas going around. There are a few additional members taking the training as well.

Sparrow's Nest is doing a benefit 5K this year at Barton Orchards. Part of the proceeds go the EF PBA for their memorial scholarship that was set up for Officer DiDato. It would be nice to see a lot of participation from the Fire District for this.

Vice-Chairman Shultis stated the County is still working on the radio tower. They are looking to start their trial in 2025 and go live in January of 2026. It is still on ongoing issue.

Chairman Dixon stated there have been some grants approved, with the help of Ben Howell writing the grants submissions. Firefighter Howell stated that no funds have been received for the SAFER grant yet and he will be working on the infrastructure grant. There is also the expectation that the County will be releasing the MIG grant applications again soon. Chairman Dixon stated in the past the District has applied for the COVID grant and MIG grant for the propane and plymovent, and gear grants. We have applied for the AFG for a new ambulance & engine and the infrastructure grant will go for work on the training center.

DISTRICT CHIEF: no printed report at this time.

1. Hillside Lake usually takes an engine to the DC Firemen's Home for their annual parade. They will try to promote this more to get more people to go.
2. There will be a memorial at the DC 911 center in October for LODDs and they are looking to get more attendees.
3. Chief Jackson would like to Board to send people to the CAFDA conference.
4. Chiefs' Council Dinner was held here and he brought up the idea of having a Dutchess County Weekend held here. It was well received. The County has offered financial assistance for this weekend.

5. Most 1st Responder Resiliency classes are not held around here. Commissioner Jodlowski has done a 24 –hour class that was a train the trainer. There is a focus on mental health, physical health, and resiliency awareness. Commissioner Jodlowski stated if the Chief wants to, he can meet with Melissa Lawlor.
6. Chief Jackson sent a letter for a house watch on 12 Fenton Way, as suggested by Car 4.
7. In regard to the grant, he met with the gas company for the propane simulator. If the Infrastructure Grant is awarded he would like to get another burn building.
8. Chief Jackson had a meeting with Rombout Chiefs. They talked about a multi-company air truck. With more information, they may sign on to talk about this further.
9. As the County Radio Plan comes closer they will need to have a conversation with the County to see what East Fishkill will need to still have all the radios that are currently used. East Fishkill tends to use a lot more radios than other districts. He would like to see the District have and use its own channel. Vice-Chairman Shultis stated we could have it, we just have to pay for it. Chairman Dixon stated the lease for the radios is up next year and they will also need to talk to the vendor. Assistant Chief Conti stated that last year at a battalion meeting with County Car 1 the topic of department channels was visited. They were told if they have two radios in the truck, they can have their own channel. Assistant Chief Gallo stated if all the county radios are trunked, all the county radios can't be heard inside a building. Vice-Chairman Shultis stated Motorola has guaranteed that there will be no dead spots.

1st ASSISTANT CHIEF: no printed report at this time.

1. He would like to get a price quote for a hose-washer and have Station 1 test it out.
2. Dave Alfonso from DC Haz Mat would like to use the facility 6/22 & 4/27 for a training session. Commissioner Jodlowski stated the County training facility will be out of order for a longer time so we should try to be a good neighbor.
3. Chief J. Jackson had stated he thinks fire companies touching our fire district borders should all train with us. 1st Assistant Chief Jackson would like that here, at is it closer to Putnam and Southern Dutchess that way.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Assistant Chief Conti said he will ask Daniel Keane if there are any other members with Class A uniforms who will go to Inwood on 5/24/24. The Sons of Italy fireworks standby is Memorial Day weekend. He may ask that they supply food for the standby. He needs five minutes with the Board to review an inventory issue after this meeting.

Fire Investigation LT. K. Vollmer thanked the Board for approving members to attend the FIU seminars. Three people will be attending Saratoga. He stated Chris Hansen, from South Hampton, reached out to him regarding how East Fishkill built their van, as South Hampton is looking for a new one. Chairman Dixon stated he put a ticket in due to the loose table not being screwed in when the vehicle is in motion.

Firefighter Ben Howell stated that at the officers meeting the Chiefs talked about building relationships with other agencies. Wicopee is doing a drill on Monday with the EFPD and their reconstruction trailer. After the drill on the car, the PD will drill on reconstructing the scene. They have asked permission to use their body cams and will give the District final copies for training. Chief Jackson stated the Police have been very interested in cross training with us.

Fire Police Capt. Carol Logan thanked the Board for allowing the Fire Police to attend their training seminars.

Commissioner Jodlowski stated that 97 people from the District have signed up for the tax reimbursement. This is the highest in New York State. There was a meeting at Amazon with him, Car 1, the Chief of Police, a Regional Divisional Amazon rep, and a Supervisor from the site to discuss the level of incidents we are being dispatched to. They don't seem to have these problems at other sites, so they will be checking into this. Commissioner Jodlowski is keeping track of the calls to that location. They are nearing the 10% mark of total calls in the District per month in December and February.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn to executive session was made at 9:14 PM by Chairman Dixon and seconded by Vice-Chairman Shultis.

At 9:16 Chairman Dixon called the executive session to discuss 1 personnel issue and 1 legal issue to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Those members present were: Chairman Dixon, Vice-Chairman Shultis, Commissioner Jodlowski, Commissioner Freer, District Chief J. Jackson, 1st Assistant Chief D. Jackson, and Secretary Beyer. Commissioner Zboinski was excused.

At 9:59 PM Commissioner Jodlowski made a motion to adjourn the executive session. Seconded by Vice-Chairman Shultis and carried.

There were no actions taken as a result of these sessions.

Chairman Dixon brought up information from maintenance regarding a company that comes to the building to do detailing on the vehicles. The Board decided to go ahead with this for inspection this year.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made at 10:13 PM by Vice-Chairman Shultis and seconded by Commissioner Freer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie J. Beyer
Secretary/Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT
AS OF FEBRUARY 29, 2024

GENERAL FUND

BALANCE FEBRUARY 1, 2024	\$	174,801.46
RECEIPTS	\$	16,496.02
PLUS: TRANSFER FROM NYCLASS GENERAL FUND	\$	150,000.00
EXPENDITURES	\$	261,407.72
BALANCE FEBRUARY 29, 2024	\$	79,889.76

GENERAL FUND

CHECKING ACCT.	\$	66,195.72
SAVINGS ACCT.	\$	13,694.04
BALANCE FEBRUARY 29, 2024	\$	79,889.76

NYCLASS ACCOUNTS - GENERAL FUND

BALANCE FEBRUARY 1, 2024	\$	267,325.57
RECEIPTS	\$	790.97
LESS: TRANSFER TO TOMPKINS ACCOUNTS	\$	150,000.00
BALANCE JANUARY 31, 2024	\$	118,116.54

NYCLASS ACCOUNTS - RESERVE FOR MAJOR EQUIPMENT

BALANCE FEBRUARY 1, 2024	\$	953,377.10
RECEIPTS	\$	3,971.58
BALANCE JANUARY 31, 2024	\$	0.00
BALANCE FEBRUARY 29, 2024	\$	957,348.68

NYCLASS ACCOUNTS - RESERVE FOR BUILDING & LAND

BALANCE FEBRUARY 1, 2024	\$	599,233.68
RECEIPTS	\$	2,496.29
LESS: TRANSFER TO TOMPKINS CHECKING	\$	0.00
BALANCE FEBRUARY 29, 2024	\$	601,729.97

RESERVE FUND - PURCHASE, MAJOR EQUIPMENT

BALANCE FEBRUARY 1, 2024	\$	80,188.83
RECEIPTS	\$	5.09
EXPENDITURES	\$	0.00
BALANCE FEBRUARY 29, 2024	\$	80,193.92

RESERVE FUND - BUILDING & LAND

BALANCE FEBRUARY 1, 2024	\$	87,668.15
RECEIPTS	\$	5.55
EXPENDITURES	\$	0.00
BALANCE FEBRUARY 29, 2024	\$	87,673.70

TRUST AND AGENCY FUND

BALANCE FEBRUARY 1, 2024	\$	0.00
RECEIPTS	\$	1,663.72
EXPENDITURES	\$	746.97
BALANCE FEBRUARY 29, 2024	\$	916.75

Alarm Date between 2024-02-01 and 2024-03-01

Fire Incident Type Breakdown

Incident Type Group	Count
100 - Fire	8
300 - EMS	181
400 - HAZMAT	7
500 - Service Call	4
600 - Series	3
700 - False Alarm	30

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