

**ENDWELL FIRE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING  
2021 BUDGET WORK SESSION  
AUGUST 12, 2020**

**Members:**

Carlton "Andy" Anderson, Chairman  
George "Mickey" Bush, Secretary  
Don Battaglini  
Mark Storm

**Others present:**

Erika Pereira, Administrative Assistant  
Tom Palazzo, Fire Chief

Chairman Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Member Anderson spoke with William VanGorder at NBT Insurance about our budget for insurance. *The projected budget numbers by line. Let me know if you have any questions. Please remember these numbers are for budgeting purpose only and are NOT to be considered insurance premiums. Furthermore the projected budget numbers do not reflect any increase in risk, increase in claim activity, etc. See below:*

- *Property & Casualty current premium is \$45, 087. Per McNeil & Company I would project 4%-6% increase. Refer to attachment.*
- *Disability current premium is \$297. No significant changes.*
- *Cancer policy current premium is \$5,572.84. The cost is approximately \$200.00/person. We've not received notification of any rate changes. I think it's more important for the District to know how many members will need to be covered this year and build out the budget using the cost per person above.*
- *Workers Compensation and Volunteer Firefighters' Benefit Law coverage current premium is \$64,429. Currently the EFD has an experience modifier of .84. Anything below an experience modifier of 1 is excellent. This has placed you in the Preferred Program, which provides the best available rates. Reviewing your losses, it appears that you'll remain in the Preferred Program. However, we will not have our rates approved until sometime in October. At this time I would expect to see no major increase in this specific line. You may consider applying a 2%-4% increase for this item.*
- *Accident and Sickness policy current premium is \$2,131. I expect no major changes in this line, but you may want to include a 1%-2% for budgeting purposes.*

We currently have the following budgeted so we should be covered.

009	General Insurance	60,000.00
022	Workers Comp Insurance	66,000.00
027	Disability Insurance	300.00

Member Bush reach out to our attorney, Mark Butler, to make sure the District can help with some funding. Mark Butler stated that the Fire District may make such expenditures, provided such are related to the statutorily authorized work of the Fire District. The 100<sup>th</sup> Committee had submitted a list to the Board that they would like to see the Fire District purchase.

*We understand the board is waiting to find whether or not they can assist the fire company with the 100th anniversary celebration. We understand that there may be rules that prohibit this, but we are hoping that some items for the 100th would be allowable, as they are purchases that the Fire District would normally make. We realize the budget funds will have to be redirected to cover these items, but it will be a one-time thing. We appreciate whatever the board can do to help us with this special event!*

**Suggestions:**

- *Duty shirts (line 33 uniforms): The board currently issues duty polos to members, so we would ask that in light of the 100th, a special 100th polo shirt be issued as part of the duty uniform for all members to wear. This would be a high quality polo with the 100th logo embroidered on it.  
Estimate: \$40 @ 200 members = \$8,000*
- *100th anniversary decals for trucks (D07) truck parts: We would like to request that the board purchase decals for the trucks with the 100th anniversary logo. Since the fire district routinely purchases truck markings, we feel that this would be an allowable expense. We have not yet been able to obtain an accurate estimate on this we are "guesstimating" about \$150-\$200 per decal, with 15 vehicles this would be about \$3,000.*
- *Inspection dinner gifts (Line 32): The board is allowed to purchase items as gifts for the Inspection Dinner. The committee has considered the following items for members to commemorate this event: Challenge coins, stein/glassware, and portfolio. We estimate that the challenge cons will cost at most \$7, the stein \$30, and the portfolio \$30. This would total \$67 which is less than the 6 points issued to everyone last year. We would also like to see extras ordered for future members. We estimate 250 @ \$67= \$17,000.*
- *Fire prevention items (Line D19): In light of the open house we are planning, we would like to see the board allocate a much larger budget number for fire prevention items. It would be good to have funds for fire helmets, coloring books, refrigerator magnets with safety messages or emergency phone numbers, oven sticks, pot holders or other items to promote fire safety. We would ask that the board consider allocating an additional \$5,000 to the fire prevention line to give away*

*To avoid making extra work for Erika, the committee will design, get quotes and order items and take care of handing out items to members and submit the vendor's bill to the fire district.*

*We'd also like to request that, for the Inspection Dinner, that Grey Goose be tasked with putting together a history of the fire company. These may take some time so you might want to have him start on this soon. John Hussar may be able to give you a budget number for putting this together.*

**Budget recap:**

<i>Item</i>	<i>Budget Line</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>Duty shirts</i>	<i>Line 36</i>	<i>\$ 8,000</i>
<i>Truck decals</i>	<i>Line D07</i>	<i>\$ 3,000</i>
<i>Inspection Dinner Gifts</i>	<i>Line D32</i>	<i>\$ 17,000</i>
<i>Fire Prevention Items</i>	<i>Line D19</i>	<i>\$ 5,000</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$33,000</b>	

There was some discussion on helping fund the 100th year anniversary celebration and the amount they want to spend if they decide to help with funding.

There also was some discussion on funding the capital reserve fund for apparatus and equipment and the time line of purchases for equipment and apparatus. Member Bush created a spread sheet that shows our current contribution to the capital reserve and Member Bush thinks we may be short for a purchase of a new aerial in 2025 unless we wait until the actual year 2025 to start the process. There was some discussion on the time table and what the game plan would be for purchasing.

Motion by Member Storm, second by Member Bush to accept new member Bryant Carpenter, James Fleming, and Miranda Poklemba to the Fire Company and accept the resignation of Nicholas Bunnell from the Fire Company. All aye; motion carried.

There was some discussion on projects to be completed and equipment to be purchased in 2021. Chief Palazzo would like to purchase new bailout systems as they are expiring next year, hoses as we have had some expired and 4 thermal imagers with his \$35,000 budget in Line D01. A new SCBA air compressor for filling the bottles will be purchased 2022. Department Budget Line D02 in the amount of \$25,000 will be the purchase of new turnout gear as needed. Chief Palazzo believes the switch over of new radios will happen in the third

quarter of 2021. The County should be supplying the Department with 50 portable radios but he stated that there might be a need to purchase about 15 extra new radios once the County moves to the new system. We have 10 fire police and 5 safety officers that will need the radios. The cost of one radio is about \$8,300.00. The Board put \$125,000 in Line 34 fir District Equipment Purchase and revised Line 30 to only have \$40,000 for Capital Improvements.

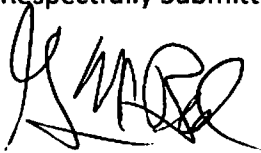
At this time the Total District Budget is \$1,119,181.00 and the Total Department Budget is \$163,200.00. The Total Budget is \$1,282,381.00. We are currently about \$390.00 less than last year budget.

Motion by Bush, second Member Storm to hold the annual budget hearing on Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 6:00 pm and to change the date of the monthly meeting from October 15 to October 20, with work session at 5:30 pm and meeting at 6:00 pm. All aye; motion carried.

The siren upgrade has been completed at all three station. The sirens now blow 3 times instead of 4.

Motion by Member Bush, second by Member Storm to adjourn at 7:00 pm. All aye; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'GMB', with a stylized flourish at the end.

George M. Bush  
GMB/EP