

**ENDWELL FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
September 15, 2021**

Members:

Carlton "Andy" Anderson, Chairman
Don Battaglini
Mark Storm
Michael Hamzik
Kenneth Del Bianco

Others present:

Erika Pereira, Administrative Assistant
Tony Fiacco, District Treasurer
Tom Palazzo, Fire Chief
Robert Congdon, Assistant Fire Chief
Michael Battaglini, Assistant Fire Chief
Matt Grafton
Shawn Pichura
Julie Spisak
Mark Butler, Fire District Attorney

Meeting was called to order at 4:07 pm by Commissioner Anderson.

Motion by Commissioner Battaglini, second by Commissioner Storm to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2021 meeting, the budget work session held on August 25, 2021 and the special meeting held on September 07, 2021. All aye; motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion by Commissioner Storm, second by Commissioner Hamzik to accept the Treasurer's Report and Capital Reserve Summary. All aye; motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

1. 100th Anniversary Updates:
 - The fire company ice cream social is being held today.
 - The fire company held their ceremony on Monday, September 13, 2021 at 6:00 pm in the community room.
 - Cocktail party for the 100th anniversary will be Saturday, September 18, in the community room.
 - The 100th anniversary t-shirts are in so please reach out to Alice to pick up your order.
2. Station 3: The Request for Proposals (RFP) for Station 3 Facility Condition Assessment will be placed in the newspaper with the proposal due October 15, 2021 and a walk through to be conducted on Friday, October 1, 2021 at 10:00 am.
3. Station 1 Apparatus Floor: Commissioner Del Bianco stated that Delta Engineers is working on the project.
4. Purchasing of New Apparatus: Commissioner Storm stated the permissive referendum passed and Nick Catalino with Vander Molen Fire Apparatus Sales and Service will send over an invoice for the pre-payment amount. Once payment is received the design and build of the new apparatus will begin.
5. Utility 31-11 (2007 Ford Van): Auction International will run the auction for the van from October 04 to October 18.
6. Basement Storage Rooms Repairs: Commissioner Hamzik is working on having the rooms cleaning out so that Southern Tier Basement can begin their work.
7. 2022 Budget: Commissioner Storm would like to bring the budget as close to the two percent allowable as possible. Our maximum amount to be raised by taxes is \$1,297,256.00. Commissioner Anderson

would like to see what our insurance budget numbers would be and would like to place more money in that budget line since we will be getting a new apparatus sometime next year.

New Business:

1. **Motion by Commissioner Battaglini, second by Commissioner Storm to pay the bills:**
Vouchers # 9-001 to # 9-050 totaling \$28,462.11
Capital Reserve: Voucher 8-019 totaling \$2,975.00
Supplemental List: Vouchers # 10-001 to 10-005 totaling \$10,372.62
All aye; motion carried.
2. **Line Transfer(s): Motion by Commissioner Battaglini, second by Commissioner Storm to accept the line transfer submitted by Treasurer Fiacco. All aye; motion carried.**
3. **Buildings and Grounds: None.**
4. **Chiefs Report: Motion by Commissioner Storm, second by Commissioner Hamzik to accept the Chief's Report. All aye; motion carried.**

Dear Honorable Board Members:

Engine 2 has had its ladder rack replaced by Har-Rob in Syracuse. Tower 31 also had to go to Syracuse to get its heater core repaired and coolant system flushed. The paint repairs on Quint 31 have been completed.

Sutphen has assigned us a job number for future Tower 31. We are now awaiting a date for the pre build meeting.

On September 5th we assisted Endicott Fire with a structure fire involving two neighboring houses. The houses were located on Arthur Ave and Jackson Ave.

I have been approached by a growing number of firefighters that no longer want to be associated with the O. L. Davis Fire Company. They are still interested in responding to fire calls. I have approached the trustees so that they can deal with this matter. The trustees have refused to meet with the company unless I release the names signed to the letter that was addressed to me. The members that have signed this letter are do not want their names released due to fear of retaliation from the company. I have been assured that there will be no retaliation from the company by the trustees. However, I have received a written statement that the president told a member that he knows who signed the letter and wants to give everyone who signed it a resignation form. While this is a company matter, I feel that it is impinging on our morale, creating a hostile work environment and will indeed affect our future responses. I wanted to keep you informed because I have spent much of the past month dealing with this issue.

The Fire District Attorney, Mark Butler, with the Law Offices of Mark C. Butler, PLLC provided Client/Attorney privilege console on the matter members no longer wanting to be associated with the O. L. Davis Fire Company.

5. **Support Services Report: Motion by Commissioner Hamzik, second by Commissioner Storm to accept the Support Report. All aye; motion carried.**
6. **Maintenance Division Report: Motion by Commissioner Hamzik, second by Commissioner Storm to accept the Maintenance Report. All aye; motion carried.**
The following maintenance was completed since the last board meeting:
 - *All SCBA batteries have been replaced. 3 SCBA are OOS for repair by MES.*
 - *Engine 31-2 Ladder Rack repaired – Har-Rob*
 - *Rescue 31 – Front bumper mount airline relay box is on order for replacement – Churchville*

- Tower 31 – Heater Core repaired / Radiator flushed – Har-Rob

7. Training Division Report: Motion by Commissioner Hamzik, second by Commissioner Storm to accept the Training Division Report. All aye; motion carried.

Dear Board Members,

Trainings held in the month of September 2021

- 9/06/2021 – Labor Day
- 9/13/2021 – Maintenance
- 9/20/2021 – Bailouts
- 9/27/2021 – FAST

Spec OPS Trainings of September 2021

- Water Rescue
- FAST Training

Outside Training

Currently in training

- R. Derkowski – BEFO
- J. Chanitz – BEFO
- T. Foster – BEFO
- Badertcher – FF2
- K. Dewey – FF2

Upcoming Fire Training

- Survival – St. 29
- BEFO – St. 58

8. Fire Company Report: None.

9. O.L. Davis Fire Company Newsletter: Motion by Commissioner Hamzik, second by Commissioner Battaglini to feature our Critical Incident Stress, Social Media, and Persons previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses policies. All aye; motion carried.

10. Donation(s): We received a donation from B.C. Stitchers in the amount of \$200.00. Motion by Commissioner Battaglini, second by Commissioner Storm to place the donation in our donation fund. All aye; motion carried.

11. Review and Approve of SOGs:

Motion by Commissioner Storm, second by Commissioner Battaglini to approve the Driver Training Class Reimbursement. All aye; motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Storm, second by Commissioner Battaglini to approve the Firefighter Emergency Escape System Policy. All aye; motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Storm, second by Commissioner Battaglini to approve the Alcohol and Drug Policy. All aye; motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Storm, second by Commissioner Hamzik to only complete a 4 panel drug test

which includes opiates, amphetamines, PCP and cocaine and to remove the alcohol breathalyzer test during physicals. All aye; motion carried.

12. 2022 Budget – Adopt proposed Budget: Motion by Member Hamzik, second by Member Storm to approve the proposed 2022 budget of \$1,296,635.00 with \$1,297,256.00 to be raised by taxes. All aye; motion carried.

13. Schedule Budget Hearing Meeting & Move October Board Meeting: Motion by Hamzik, second Member Storm to hold the annual budget hearing on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 4:00 pm and to keep the date of the monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 20 since on July 16th Governor Cuomo signed bills S-1209/A-4979 into law as Chapter 278 of the Laws of 2021 effectively changing the date of the annual fire district budget hearing from the 3rd Tuesday in October to any day in the 3rd week of October. Work session will be at 3:30 pm, Budget hearing at 4:00 pm and the monthly meeting at 4:30 pm. All aye; motion carried.

14. NY HERO ACT Model Airborne Infectious Disease Exposure Prevention Plan for Emergency Response:

Governor Kathy Hochul announced that COVID-19 has been designated by the NYS Department of Health (DOH) as an airborne infectious disease under New York State's Hero Act. This designation means that all employers need to implement their workplace safety plans to prevent the spread of COVID-19, as required by the New York Hero Act. This designation will remain in effect until September 30, 2021, at which point the Department of Health will review the level of transmission of COVID-19 in New York State and determine whether to continue this designation.

The New York HERO Act was implemented on May 5, 2021 and requires employers in New York to adopt extensive new workplace health and safety protections in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The HERO Act's purpose is to ensure that businesses are prepared with protocols and resources to protect their employees and the public from the spread of airborne infectious diseases, like the COVID Delta variant.

Under the HERO Act, the DOL, in consultation with the DOH, has developed a new Airborne Infectious Disease Exposure Prevention Standard, a Model Airborne Infectious Disease Exposure Prevention Plan, and various industry-specific model plans for the prevention of airborne infectious disease. Additional information and industry-specific templates for employers are available on the DOL's website.

Below are a few of the steps required of employers by the NY Hero Act:

- Review your company's worksite's infectious disease exposure prevention plan to ensure that it incorporates all current information, guidance and requirements;
- Finalize and activate your infectious disease worksite exposure prevention plan;
- Post the plan prominently at the worksite and provide a verbal review of the plan to employees;
- Provide each employee with a copy of the infectious disease exposure prevention plan.

While the designation remains in effect, each employer shall ensure that the plan is followed by:

- Assigning enforcement responsibilities to one or more supervisory employees;
- Monitoring and maintaining exposure controls; and
- Regularly checking for updated information from the New York State Department of Health and CDC, and updating the plan as necessary.

NYSAR will continue to monitor any further information or guidance provided by NYS and will provide updates when available. Fire Chief Tom Palazzo stated that he has something similar written up from when COVID.

15. Incentive Program: Motion by Commissioner Hamzik, second by Commissioner Storm to send out a letter to members who have more than 100 incentive points accumulated to please consider using some of their points. All aye; motion carried.

Hearing of Visitor(s): Matt and Cheryl Grafton asked the Board if they would like to hold the Truck Event on Sunday, October 31. They had done a lot of thinking about different ideas in order to hold the event and two ideas would be to hold a real Trunk or Treat with Members decorating the trunks of their cars and having kids get candy from each vehicle. Candy could be provided by the board and company. Second idea was to place a few fire trucks in various neighborhoods, staffed with members to hand out candy as kids come to the truck. After a brief discussion it was decided that a trunk or treat should be held either at Station 1 or maybe at Highland Park. The Board of Fire Commissioner asked to provide two plans for the event.

Commissioner Anderson would like to thank all of the members that went to Annual Harvest Festival at Our Saviour Lutheran Church that was held on September 11. He received a lot of positive feedback and appreciated the members for doing such a great job.

Correspondence(s): Copies of the August 2021 – September 2021 Fire District Affairs were handed out.

Motion by Commissioner Battaglini, second by Commissioner Storm to adjourn the meeting at 4:23 pm. All aye; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'M. Storm', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mark Storm
MS/EP