

James L. Zido -Chairman
Gordon H. Mahley, Jr. Louis R. Morrette
James A. Wood
Terry R. Hickey - Secretary
Gerard F. Parisi - Treasurer

Monthly Meeting Held OCTOBER 07, 2009

Meeting called to order by Acting Chairman James Zido at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Comm. Morrette, Comm. Mahley, Comm. Wood, Comm. Zido

Guest: William Van Hoesen

MINUTES: Motion to accept minutes from the September 02, 2009 meeting with corrections was made by Comm. Wood and seconded by Comm. Mahley. Motion carried 4/0. Corrections follow: Equipment: correct spelling of *battery*. Insurance: Commissioner *Mahley* gave the report. Re: resignation of Richard Fontaine: Mr. Fontaine did not submit his resignation in writing; therefore the Board of Fore Commissioners could not accept his resignation.

MOTION TO PAY THE BILLS:

A motion to pay the bills listed on the abstract dated October 07, 2009, was made by Comm. Mahley and seconded by Comm. Morrette. Motion carried 4/0.

TRANSFER TO GENERAL FUND:

Motion to transfer \$15,145.71 from Savings to General Fund checking account to pay bills was made by Comm. Wood and seconded by Comm. Morrette. Motion carried 4/0.

EQUIPMENT:

Comm. Wood reported that Chief France submitted requests for the purchase of the following equipment: Red Salvage Tarp, Kodak Digital Camera to replace old one plus a memory card, Medical Gloves for stock, Safety Officer's Vest ANSI, Accountability Officer's Vest. Comm. Morrette made a motion to approve the purchase of the equipment and material. Comm. Wood seconded this motion and the Commissioners voted in favor – 4/0.

VEHICLE REPORT:

Comm. Zido reported the following:

- C-169 - Problems: Remote starter not working needs new control box which is a dealer item.
- C-168 - No problems reported.
- C-167 - Repairs: Waiting for oil gauge.
- R-160 - Repairs: Cabinat (cribbing) lights repaired.
- ETA-161 - Problems: No problems reported.
- U-162 - Problems: None reported.
- T-163 - Problems: None reported
- E-164 - Repairs: Back-up lights and alarm fixed by KME.
- U-165 - Problems: No problems reported

Comm. Morrette made a motion to accept this report. Comm. Wood seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4/0

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

Comm. Morrette stated that a letter is still being developed for Attorney Young to resubmit to Caver regarding the problems that have developed with the paving of the parking lot. The problem areas are in front and back of the bays and the areas adjacent to the pavilion. Comm. Morrette further reported that the light in the front of building has been repaired; the problem was the transformer. A new camera will be installed on the parking lot side of the building. Comm. Morrette will ask Mr. Weiss to install a *no parking* sign along side of the hydrant. Comm. Wood made the motion to accept this report, seconded by Comm. Mahley. The resulting vote was 4/0.

LEASE LINES:

Comm. Mahley indicated that there was nothing to report regarding leased lines this month.

INSURANCE:

Comm. Mahley indicated that there was nothing to report regarding District Six insurance this month.

SERVICE AWARDS:

The Board discussed upgrading the service award program from \$480.00 to \$700.00. Comm. Wood made a motion to support this increase and Comm. Mahley seconded it. The vote resulted as follows: 4/0. It was noted that district voters must approve this change which would take affect in 2011. Chief France reported that the quarterly drill report shows that some members are still below the required 10%. He will speak to the individuals. Comm. Mahley made the motion to accept the Service Awards report. Comm. Wood seconded the motion which passed 4/0.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The Secretary read a letter addressed to the Board from Commissioner MacMillan indicating that he is offering his resignation from the Board of Fire

Commissioners because he no longer resides within the boundaries of the district. The Board accepted his resignation.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Comm. Mahley made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Comm. Wood seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4/0. The Treasurer reminded the Board that the public hearing for the budget will take place on October 20, 2009 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

It was noted that the trip to KME to "visit" our new pumper/tanker will take place on November 18th. Those participating will depart from the Firehouse at 6:00 a.m. and return at approximately 9:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Comm. Morrette to appoint Mr. William Van Hoesen to fill the Board seat vacated by the resignation of Mr. MacMillan. Comm. Mahley seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in the following: Comm. Morrette – yes, Comm. Mahley – yes, Comm. Wood – yes, Comm. Zido – yes. The motion passed 4/0. Comm. Van Hoesen addressed the Board indicating that it is an honor to fill Mac's spot and to be working with the Board again. The Board reviewed the description for a position entitled "Administrator". A motion was made by Comm. Wood and seconded by Comm. Morrette to appoint Mr. MacMillan to the position of Administrator. A roll call vote resulted in the following: Comm. Morrette – yes, Comm. Mahley – yes, Comm. Wood – yes, Comm. Van Hoesen – yes, Comm. Zido – yes. The motion passed 5/0. There is no remuneration associated with the position. Comm. Morrette made a motion to purchase a computer and associated equipment for the use of the Administrator with a monetary limit of \$800.00. Comm. Wood seconded the motion. The Board voted 5/0 to approve this purchase. The Board reviewed a new policy pertaining to the presence of members and non-members on the apparatus floor. Comm. Wood made a motion to accept this policy with suggested changes. Comm. Morrette seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in the following: Comm. Morrette – yes, Comm. Mahley – yes, Comm. Wood – yes, Comm. Van Hoesen – yes, Comm. Zido – yes. The motion passed 5/0. The Board also reviewed and discussed an Advanced Training Policy. Comm. Mahley made a motion to accept the provisions of the policy and Comm. Van Hoesen seconded the motion. Comm. Van Hoesen confirmed that the individual would pay the fees involved and upon successful completion of the course the fees would be reimbursed by the department. A roll call vote resulted in the following: Comm. Morrette – yes, Comm. Mahley – yes, Comm. Wood – yes, Comm. Van Hoesen – yes, Comm. Zido – yes. The motion passed 5/0. The Board also reviewed and discussed a policy to be put into effect involving the public access to records through the Freedom of Information Act. The Board evaluated the guidelines presented in the *New York Fire District Officers' Guide*, incorporating them into the District Six policy. A motion to accept this policy was made by Comm. Morrette and seconded by Comm. Mahley. A roll call vote was as follows: Comm. Morrette – yes, Comm. Mahley – yes, Comm. Wood – yes, Comm. Van Hoesen – yes, Comm. Zido – yes. The motion passed 5/0. It was noted that the

hearing by the NYS Human Rights Commission case Gilbert A. Darrell/Rotterdam Fire District Six is now scheduled for November 9th, 2009, at a location to be determined. An application from Christopher M. Lonergan for SSFD membership has been received, reviewed by the Chief and accepted by the membership. The Board voted to approve Mr. Lonergan's application with a motion made by Comm. Mahley, seconded by Comm. Wood and passed with a vote of 5/0. The Chairman brought to the attention of the Board members that the Board Room could use a "sprucing up" with fresh paint. Comm. Morrette, Head of Building and Grounds will pursue the matter.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

Correspondence received from John Nuzback, Schenectady County Fire/EMS Coordinator complimenting SSFD for participating in the major drill conducted on September 29, 2009. He offered "...special thanks to Chief France for stepping up and essentially placing yourself in the spotlight as the Incident commander..." During the privilege of the floor, Mr. Richard Fontaine offered an apology to Chief France, Asst. Chiefs Miller and Denny for past conduct to Chief France. He also thanked the Board for their action (or non-action) regarding his resignation. He added a thank you to Mr. MacMillan for working with him for eight years and that he (Mr. Fontaine) is here to help. Also during the privilege of the floor FF Sue Burns, speaking for the 28 Firefighters present at the meeting, thanked Mr. MacMillan for the support and the guidance that he has offered, stating that it has been a pleasure working with him and looking forward to working in the future. Mr. George Hughes asked if anything could be done to resolve this forced resignation. Mr. MacMillan indicated that since the position is elected by the residents of the district, he has no choice but to resign. FF Burns again took the floor with the approval of the 28 FF's present, thanking Chief France for his support and guidance and indicating that it has been a pleasure to work with him. FF Joe Capobianco offered his support for the Chief saying that whatever comes down from now on has his support (and that of the members). A motion for a vote of confidence for Chief France was made by Comm. Morrette and seconded by Comm. Wood. The roll call vote was as follows: Comm. Morrette – yes, Comm. Mahley – yes, Comm. Wood – yes, Comm. Van Hoesen – yes, Comm. Zido – yes. The motion passed 5/0. At 8:26 p.m., the Board went into executive session which ended at 9:30 p.m.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Comm. Wood and seconded by Comm. Van Hoesen. The Board agreed with a vote of 5/0 and Comm. Zido adjourned the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry R. Hickey, Secretary