

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District was called to order at 7:00 P.M. on October 17, 2022, by Chairperson, K. Thompson.

Pledge to the Flag

Present: K. Thompson, M. Chura, J. Patterson, M. Malone, W. Dwyer, A. Speach, M. Speach, W. Massaro, J. Tanner, C. Curtis, M. Harrison, M. Evans, Janelle Melchior, John Melchior, T. Eckel, L. Malone, Michele Malone, B. Raymond-LaPrease, C. LaPrease, M. Harrison, Pac B

J. Patterson made the motion to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2022, monthly meeting and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried. J. Patterson made the motion to approve the minutes of the September 30, 2022, special meeting and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried. J. Patterson made the motion to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2022, special meeting and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried. J. Patterson made the motion to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2022, special meeting and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried.

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u>	Checking	132,166.92
	Savings	624,714.94
	Payroll account	80,050.93
	Capital Imp. Reserve	660,823.12
	Apparatus Reserve	687,969.00
	Cont. Tax. Stab. Res.	42,750.70
	Equipment Reserve	252,772.73
	Vouchers	298,485.25
	CODES Checking	2,025.40
	CODES Savings	23,877.61
	CODES bequests	61,607.62
	Vouchers	2,970.00

W. Dwyer reviewed the treasurer's report. There has not been much change in CODES. The district report shows overage in the Chief's budget under radios; this has been transferred and paid for out of equipment reserve. We have received payment from insurance for the totaled chief's vehicle and that money has been deposited into apparatus reserve. November 4th will be the last payroll using QuickBooks, and then we will begin using Paychecks. J. Patterson made the motion to approve the treasurer's report and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried. J. Patterson made the motion to approve the vouchers as audited and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried. M. Chura will be the commissioner to review bank statements this month.

Correspondence:

- Submission of by-laws amendments from the fire department for review and approval.

Chief's Report:

M. Speech:

1. Equipment purchases:
 - a. The new portable radios for Truck 2 are in service
 - i. Still waiting on the vehicle chargers, but radios can go in service
 - b. The remainder of the new portable radios have arrived and are at United Radio to be programmed
 - i. The chargers and mics have arrived, just waiting for the radios to come back from programming.
 - c. The 6' hose jumpers for E-11, E-21, L-1, and T-2 have arrived
 - i. Need to be inventoried before going in service
 - d. The Knox KeySecure systems have arrived for T-2 and L-1
 - i. Ladder 1 is installed, just waiting on a Knox key from Knox.
 - ii. Truck 2 has been installed and has a key
2. Apparatus:
 - a. Truck 2
 - i. The punch list is nearly complete
 1. Just a few minor outstanding items
 - b. New Apparatus
 - i. The spec for the new RP has been reviewed and we should be able to move forward soon
 - ii. Replacement/relocation plan moving forward
3. Special Events
 - a. We have had several special events lately with more to come...
 - i. Thank you very much to all who have helped with these!
 - b. CODES Fire Prevention
 - i. Dates for the fire prevention in the schools are filling in and Palmer is coming up.
 1. Ladder 1 will take this detail for BCSFD
 - c. The Parade of Lights Event in Baldwinsville is happening this year
 - i. BCSFD will participate and apparatus assignments will be done. As in the past one in the parade and one standing by for response.
- D. Working on scheduling the Santa run
4. COVID-19 Preparation/Response/Planning:
 - a. Members are reminded to wear PPE on EMS calls
 - b. No change to current policy
 - c. Keep in mind...this is a fluid policy and can be changed at a moment's notice
5. Zoll emsCharts Software:
 - a. No issues to report...all reports look very good!
6. Members are encouraged to put a duty crew in service or set up an Engine 91 date that BCSFD hosts. Squad 91 will be in service this Friday.
7. Members have been reminded to please try and use Bryx when responding
 - a. It helps us know who is responding so we can respond with adequate crews
8. Thank you for your continued support!

W. Massaro:

- Unfortunately unable to attend planning board meeting last week, but will be following up on a couple of items.
- Abbots has submitted a plan to subdivide at the end of Hicks Rd. and N. Hayes Rd. with 3 lots but that may not all be our district; it may be Seneca River.
- The physicians complex on Willett Pkwy has submitted something, it may be plans to renovate but will follow up.

J. Corcoran: W. Massaro reported on Training.

- Oct. 13th will be Agrana walk thru and EMS round table.
- Oct. 20th has been repurposed to a Captain's work detail to get the hose jumpers in service.
- Oct. 27th will be ropes and knots.

Committee Reports

Building & Facilities:

- Station #2 Roof – taking an average of 8 months for delivery of materials. We will most likely see an increase in the price of materials. A. Speach will continue to reach out for an updates.

New Truck Committee: M. Chura reported that the spec has been finished for the rescue pumper and the contract has been signed. The first prebuild meeting will be in about 4 weeks. Great job by all on the committee. It is estimated to be 440 days for delivery. K. Thompson also thanked the committee for their hard work. We were looking at a 7% increase if we delayed.

Lysander Public Safety: K. Thompson reported that the next meeting is November 15th at GBAC at 7pm. Reynolds and Van Buren fire prevention programs have been completed and went well. Palmer is coming up on 10/25.

Budget & Finance: K. Thompson reported A. Speach submitted the tax cap form on the NYS Comptroller website. The following resolution to override the real property tax cap for the 2023 budget was made and read by K. Thompson with a second made by M. Chura and duly put to a roll call vote outlined in the resolution and was carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 1: OVERRIDE REAL PROPERTY TAX CAP FOR THE 2023 BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District must adopt a proposed budget for 2023 and estimate of fund balances in preparation for the annual fire district budget hearing and did so in preparation for the budget hearing, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District held the annual fire district budget hearing on notice to the public on October 17, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the proposed budget and comments received on the proposed budget on October 17, 2022 at said budget hearing, and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the financial needs of the fire district and fire department for fiscal year 2023 cannot be supported by a budget that would comply with the real property tax cap established pursuant to Section 3-c of the General Municipal Law as the proposed budget for 2023 calls for a real property tax levy that will exceed the real property tax cap permitting only a 2.00% increase in said tax levy; and

WHEREAS, Section 3-c of the General Municipal Law provides as follows:

A local government may adopt a budget that requires a tax levy that is greater than the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year, not including any levy necessary to support the expenditures pursuant to subparagraphs (i) through (iv) of paragraph g of subdivision two of this section, only if the governing body of such local government first enacts, by a vote of sixty percent of the total voting power of such body, a local law to override such limit for such coming fiscal year only, or in the case of a district or fire district, a resolution, approved by a vote of sixty percent of the total voting power of such body, to override such limit for such coming fiscal year only.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Fire Commissioners hereby approves a determination to override the real property tax cap for the 2023 budget only in order to permit an annual real property tax levy that will exceed the real property tax cap permitting only a 2.00% increase in said tax levy and result in a final annual fire district budget in the amount of \$1,909,683 and

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call the vote was as follows:

<i>Chairperson Catherine Thompson</i>	<i>) AYE</i>
<i>Commissioner Jeremy Patterson</i>	<i>) AYE</i>
<i>Commissioner Michael Malone</i>	<i>) AYE</i>
<i>Commissioner Michael Chura</i>	<i>) AYE</i>
<i>Commissioner Diane Rafkis</i>	<i>) absent</i>

The resolution was thereupon duly declared to have been adopted.

*Dated: Baldwinsville, New York
October 17, 2022*

K. Thompson made and read the following resolution to approve the 2023 Preliminary Budget with a tax levy of \$1,909,683 and J. Patterson seconded the motion and duly put to a roll call vote outlined in the resolution below and carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2 : APPROVE FINAL BUDGET FOR 2023

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District must adopt a proposed budget for 2023 and estimate of fund balances in preparation for the annual fire district budget hearing and did so in preparation for the budget hearing, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District held the annual fire district budget hearing on notice to the public on October 17, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the proposed budget and comments received on the proposed budget on October 17, 2022 at said budget hearing, and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that that financial needs of the fire district and fire department for fiscal year 2023 cannot be supported by a budget that would comply with the real property tax cap established pursuant to Section 3-c of the General Municipal Law as the proposed budget for 2023 calls for a real property tax levy that will exceed the real property tax cap permitting only a 2.00 % increase in said tax levy; and

WHEREAS, Section 3-c of the General Municipal Law provides as follows:

A local government may adopt a budget that requires a tax levy that is greater than the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year, not including any levy necessary to support the expenditures pursuant to subparagraphs (i) through (iv) of paragraph g of subdivision two of this section, only if the governing body of such local government first enacts, by a vote of sixty percent of the total voting power of such body, a local law to override such limit for such coming fiscal year only, or in the case of a district or fire district, a resolution, approved by a vote of sixty percent of the total voting power of such body, to override such limit for such coming fiscal year only.

WHEREAS, previously at this meeting this Board of Fire Commissioners passed a resolution to override the real property tax cap for the 2023 Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Fire Commissioners hereby approves the Final Budget for the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District for 2023 attached hereto and made a part hereof in the amount of \$ 1,909,683.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call the vote was as follows:

<i>Chairperson Catherine Thompson</i>	<i>) AYE</i>
<i>Commissioner Jeremy Patterson</i>	<i>) AYE</i>
<i>Commissioner Michael Malone</i>	<i>) AYE</i>
<i>Commissioner Michael Chura</i>	<i>) AYE</i>
<i>Commissioner Diane Rafkis</i>	<i>) absent</i>

The resolution was thereupon duly declared to have been adopted.

*Dated: Baldwinsville, New York
October 17, 2022*

IT Committee: J. Patterson reported that the station boards are up and running, we are just working out some bugs. At this time, he is moving to dissolve the Social Media committee, as it has not worked as intended. There was no objection by the board.

Personnel: M. Chura reported that as many know the paid Chief's position has been advertised and interviews conducted. As of Nov. 1st, we will be hiring Jeffrey Root as a part time caretaker and pending the necessary approvals by outside agencies to transition into Chief in January. He will be using this time to familiarize himself with BCSFD so please welcome him. In addition, we have contracted with Brian Falise to coordinate the EMS pilot program, records and training; he will report to the Chief. Please welcome him as well.

Caretaker Leader Report: J. Tanner submitted a report.

Truck Maintenance: J. Patterson stated nothing major to report. K. Thompson did mention that it was announced at the special meeting that the Chief's vehicle was deemed a total loss and we are working on a replacement.

Building Maintenance: K. Thompson stated this was covered in the facilities report.

Old Business:

- Policy review- SOGs – K. Thompson stated no policies at this time. The board is due to conduct a membership review but the fire department is conducting a review so we will not conduct the review at this time.

New Business:

- J. Patterson made the motion to endorse K. Thompson for AFDSNY Region 3 Director and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.
- J. Patterson made the motion to approve the by-laws amendments from the fire department as submitted and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.
- K. Thompson made the motion to approve L. Tanner, D. Dwyer, L. Williamson and T. Massaro with D. Speach as an alternate with a stipend of \$70 to serve as the Election Board for the annual Fire District election and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried
- K. Thompson stated that the annual Fire District will be on Tuesday, December 13th from 6-9 P.M. A letter must be submitted by Nov. 23rd at 5pm to be placed on the ballot to run for fire district commissioner and the letter must specify that it is for the 5-year term.
- K. Thompson reported that there is a conflict with the November and December meeting dates. J. Patterson made the motion to move the meeting dates to November 22nd and December 20th at 7 PM at Station #1 and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

K. Thompson stated that we do plan to move into an executive session and do not expect to conduct any further business.

Public comments: B. Raymond- LaPrease took exception to what J. Patterson said about the social media commit; it was not to facilitate communication but to create content. M. Harrison asked about the budget increase and K. Thompson reported that it was a 7.7% increase or \$436,628. He also asked when B. Falise is starting and it was explained he is working under a contract and he is not a district employee. B. Raymond-LaPrease asked when the guidelines would be coming out on what the process is to approve the hall use; will there be guidelines?

At 7:48 P.M. J. Patterson made the motion to enter Executive Session to discuss the employment history of an individual which may lead to his or her employment and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried. M. Speach and A. Speach also joined the Executive session.

Resumed the regular meeting at 9:41P.M.

Meeting dates:

Next Commissioners meeting – November 22nd at 7PM

Fire District election – December 13th 6 PM-9 PM

December Commissioner meeting – December 20th at 7 P.M.

(All meetings at station #1 until further notice or unless specified)

K. Thompson made the motion to adjourn at 9:42 PM and J. Patterson seconded the motion.
Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Speach

District Secretary