

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 July 17, 2023 by Chairperson, K. Thompson.

Pledge to the Flag.

Present: K. Thompson, D. Rafkis, M. Malone, C. LaPrease, W. Dwyer, A. Speech, J. Root, L. Harrison, L. Malone, M. Harrison, C. Curtis, M. Evans, B. Raymond-LaPrease, T. Eckel, J. Melchior, Pac B

M. Malone made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2023 monthly meeting minutes and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. Carried.

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u>	Checking	85,182.71
	Savings	1,379,725.56
	Payroll account	81,162.21
	Capital Imp. Reserve	808,819.89
	Apparatus Reserve	786,286.39
	Cont. Tax. Stab. Res.	43,119.16
	Equipment Reserve	283,179.92
	Vouchers	123,690.90
	CODES Checking	2,367.77
	CODES Savings	23,991.94
	CODES bequests	61,607.62
	Vouchers	0.00

W. Dwyer reviewed the treasurer's report. The service awards payments to participants were made last week and the money has been received from Lincoln investments. The payment for those that made their points was made to Lincoln for a total of \$43,200. C. LaPrease made the motion to approve the treasurer's report and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried. M. Malone made the motion to approve the vouchers as audited and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. Carried. M. Malone will be the commissioner to review bank statements this month.

Correspondence:

- Fire District Affairs was received and distributed.

Chief's Report:

J. Root:

1. Communications:
  - Nothing new to report regarding the 4 vehicle chargers that did not come in, or the quote on new radio batteries.
2. Apparatus:
  - Second Chief's vehicle has not yet arrived and is now expected in August.
  - Pumpers and aerials are scheduled to begin going out of service for PMs and NYS inspections this month.
3. Special Events:

- Fire Prevention Detail for the Radisson Summer Rec. program Tuesday July 18 at 10 AM.

#### 4. Stations:

- New proposal with fixed dollar amount received from architect for station 2 shower addition.

#### 5. Miscellaneous:

- Chiefs will continue taking 1 duty night a week for the next 2 months and will evaluate again in September.
- Part time Firefighter/EMT's began working day shifts on Monday June 26. During staffed hours, response times have improved by more than 5 minutes on average.
- Several volunteer members have worked shifts with the paid staff and feedback has been positive.
- Daily drills will begin on Monday July 24 at 10 AM. All active members are always welcome to participate.
- First Due services to begin annual hose testing on July 29.
- Undercoating will be July 24<sup>th</sup>.

J. Corcoran: no report

M. Speach: no report

### Committee Reports

Building & Facilities: No report

New Truck Committee: K. Thompson reported for M. Chura that we are still on the same schedule for the rescue pumper. M. Speach is working on quotes for lights, sirens and striping.

Lysander Public Safety: K. Thompson reported that there are no meetings for July and August. There is a town wide drill planned for September 30, 2023 at the Oswego County Training Facility.

Budget & Finance: K. Thompson reported that the 2024 Budget is in process.

IT Committee: No report.

Personnel: K. Thompson reported that annual reviews are in process.

Truck Maintenance: No report.

Building Maintenance: M. Malone reported that he has quotes for the sealing and striping of the parking lots. M. Malone made the motion to move forward with the lowest bid and spend up to \$15,000 for sealing and striping for all 3 buildings and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. Carried. Discussion regarding painting Station #1 inside and outside. L. Harrison and the paid

FF/EMTs can work on this project. M. Evans asked about the roof at station #2, it is leaking in the same spot. M. Malone will look into it.

Steering Committee: K. Thompson reported that it was agreed by the committee to put the steering committee meetings on hold for the summer, no meetings for July and August.

Fire Prevention: C. LaPrease reported that there is a detail tomorrow at Kerry Hornaday Park during the Radisson Summer Rec Program.

#### Old Business:

- Policy review- nothing at this time.
- Chief Root previously provided a revision to SOG 03-017 –Tabled. J. Root wants input from the other Chief's and Officers, we may be looking at a different proposal.
- The Bylaws Committee has asked for consideration in making changes to the officer qualifications policy concerning the timeframe to meet the qualifications. C. LaPrease reported that M. Rasmus has nothing at this time. M. Harrison will follow up with M. Rasmus.
- K. Thompson reported that the revised quote was received from the architect for the shower project at station #2 and sent it on to the board to review. The motion was made last month but she wanted to verify that all were ok with the revisions. The board was polled and all present were in favor.
- K. Thompson sent the revised proposal for the Paychex time and attendance module to the board. Discussion regarding the fee and the need to look at alternatives in the future. K. Thompson made the motion to move forward with the time and attendance program with Paychex and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. Carried.

#### New Business:

- K. Thompson reported that at the last minute today we received the information on the New York State Retirement for the new employees. The estimated cost will be \$21,000 for 6 months for all the Firefighter/EMTs. This was in our budget to cover a full year of retirement for new employees. It is mandatory that we participate in the New York State Fire and Police retirement program. Lengthy discussion. K. Thompson made the motion and read the resolution to participate in the retirement system and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried. A second resolution was discussed to specify the retirement plan. At the end of another lengthy discussion D. Rafkis made the motion to revoke the previous resolution and C. LaPrease seconded. C. LaPrease, D. Rafkis and M. Malone were in favor and K. Thompson opposed. Carried. The resolutions for retirement are tabled for further information. K. Thompson will ask M. Chura to forward the information to the rest of the board members.

#### Public comments:

M. Harrison asked about the status of the lights on E21, the quotes were received. Also stated that there is a problem with the AC and the parking brake on E21. Chief Root stated it would

be taken out of service immediately to look at the parking brake. M. Harrison also asked about the plan for paid staffing and has received nothing. B. Raymond-LaPrease also stated she is waiting for the plan and outlined what the plan should contain and the statistics that should be documented. M. Evans stated that the floor at station 2 needs to be painted, it is slippery and people are falling. C. LaPrease will look into it.

At 7:56 P.M. C. LaPrease made the motion to enter Executive Session to discuss the employment history of an individual, which may lead to his or her dismissal, suspension or removal and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried. At 8:08PM J. Root was asked to join the executive session.

Resumed the regular meeting at 8:49 P.M.

No further business

Meeting dates:

Commissioner's meeting – Monday, August 21, 2023 at 7 PM

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

C, LaPrease made the motion to adjourn at 8:50 PM and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Speach

District Secretary