

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 August 21, 2023 by Chairperson, K. Thompson.

Pledge to the Flag.

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

M. Malone made the motion to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2023 monthly meeting minutes and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. Carried. M. Malone made the motion to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2023 Special Meeting and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. Carried.

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u>	Checking	76,428.18
	Savings	1,335,540.76
	Payroll account	49,821.40
	Capital Imp. Reserve	810,539.01
	Apparatus Reserve	787,957.61
	Cont. Tax. Stab. Res.	43,210.81
	Equipment Reserve	282,088.21
	Vouchers	45,281.84
	CODES Checking	2,367.77
	CODES Savings	24,173.88
	CODES bequests	61,607.62
	Vouchers	300.00

W. Dwyer reviewed the treasurer's report. He reported that he spoke with NY Class regarding investments and the return it 4.5% - 5%. The money is easy to access if needed and they offer 1, 6 and 12 month CDs. K. Thompson explained that NY Class is a program for municipal entities to invest their money. K. Thompson will provide the information to the board to review for September. W. Dwyer reported that he has changed the heading from future staffing to PT FF/EMT. We will also need a budget modification for payroll management as we are over budget in that line item. M. Malone made the motion to approve the treasurer's report and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried. M. Malone made the motion to approve the vouchers as audited and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. Carried. D. Rafkis will be the commissioner to review bank statements this month.

Correspondence:

- Central Region Fire District Association – next meeting August 28, 6:30pm at Mattydale FD
- Pinsky Law Group training seminar information, October 27-28, 2023 at Turning Stone.

Chief's Report:

J. Root: not present – J. Corcoran reported

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.
- All large fleet vehicles have been inspected and preventative maintenance is in progress by Colden Fire.

3. Special Events:

- Annal's Angels 5k on September 2nd. J. Corcoran reported on Founder's Day and it is very well received by residents and Radisson was very appreciative. This last Saturday was a Family Fun Days event at the YMCA and they appreciated the participation from the FD and appreciated the members that participated.

4. Stations:

- Station 2 bathroom project drawings are back and a bid package is being prepared.

5. Miscellaneous:

- Chiefs will continue taking 1 duty night a week for the next 2 months and will evaluate again in September.
- Several volunteer members have worked shifts with the paid staff and feedback has been positive.
- Daily drills are ongoing. All active members are always welcome to participate. An invitation to attend has been extended to Northwest Fire District as well if they are interested.
- All hose testing is complete with very few failures.

J. Corcoran: He reported that they have a really good system in place to track EMS supplies. There are a couple members from each stations that are taking an interest and are committed to keeping track of what is needed.

M. Speech: He reported that he is working on September's training schedule. Drill this week is Live Fire with Liverpool FD and the 31st will be Captain's drill.

Committee Reports

Building & Facilities: Nothing to report.

New Truck Committee: K. Thompson reported the permissive referendum for the rescue pumper has been published. She has spoken with Colden and the issue with the change in the engine should not be an issue. We will be able to sign the contract in 30 days when the referendum is up.

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. J. Melchior will put together a flyer for the training.

Budget & Finance: K. Thompson reported that the 2024 Budget is in process. We do not have the preliminary budget ready. K. Thompson will meet with D. Rafkis and get the budget out to the rest of the board and we can schedule a special meeting if necessary,

IT Committee: Nothing to report.

Personnel: K. Thompson reported that annual reviews are completed. We will be asking for an Executive Session to discuss them.

Truck Maintenance: There was a problem with the horn on R1 and it has been fixed.

Building Maintenance: M. Malone reported the parking lots have been sealed and striped. There are a couple of areas that they may come back and seal again as they had some ground water. We will be looking into replacing some of the exterior doors, the people doors, not garage doors. L. Harrison has made some calls to get quotes for the roof leak at station #2.

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. The next meeting will be September 9th.

Fire Prevention: C. LaPrease reported that we are looking at any supplies we might need.

Old Business:

- Policy review- nothing at this time.
- Chief Root previously provided a revision to SOG 03-017 –Tabled.
- The Bylaws Committee has asked for consideration in making changes to the officer qualifications policy concerning the timeframe to meet the qualifications. Nothing further on this, remove from the agenda.
- K. Thompson reported that the information was sent out on the NY State Retirement. K. Thompson made the following resolution to enroll in the Police and Fire Retirement System and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District hereby elect to participate as an employer in the New York State and Local Police and Fire Retirement System and approves inclusion of its officers and employees in such system, In accordance with any and all of the laws governing such participation as set forth in the Retirement and Social Security Law, as presently or hereafter amended, together with any administrative rule, regulation or directive governing the same."

- K. Thompson made the following resolution to enroll in the 375I plan for all employees and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried.

At a meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District held at 7920 River Road Baldwinsville, New York, on August 21, 2023, Catherine Thompson offered the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Belgium cold Springs Fire District does hereby elect to provide the pension benefit of Sections 375-c, 375-e, 375-g and 375-i of the Retirement and Social Security Law for Police Officers and paid Firefighters, as presently or hereafter amended."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the effective date of such shall be the 21st day of August, 2023.

New Business:

- D. Rafkis made the motion to approve alcohol for L. Cooper for hall use on 10/15/23 and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried.

Public comments:

- M. Harrison asked if the treasurer's report can give a breakdown of the part-time employees and their pay.
- B. Raymond-LaPrease asked why the chief's vehicle that was received in January is still not in service. M. Chura stated that the lights and sirens have been ordered but they are not in yet.
- D. Rafkis reported on response statistics since the July meeting: 109 alarms total. Volunteers responded to 109, paid FF/EMTs responded to 27. 1078 total volunteers responded, an average of 10 per call.

At 7:43 P.M. K. Thompson made the motion to enter Executive Session to discuss the employment history of an individual, which may lead to his or her continued employment with the district and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

Resumed the regular meeting at 8:05 P.M.

K. Thompson made the motion to provide dental insurance through Solstice from Paychex, plan #11262, for salaried and full time hourly employees at anticipated annual expense of less than \$5000 starting immediately and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried.

Meeting dates:

Commissioner's meeting – Monday, September 18, 2023 at 7 PM
(All meetings at station #1 until further notice or unless specified)

M. Chura made the motion to adjourn at 8:07 PM and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Speach
District Secretary