

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 February 12, 2024 by Chairperson K. Thompson.

Pledge to the Flag

Present: K. Thompson, M. Chura, M. Harrison, C. LaPrease, D. Rafkis, W. Dwyer, A. Speech, C. Curtis, B. Raymond-LaPrease, L. Malone, M. Malone, M. Evans, John Melchior, C. Padalino, Michael Harrison, Janelle Melchior

M. Harrison made the motion to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2024 meeting minutes and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. Carried.

Insurance review scheduled for tonight has been postponed due to a family emergency. Tony Blackwell from McNeil & Co. will be here for the March commissioners meeting.

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u>	Checking	86,687.31
	Savings	194,318.05
	Payroll account	52,561.75
	Capital Imp. Reserve	116,637.30
	NY Class Capital Imp.	811,991.19
	Apparatus Reserve	1,130,263.23
	NY Class Fire Apparatus	655,959.27
	Cont. Tax. Stab. Res.	3,512.00
	NY Class Contin. & Tax	40,629.28
	Equipment Reserve	37,073.19
	NY Class Equipment	213,412.65
	Vouchers	52,971.72
	CODES Checking	1,137.53
	CODES Savings	26,697.30
	CODES bequests	61,607.62
	Vouchers	656.95

W. Dwyer reviewed the treasurer's report. Reviewed the CODES report that was unavailable last month. The tax check for 2024 should be available this week from the town. W. Dwyer is still working on the Annual Financial Document (AFD) for New York State. M. Harrison would like to review the Hill's contract. He will stop in to see A. Speech for a copy. M. Chura made the motion to approve the treasurer's report and M. Harrison seconded the motion. Carried. M. Harrison made the motion to approve the vouchers as audited and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried. M. Harrison will be the commissioner to review bank statements this month.

Correspondence:

- Letter from Onondaga County Commissioner of Emergency Management Dan Wears thanking the district for the use of our headquarters in housing EM50, it has officially been moved to their new facility.

Chief's Report:

J. Root: K. Thompson reviewed report for J. Root

1. Communications:
 - Nothing new to report
2. Special Events:
 - Nothing new to report.
3. Stations:
 - The department office space at station 1 is in the process of renovation into a bunkroom. Furniture has been received and being assembled and installed.
4. Miscellaneous:
 - Still awaiting the report Insurance Services Office Inc. Should receive it in the next few weeks.
 - Daily drills have changed. Firematic drills are held at station 2 on Mondays and Wednesdays and EMS drills are at station 1 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. All active members are invited and encouraged to attend. This will change again when 24/7 staffing begins. All drills will be posted.
5. Staffing.
 - Chief's Memo to membership will be sent out next week to outline staffing process and the schedule will be open shortly after that. 24/7 staffing will start tentatively the week of February 26.

M. Speach: no report.

J. Melchior: Reported that he has been in contact with Brian Falise and will be scheduling EMS training.

Committee Reports

Long Term Planning: Chair M. Chura reported that the bid opening for the bathroom renovation project was on 2/7/2024. We received 4 bids for \$23,783, \$44,655, \$45,000, and \$59,000. Long Term Planning will meet with Buildings and facilities to review the bids, discuss and make a decision to award the bid. M. Chura made the motion to award the bid after both committees review the bids and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. Carried. M. Chura made the motion to approve the following resolution and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. Carried.

Notice to all residents of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District that the Board of Fire Commissioners of said Fire District, pursuant to the following resolution, which is SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM, intend to expend funds on hand in the Reserve Fund for Capital Improvement for Station #2 a bathroom renovation project for the Fire District.

Whereas, at a regular meeting of said Board of Fire Commissioners on February 12, 2024 it was resolved to use said funds as follows:

RESOLVED, THAT THE FIRE DISTRICT EXPEND FUNDS ALREADY ON HAND IN THE RESERVE FUND FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AS FOLLOWS; NOT TO EXCEED \$60,000.00 TO BE USED TO COMPLETE THE BATHROOM RENOVATION PROJECT AT STATION #2, 8451 LOOP RD., INCLUDING LEGAL AND ADVERTISING COSTS.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF
FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF THE
BELGIUM COLD SPRINGS FIRE DISTRICT

Amy Speach
Fire District Secretary

New Truck Committee: Chair D. Rafkis had a couple members ask her about getting rid of R1 as it is a specialty piece so she brought it to the meeting to discuss before making any decisions. Some discussion points included that it could be used for rehab, water/ice rescue equipment, and due to the large interior would work for both as you can get people inside and out of the elements. Lengthy discussion. Chief Root needs to make his recommendation and bring it to the board. D. Rafkis asked if a decision was made on the sale of the old chief's vehicles. She also made the recommendation that M3 go back to being a station vehicle as it is a bigger vehicle and one of the explorer be used as a chief's vehicle so they would be the same vehicle. Some points of discussion were that none of the vehicles would match, M2 could have been used for training and was not so does it matter. The explorer has higher mileage and makes sense to keep it as a spare chief's vehicle/ station vehicle. There will be computers going into all the chief's vehicles, we already have them, we are waiting on the mounts. This will need to be discussed with Chief Root. M. Chura reported that he and C. LaPrease looked at the explorers and M2 and the old C3 will be sold. They would like to move forward with listing on Auctions International. Brief discussion. M. Chura made the motion to list the vehicles on Auctions International and when the auction closes the offers will be emailed to the board of fire commissioners to accept or counter the offer so it can be finalized prior to the next meeting and C. LaPrease seconded the motion. Carried. M. Chura reported that he and M. Speach will be traveling to South Dakota next week for the inspection of the Rescue Pumper; they are trying to get it finished by the end of the month. Discussion.

Lysander Public Safety: Chair C. LaPrease reported that the next meeting is February 20th at Plainville Station #1. An email has been sent out to coalition chiefs to get a list of firefighters so they have the information for the property tax exemption. They are working on planning a logging accident drill tentatively for May 11th.

Budget & Finance: Nothing to report.

IT Committee: Chair M. Chura reported that M. Speach is working with Image Trend as a possible replacement for Zoll. The officers are currently doing a trial of I Am Responding as a new responder app.

Personnel: Chair K. Thompson reported that we have four candidates for the part-time FF/EMT positions that were already interviewed and we will be extending an offer to them.

Truck Maintenance: Chair M. Chura reported that we will be having Colden come in to look at the speaker issue on T2.

Building Maintenance: Chair C. LaPrease reported that we are waiting for parts for the heating system at Station #1. L Harrison is painting the hall and L. Malone is painting the storeroom. M. Harrison is working pricing for the water bottle fill stations to purchase and install.

Steering Committee: Chair D. Rafkis reported that the next meeting is February 24th at 9:30am at district headquarters.

Fire Prevention: Chair M. Harrison reported that we had a fire prevention detail for Girl Scouts last month that M. Quinn covered.

Old Business:

- Policy review- nothing at this time.
- J. Melchior reported that he is trying to have the department look at funding for the gym reimbursement, more to follow.

New Business:

- C. LaPrease made the motion to approve the active member application of Morgan Campbell-Palmer pending her physical and M. Harrison seconded the motion. Carried.
- K. Thompson made the motion to approve the insurance renewal with McNeil & Co. /ESIP and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried.
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Public comments:

- M. Evans asked if the drinking water from the fountains have been tested for lead. Discussion. M. Harrison will look into what the school district did for testing. C. Padalino mentioned a plumber that also lives in the district and she will get M. Harrison his information.
- B. Raymond-LaPrease saw the payment for Brian Falise in the voucher listing as inquired if the district has a contract with deliverables. Did the district get a summary document of what he delivered last year? Discussion. C. LaPrease stated we would look into it.
- M. Evans asked what the plans were for the bathroom remodel at station #2, he would like to see the plans. Discussion.
- M. Evans asked about an earlier comment during discussion that Colden was bought out and how does this affect the rescue pumper. He feels the district should have an engineer involved in the inspection. Discussion. Colden changed ownership prior to our purchase.

At 8:07 P.M. K. Thompson made the motion to go into executive session for the resume and employment history of an individual for their continued employment with the district and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried.

Resumed regular session at 9:26 PM.

Meeting dates:

Commissioner's meeting – Monday, March 18th at 7pm

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

D. Rafkis made the motion to adjourn at 9:27 PM and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Speach

District Secretary