

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 June 16, 2025 by Chairperson C. LaPrease.

Pledge to the Flag

Present: K. Thompson, M. Chura, M. Malone, C. LaPrease, M. Harrison, W. Dwyer, A. Speech, D. Natoli, J. Melchior, C. Curtis, B. Raymond-LaPrease, M. Evans, T. Eckel, M. St. Andrew, C. Wilson, B. Green, L. Evans, Pac B

M. Chura made the motion to approve the May 12, 2025 meeting minutes and M. Harrison seconded the motion. Carried.

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u>	Checking	146,482.30
	Savings	255,671.25
	NY Class General Fund Acct.	1,484,753.37
	Payroll account	856.94
	Firehouse Payroll	72,664.22
	Capital Imp. Reserve	172,539.86
	NY Class Capital Imp.	851,203.26
	Apparatus Reserve	58,408.96
	NY Class Fire Apparatus	1,170,354.26
	Cont. Tax. Stab. Res.	3,657.50
	NY Class Contin. & Tax	43,129.99
	Equipment Reserve	64,453.35
	NY Class Equipment	343,832.49
	NY Class Retirement Fund	55,494.20
	Vouchers	299,897.78
	CODES Checking	2,157.95
	CODES Savings	9,630.73
	NY Class CODES bequest	82,599.41
	Vouchers	74.41

W. Dwyer reviewed the treasurer's report. Reviewed the CODES report. Provided an update on the service awards. The audit is finished, and the final report is in the mail to the district. There are no material weaknesses, it was noted that the unassigned fund balance is low and should be reviewed for corrective action. M. Chura made the motion to approve the treasurer's report and K. Thompson seconded the motion. Carried. K. Thompson made the motion to approve the vouchers as audited, and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried. M. Chura will be the commissioner to review bank statements this month. K. Thompson will review the NY Class accounts. The permissive referendums for the first rescue pumper and for the caretaker truck can be closed. All agreed.

Correspondence:

- Excellus- if approved a proposed increase of 17.5%. A. Speach stated that she is waiting for information regarding a health insurance consortium that may give the district some savings.
- NYSMEC Electricity and Natural Gas bid cycle information – requesting resolutions for participation.
- 2025 AFDSNY Annual Meeting & Vendor Exp 10/2-10/4

Chief's Report:

D. Natoli for Chief Gleeson:

Personnel: Working with Committee to complete and submit proper documentation to Civil Service to have CRR specialist added, confirm roster and increase in number of positions.

Apparatus Plan: Determination of status of Ladder 1, recommended sale of vehicle. Discuss and move forward with the remainder of plan once Ladder one determination is made.

Purchase Requests & Notifications:

- Surplus and Disposal Request:

Surplus & Dispose:

- (1) Box Light not repairable
- (1) Husqvarna Univent Pro saw - Not functioning, not repairable from approx. 1997

Surplus and Auction:

- (1) Scissor Lift - Batteries won't take charge and it will not move from its current position.
- (8) 2017 Fitment Goodyear Eagle winter tires and rims
- (1) 2017 Fitment Goodyear Eagle summer tire
- (4) 2017 Fitment Goodyear Eagle rims
- (33) various box lights and flashlights
- (1) Dewalt 5.5 Circular saw (no batteries)
- (4) Dewalt Sawzall (no batteries)
- (2) Dewalt Drill (no batteries)
- (1) Pullon Pro Chainsaw
- (2) Partner K650 Rotary Saw

- New Engine 21 Equipment Request

- Mobile radio
- Knox box key system
- Hydrant bag, wrenches and adapters
- Combi Tool

Communications:

- The Town of Lysander Chiefs have a tentative agreement on portions of a new Response Order Guide. Specifies actions to be taken based on arrival order. Work continues.

Projects:

- Hose Standardization will go live on July 9th after hose testing that morning.
- 1400' 4" Supply ordered last summer has been received, will be tested and placed in service July 9th

Policy:

- No significant updates. Some ties back to apparatus plan

M. Harrison made the motion to surplus & dispose and surplus & sell as outlined by the chief and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried.

Lengthy discussion regarding the recommended equipment for the new rescue pumper.

M. Harrison made the motion to add additional funds to the purchase of the new rescue pumper from the apparatus reserve up to \$50,000 for additional costs and equipment subject to permissive referendum and K. Thompson 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, for additional costs and to equip a rescue pumper for the Fire District to be delivered in 2025, to be paid for by expending funds on hand in the Reserve Fund for Apparatus.

Whereas, at a regular meeting of said Board of Fire Commissioners on June 16, 2025 it was resolved to use said funds as follows:

RESOLVED, THAT THE FIRE DISTRICT EXPEND FUNDS IN THE RESERVE FUND FOR APPARATUS AS FOLLOWS; NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000 TO BE USED FOR ADDITIONAL COSTS AND TO EQUIP A RESCUE PUMPER TO BE USED FOR THE FIRE DISTRICT, INCLUDING LEGAL AND ADVERTISING COSTS.

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

Natoli: nothing additional to report.

Melchior:

- Training Update – more scenario-based training is planned.
- Cancer awareness training - Tuesday, 6/17 at he Lysander Public Safety meeting.
- Assigned EVOC to all drivers. Discussion. This will create a cycle for EVOC – every 2 years.
- 1/3 of members are not participating in training, but we are seeing better responses in alarms.

Committee Reports

Long Term Planning: Chair M. Malone reported that he will be scheduling a meeting later this month. C. LaPrease reported on the Station Design Conference, it was very enlightening with a lot of good information.

New Truck Committee: Chair M. Harrison reported that the final inspection is on schedule for July 15-18th.

- C. LaPrease made the motion to purchase the additional equipment for the new rescue pumper as outlined in the chief's report, the combi tool, mobile radio, Knox box and hydrant bag with associated tools; pending the permissive referendum and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.
- M. Harrison reported that he has recommended pricing for R2, E21 and L1 as follows: E21 estimated at \$15,000-\$30,000, all agreed to start at \$25,000. R2- agreed to \$75,000 and L1 agreed \$595,000. This is pending the required referendums.
- K. Thompson made the motion for the following permissive referendum to expend funds from apparatus reserve to redeem the bonds for Ladder 1 and M. Malone 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 redeem the bonds for the 2015 Sutphen Aerial by expending funds on hand in the Reserve Fund for Apparatus.

Whereas, at a regular meeting of said Board of Fire Commissioners on June 16, 2025 it was resolved to use said funds as follows:

RESOLVED, THAT THE FIRE DISTRICT EXPEND FUNDS IN THE RESERVE FUND FOR APPARATUS AS FOLLOWS; NOT TO EXCEED \$136,000 TO BE USED TO REDEEM THE BONDS FOR THE FIRE DISTRICT, INCLUDING LEGAL AND ADVERTISING COSTS.

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

- K. Thompson made the following resolution to hold a special election to sell L1 and have the proceeds go into the Equipment reserve and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried. At the time of the meeting the date was TBD depending on the availability of the election board. The date of the special election will be August 5th.

Notice of Mandatory Referendum

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District in the Town of Lysander, Onondaga County, New York, at a meeting held on the 16th of June, 2025, duly adopted the following Resolution, subject to a mandatory referendum.

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF THE FIRE DISTRICT, TOWN OF LYSANDER, ONONDAGA COUNTY, NEW YORK, TO SELL OR OTHERWISE DISPOSE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY OF THE FIRE DISTRICT CONSISTING OF A 2015 AERIAL TRUCK, WHICH VEHICLE IS NO LONGER NECESSARY FOR ANY OF THE USES OR PURPOSES OF THE DISTRICT AT SUCH TIME, AND UPON SUCH TERMS AND

CONDITIONS AS THE BOARD IN ITS DISCRETION MAY DETERMINE; SAID MONIES REALIZED THEREFROM TO BE USED TO FUND OTHER APPARATUS AND/OR EQUIPMENT PURCHASES AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District in the Town of Lysander, Onondaga County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Fire Commissioners is of the opinion that the present Aerial Truck is no longer needed and the District needs to replace outdated equipment such as SCBA and the sale of this apparatus could fund all or part of that purchase or other necessary equipment.

Section 2. That it is determined that the monies to be received from the sale of the Aerial Truck may exceed \$100,000.00.

Section 3. Pursuant to Section 6-g Subdivision 5 of the General Municipal Law, any monies received therefrom shall be paid into such Equipment Reserve Fund.

Section 4. This resolution is adopted subject to a mandatory referendum.

By Order of the Commissioners of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District.

- K. Thompson made the motion to designate the any four of the following people for the election board for the fire district election: Lynn Tanner, Terrie Massaro, Dorothy Dwyer, Linda Williamson, Mike Williamson and Dave Speach; four of which will serve depending on their availability, to be paid a stipend of \$70 and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried.

Lysander Public Safety: Chair C. LaPrease

- The next meeting is June 17th at BCSFD at 7PM
- There will be training offered at Lysander Public Safety meeting on Firefighter Contamination Reduction and Cancer Prevention.

Budget & Finance: Chair K. Thompson reported that she has provided the 2026 Budget timeline. B. Dwyer will have budget report to review.

IT Committee: Chair C. LaPrease reported that there was a question regarding the cost of the web hosting and he does not have an answer yet.

Personnel: Chair K. Thompson reported:

- The board has received a letter of resignation from the district caretaker. The committee met and recommended not filling the position at this time and sending out an RFP for lawn care and snow removal to have the information available to make an informed decision. We may need to have the career staff do some lawn care and additional work in the interim. Discussion.
- The personnel committee has been working with Civil Service to finalize the job description for the Community Risk Reduction position.
- The 3rd FF/EMT is being discussed and would be both data driven and financial to potentially be implemented in the 4th quarter of 2025. Discussion on hiring 5 more people to fill the current schedule. Discussion. Interview and bring the names to the

board. The career staff will be reminded to send notification if no one or only one person is on shift.

Truck Maintenance: Chair M. Harrison reported that car 1 had an oil change and summer tires put on. M. Chura asked is annual maintenance is current. Discussion.

Building Maintenance:

- Chair M. Harrison reported that the AC at Station 1 has been repaired. The gear washer at station 2 has been repaired.
- C. LaPrease provided quotes for the roof repair at the district office. C. LaPrease made the motion to proceed with Mohawk Valley Roofing up to \$5000 out of building and grounds maintenance budget and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried.
- C. LaPrease reported that he is still working in the pavement issue at Station #1. He had an engineer come in to take a look to make a recommendation.

Fire Prevention: Chair M. Harrison reported that Little Luke’s daycare and the YMCA are looking for us to come to do fire prevention and spray water.

Old Business:

- Training stipends. K. Thompson reported that she provided another draft of a proposed training stipend policy this morning and asked to table this to give everyone time to review. She asked that is there were any issues to let her know as soon as possible so she can make revisions.
- M. Malone provided a quote for the washer and dryer for Station #2 and he is gathering information.

New Business:

- K. Thompson made the motion to authorize participation in NYSMEC for electric and gas and to give C. LaPrease the authorization to sign the agreements per the following resolutions and M. Malone seconded the motion. Carried.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN COOPERATIVE ENERGY
PURCHASING SERVICE (NYSMEC)
FOR NATURAL GAS**

WHEREAS, Article 5-G of the New York State General Municipal Law authorizes municipal corporations to enter into cooperative agreements for the performance or exercise of services, functions, powers or activities on a cooperative or contract basis among themselves or one for the other, and

WHEREAS, Section 119-n of the General Municipal Law defines the term "municipal corporation" for the purposes of Article 5-G as a county outside the city of New York, a city, a town, a village, a board of cooperative educational services, a fire district or a school district; and

WHEREAS, the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Participant") is a "municipal corporation" as defined above; and

WHEREAS, this Board wishes for this municipal corporation to become or remain a Participant pursuant to the Municipal Cooperation Agreement For Energy Purchasing Services dated the 1st day of May, 2005 (the "Agreement"), among municipal corporations collectively identified as the New York School and Municipal Energy Consortium ("NYSMEC") upon the terms of the Agreement and further wishes to authorize participation as an energy consumer as specified b

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board hereby determines that it is in the interests of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District to participate in the NYSMEC, and authorizes and directs Charles LaPrease, Fire District Commissioner to sign the Agreement/and or the Billing Schedule and Agreement for natural gas on its behalf; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Board authorizes the Administrative Participant (as defined in the Agreement) to prepare, advertise, disseminate and open bids pursuant to the General Municipal Law and to award, execute and deliver binding contracts on behalf of this Board for the purchase of natural gas delivered to the city gate of the local utility distribution company for the Participant's facility or facilities, on a firm basis, for this Participant to the lowest responsible bidder as is determined by the Administrative Participant at a price for such traditional commodity of natural gas to the city gate not to exceed ***\$,6450 per therm*** or for all in price not to exceed ***\$,7100 per therm*** to the burner tip, which would include line losses that are currently billed separately for a term of at least one year and no more than three years commencing May 1, 2026, and other terms and conditions, all as may be determined by the Administrative Participant, or to reject any or all such bids; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Participant agrees to advertise said bid as may be directed by the Administrative Participant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Participant authorizes receipt of bids and offers in electronic format pursuant to Section 103(1) of the General Municipal Law and other applicable law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers and employees of this Participant are authorized to execute such other confirming agreements, certificates and other documents and take such other actions as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN COOPERATIVE ENERGY PURCHASING SERVICE (NYSMEC) FOR ELECTRICITY

WHEREAS, Article 5-G of the New York State General Municipal Law authorizes municipal corporations to enter into cooperative agreements for the performance or exercise of services, functions, powers or activities on a cooperative or contract basis among themselves or one for the other, and

WHEREAS, Section 119-n of the General Municipal Law defines the term "municipal corporation" for the purposes of Article 5-G as a county outside the city of New York, a city, a town, a village, a board of cooperative educational services, a fire district or a school district; and

WHEREAS, the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "Participant") is a "municipal corporation" as defined above; and

WHEREAS, this Board wishes for this municipal corporation to become or remain a Participant pursuant to the Municipal Cooperation Agreement For Energy Purchasing Services dated the 1st day of May 2005 (the "Agreement"), among municipal corporations collectively identified as the New York School and Municipal Energy Consortium ("NYSMEC") upon the terms of the Agreement and further wishes to authorize participation as an energy consumer as specified below.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Board hereby determines that it is in the interests of the Belgium Cold Springs Fire District to participate in the NYSMEC, and authorizes and directs Charles LaPrease, Fire District Commissioner to sign the Agreement/and or the Billing Schedule and Agreement for electricity on its behalf; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Board authorizes the Administrative Participant (as defined in the Agreement) to prepare, advertise, disseminate and open bids pursuant to the General Municipal Law and to award, execute and deliver binding contracts on behalf of this Board for the purchase of electricity delivered to the delivery point of the local utility distribution company for the Participant's facility or facilities, on a firm basis, for this Participant to the lowest responsible bidder as is determined by the Administrative Participant at a price for such commodity electricity not to exceed ***\$,094 per kWh*** for traditional pass-through energy price or not to exceed ***\$,107 per kWh*** for a fixed price, which includes all current pass through charges that you get billed for separately from the ESCO's for a term of at least one year and no more than three years commencing May 1, 2026, and other terms and conditions, all as may be determined by the Administrative Participant, or to reject any or all such bids; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Participant agrees to advertise said bid as may be directed by the Administrative Participant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Participant authorizes receipt of bids and offers in electronic format pursuant to Section 103(1) of the General Municipal Law and other applicable law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers and employees of this Participant are authorized to execute such other confirming agreements, certificates and other documents and take such other actions as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Public comments:

- C. Curtis asked about the accountability of the career staff. Discussion. D. Natoli explained that they do have training hours that they have to maintain. The Chief's office will remind them to send out messages if shifts are not filled.

Executive session: C. LaPrease made the motion to go into executive session for the resume and employment history of an individual that may lead to their continued employment with the district and K. Thompson seconded the motion. Carried. 8:33 PM

Returned to open session at 8:49 PM

Meeting dates:

Commissioner's meeting –Monday July 21st at 7pm

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

K. Thompson made the motion to adjourn at 8:50PM and M. Chura seconded the motion. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Speach
District Secretary