

VILLAGE OF AVOCA
MINUTES FOR THE JOINT PUBLIC HEARING AND MEETING IN THE
CREATION OF THE AVOCA FIRE DISTRICT
SEPTEMBER 26, 2023

At 7:03 PM the Joint Public Hearing and Meetings of the Village of Avoca, Town of Avoca and Town of Wheeler was called to order.

Village of Avoca Board Members Present: Mayor Tyner, Trustees Gay, Rowe Smalt, Hubbard
Village Clerk / Treasurer Haar

Absent: Trustee Rodbourn

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

1. Public Hearing and Overview of the Proposed Fire District

Attorney Mark Butler gave an overview to the (3) municipal boards about his involvement with the creation of the new Avoca Fire District formation. A presentation is attached with all the details. Highlights of this presentation and public comments included:

- A. Assistant Fire Chief Randy Hammond spoke about the history of the Fire and Ambulance services for the Village of Avoca. Most current members are both ambulance and fire members. The department responds to an average of 100 calls per year. Jean Derick asked how many calls are for the Town of Wheeler and Assistant Chief Hammond said about 20.
- B. A required Public Announcement about this hearing was given to the three clerks for posting. The creation of the new fire district is actually a new municipality and will be regulated by the State of New York. Attorney Butler presented a map of the boundaries of the proposed new fire district, which was prepared by Steuben County (also in the attachment).
- C. The Town of Avoca will collect the tax payments of the new fire district. The Town of Avoca then immediately pays the taxes collected over to the fire district.
- D. On the second Tuesday in December of 2024, there will be a Fire Commissioners' election. For the first year of operation, the new commissioners will be appointed and will serve until December 31, 2024.

The floor was open for questions from the public.

- A. Brandi Miller asked about the equalization rate? Trustee Marcia Rowe Smalt asked if the change in equalization rate would change the numbers that have been

put in the budget. It was explained that the equation that is being presented has the equalization rate changing with any new information entered.

- B. A member of the audience asked the cost of the new pumper truck. Jean Derrick asked why the payment to the Village was so much less for the Town of Avoca than the new payment being presented by the fire district budget. Trustee Andrew Hubbard advised that regardless if it is the new fire district or with a new contract with the Village of Avoca, the cost for Wheeler would be raised considerably the next year even if the fire district wasn't created. This increase will be to pay for the new pumper / tanker already ordered by the village.
- C. Another question was raised about the maintenance on some of the fire vehicles. It was explained that E6 will become a rescue truck and the new fire truck being purchased will be a pumper / tanker truck.
- D. Mayor Tyner asked Mr. Butler to announce the new fire district commission members being proposed.

The names are: Kevin Kowalczyk, Bob Cooper, Willam McMahan, Glenn Neu, Kelly Rodbourn and Beverly Bellanger as Treasurer.

At this time, there were no further public comments. Avoca Town Supervisor Wightman asked if we could start the next meeting to vote on creating the new Avoca Fire District.

2. Meeting Adjournment

At 8:07 PM, a motion was made to closed to Public Hearing and move into a Village of Avoca Board of Trustees Meeting to act on the proposed Resolution.

1st – Trustee Rowe Smalt 2nd – Trustee Andy Hubbard All in Favor 4-0

VILLAGE OF AVOCA
MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING IN THE CREATION OF THE AVOCA
FIRE DITRICT
SEPTEMBER 26, 2023

At 8:07 PM the Special Meeting of the Village of Avoca Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Tyner.

Village of Avoca Board Members Present: Mayor Tyner, Trustees Gay, Rowe Smalt, Hubbard
Village Clerk / Treasurer Haar

Absent: Trustee Rodbourn

1. Creation of the proposed forming of the Avoca Fire District from the current Village of Avoca Fire Department

The resolution was presented for the formation of the Avoca Fire District beginning on January 1, 2024, see attached.

1st – Trustee Hubbard 2nd – Trustee Gay All in Favor 4-0

Mayor Tyner	Aye
Trustee Hubbard	Aye
Trustee Rowe Smalt	Aye
Trustee Gay	Aye
Trustee Rodbourn	Not Present

Mayor Tyner stated that he had spoken with Trustee Rodbourn and even though he was unable to be present for this meeting, he wished for it to be placed on the record that he would have voted “Aye”.

2. Other Business

Mayor Tyner spoke with the Board in regards to the interior walls and ceiling for the bathrooms being built at Memorial Park. The Mayor stated he met with Northeast Metal in Penn Yan, Ny and proposed the aluminum wall panels be installed in a light gray finish with the ceiling panels being done in the same in corrugated white. A brochure of the suggested panel colors was provided Discussion followed and the board moved for the Mayor to order the aluminum panels of the interior walls in light gray and the ceiling panels in white to be installed by the contractor.

3. Meeting Adjournment

At 8:27 PM, a motion was made to closed the Special Meeting of the Village of Avoca Board of Trustees Meeting.

1st – Trustee Hubbard 2nd – Trustee Gay All in Favor 4-0

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Haar, Village Clerk / Treasurer