

Garrison Fire District
1616 Route 9
Garrison, NY 10524

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of the
Board of Fire Commissioners

February 13, 2023

Attendees: Commissioner Lomonaco (LL), Commissioner Bohl (SB), Commissioner Brower (DB) Commissioner Reich (FR) and Commissioner Prentice (NP). Fire District Chief Jim Erickson (JE) and Assistant Fire Chief Wendy Heintz (WH), Garrison Volunteer Fire Company.

The summary of the meeting is as follows:

1. LL called the meeting to order at 7:03PM.
2. After the Pledge of Allegiance was said by all attendees, on a motion made by LL, which was seconded by DB, the 3 Commissioners who were present at that meeting (LL, DB and FR) voted "yay" to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2023 Organizational Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners for 2023.
3. On a motion made by SB, which was seconded by FR, the 4 Commissioners who were present at that meeting (LL, DB, FR and SB) voted "yay" to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2023 Special Meeting.
4. On a motion made by LL, which was seconded by FR, the 5 Commissioners present at this meeting voted "yay" to approve the Treasurer's Report prepared by Diana Hess (not in attendance) for the period 1/1/23 to 2/13/23.
5. JE made the Chief's Report, which on a motion by SB, which was in turn seconded by FR, was approved by all 5 commissioners present who voted "yay". (Copies of the Chief's Report and Incident Run Log report are attached). The Chief confirmed that a summary of Service Award Points for 2022 had been posted (copy also attached) and made several suggestions about establishing various sub-categories in the District's QuickBooks accounting system that would improve the clarity of our reporting.
6. WH made the Company Report. She reported that the work on the members' lounge and records and computer rooms is continuing and that significant progress has been made in updating and "right-filing" the information the Company retains in its files.
7. DB made the Correspondence report. He recommended that a proposal to maintain the exhaust system received recently be declined.
8. While there was no Apparatus Report, the Commissioners discussed the terms of the contract for the new pumper and asked NP to check with the vendor to clarify.
9. DB made the Buildings and Grounds Report. a. the stove at Station 2 needs work. b. the electric system at Station 1 needs checking because the siren does not function. c. the lighting system in the members' lounge also needs checking. DB received bids for landscaping and recommended that the District hire Brothers Corp at a cost of \$3080 to provide these services in 2023. On a

motion made by DB, which was seconded by NP, all 5 Commissioners voted “yay” to approve hiring Brothers to provide landscaping services.

10. Finance and Insurance: 1. Following a motion made by DB, which was seconded by NP, all 5 commissioners present voted “yay” to accept a bid from Nugent & Haeussler in the amount of \$10500 for auditing services . Two other bids were received, one lower in price and one higher. While the Nugent bid was not the low bid, the Commissioners chose to accept it because it would result in the best service for the District and lowest all-in cost. 2. NP reported that firefighter Pete Wilkie had received a workers compensation award from NYSIF in connection with his injuries that were sustained in the line of duty. 3. NP also reported that he will email our insurance broker again about setting up a meeting with them to discuss the details of our various policies.
11. Community Relations: Company member Jay Brenner is organizing a photo shoot for Company Officers and District Commissioners on Sunday February 19th from 12-4.
12. LOSAP: DB reported that he paid the LOSAP bill for administrative services.
13. Long Range Planning: LL requested all Commissioners attend the Long Range Planning meeting when a date for it has been established. FR suggested that the District consider hiring an engineering firm to help us make informed cost estimates in the planning process.
14. Grants: Nothing to report.
15. District Safety and Health: All members are up to date.
16. Web site: Nothing to report.
17. Policies and Procedures: Nothing to report.
18. Old Business: 1. Because of the bad condition of the road leading to the dry hydrant at the Rec Dept, JE reported that the Cold Spring Fire Company would be unwilling to risk its apparatus to draft water if asked to do so in a mutual aid situation. LL, FR and DB agreed to discuss this situation with representatives of the Town. 2. LL reported that the District’s Inspection Dinner would be held on March 25, 2023 at The Garrison. On a motion made by LL, which was seconded by FR, all 5 Commissioners present voted “yay” to approve the Inspection Dinner at a cost to the District not to exceed \$4500.
19. New Business: 1. WH introduced 2 prospective junior members of the GFVC: AJ Bagaria (age 16) and Thomas Marrison (age 14). After a brief discussion, on a motion by LL, which was seconded by NP, all 5 commissioners present voted “yay” to accept AJ and Thomas as junior members.2. FR informed the Commissioners of a new NYS law that will require taxing jurisdictions like the GFD to offer property tax exemptions to volunteer firefighters that meet certain requirements.
20. Public Comments: NONE
21. Presentation of Vouchers: DB made a motion that the District pay vouchers in the amount of \$38,265.47. SB seconded the motion. There were 5 “yays” and 0 “nays” so the motion carried.
22. Adjournment: On a motion by NP, which was seconded by DB, the Commissioners voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:41PM. The vote was 5 “yays” and 0 “nays” so the motion carried.
23. NEXT MEETING: MARCH 13, 2023 AT 7:00PM

Respectfully submitted, Nat Prentice, Fire Commissioner 845-661-8937