

Town of Watertown Fire District
Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2024

The March Monthly Meeting was called to order by Arthur Cooley at 6:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited by all.

Attendance:

Commissioners: Arthur Cooley, Michael Hanley and Warren Day

Absent: Meredith George and Brian Wilcox

Clerk/Treasurer: Jessica Alvarado

Deputy Clerk/treasurer: William Bamann

Chiefs: Fred Sourwine

District Clerk: Fred Sourwine

Guests: Wayne Scott, Linda Roof and Dave Roof

The floor was opened for public comment.

Linda Roof discussed with the Commissioners about the extra Ice Machine that takes up space at the Rec Hall and is no longer in use. Roof asked the Commissioners if they would consider selling the Ice Machine for \$200.00 to a citizen.

Commissioners discussed and determined that the extra ice machine should be placed at Station 3.

Upon a motion made by Warren Day seconded by Arthur Cooley, and after a discussion held, the following resolution was approved.

Be it resolved that the fire commissioners approved placing the extra ice machine over to Station 3.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recuse
Arthur Cooley	X				
Michael Hanley	X				
Meredith George				X	
Warren Day	X				
Brian Wilcox				X	

The Motion carried.

Wayne Scott Sr. discussed with the fire commissioners the time spent getting the rec hall dates approved by Commissioners.

Fred Sourwine, District Manager stated that David Roof is capable of making decisions on renting the rec hall and if necessary, he will contact fire commissioners directly.

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Upon a motion made by Arthur Cooley seconded by Warren Day, and after a discussion held, the following resolution was approved.

Be it resolved that the fire commissioners approved David Roof to make the decision to rent the rec hall and if necessary, he will contact fire commissioners directly.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent		Recuse
Arthur Cooley	X					
Michael Hanley	X					
Meredith George				X		
Warren Day	X					
Brian Wilcox				X		

The Motion carried.

David Roof asked the fire Commissioners to consider raising the rec hall rent from \$200.00 to \$300.00. Roof also mentioned that with the increase perhaps \$50.00 could go to the person bartending (if applicable). Commissioners will investigate insurance(liability) to see who would be covered.

Upon a motion made by Arthur Cooley seconded by Mike Hanley, and after a discussion held, the following was approved.

Be it resolved that the fire commissioners approved the increase of \$300.00 to rent the rec hall.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent		Recuse
Arthur Cooley	X					
Michael Hanley	X					
Meredith George				X		
Warren Day	X					
Brian Wilcox				X		

The Motion carried.

The floor was closed to public comments at 6:23pm.

Minutes: The minutes of the February meeting were provided for review/approval.

Upon a motion made by Arthur Cooley, seconded by Warren Day, and after a discussion held, the following resolution was approved:

Be it resolved that the aforementioned minutes from the February meeting is approved.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent		Recuse
Arthur Cooley	X					
Michael Hanley	X					
Meredith George				X		
Warren Day	X					
Brian Wilcox				X		

The Motion carried.

New Facebook Page: Upon a motion made by Art Cooley, seconded by Warren Day, and after a discussion held, the following resolution was approved.

Be it resolved that the fire commissioners approved creating a Facebook page for the fire district.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent		Recuse
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Arthur Cooley	X				
Michael Hanley	X				
Meredith George				X	
Warren Day	X				
Brian Wilcox				X	

Bills and Treasurer’s Report: Clerk-Treasurer Alvarado presented the bills (see attached Abstract of Bills), financial reports, and Bank Statements. The Commissioners were reminded to review and sign the Abstract of Bills as well as sign the Vouchers for payment. One Commissioner also needs to review and sign/initial the account reconciliations and Bank Statements.

Upon a motion made by Arthur Cooley, seconded by, and after a discussion held, the following resolution was approved:

Be it resolved that the bills presented on the attached abstract of bills be paid.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recuse
Arthur Cooley	X				
Michael Hanley	X				
Meredith George				X	
Warren Day	X				
Brian Wilcox				X	

The Motion carried.

Chief’s Report: See Chief’s Report attached.

Old Business: Update Procurement policy for review.
Update on Solar Panel grants.

Chairman Arthur Cooley discussed putting up a two-sided sign on the Spring Valley Dr; stating Town of Watertown Fire District/Department. District Manager, Fred Sourwine will get examples to show the Fire Commissioners.

Penflex: Upon a motion made by Arthur Cooley, seconded by Warren Day, and after a discussion held, the following resolution was approved:

Be it resolved that the fire commissioners approved allowing payment deferrals in the Town of Watertown Fire District Service Award Program.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recuse
Arthur Cooley	X				
Michael Hanley	X				
Meredith George				X	
Warren Day	X				
Brian Wilcox				X	

The Motion carried.

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LOSAP: Upon a motion made by Mike Hanley, seconded by Arthur Cooley, and after a discussion held, the following resolution was approved.

Be it resolved that the fire commissioners approved the maximum annual contribution for defined contribution length of service award programs (LOSAP) increased to \$1200.00.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recuse
Arthur Cooley	X				
Michael Hanley	X				
Meredith George				X	
Warren Day	X				
Brian Wilcox				X	

The Motion carried.

Truck Reserve to pay for Chief Vehicle: Upon a motion made by Arthur Cooley, seconded by Mike Hanley, and after a discussion held, the following resolution was approved.

Be it resolved the fire commissioners authorizes the expenditure for the truck reserve to pay for the chief vehicle, duly adopted the following resolution, subject to permissive referendum.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recuse
Arthur Cooley	X				
Michael Hanley	X				
Meredith George				X	
Warren Day	X				
Brian Wilcox				X	

The Motion Carried.

Rescue Pumper: Upon a motion made by Arthur Cooley, seconded by Mike Hanley, and after a discussion held, the following resolution was approved.

Be it resolved the fire commissioners authorize the expenditure for the purchase of a rescue pumper not to exceed 1.8 million dollars.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recuse
Arthur Cooley	X				
Michael Hanley	X				
Meredith George				X	
Warren Day	X				
Brian Wilcox				X	

The Motion carried.

Upon a motion made by Arthur Cooley, seconded by Mike Hanley, and after a discussion held, the following resolution was approved:

Be it resolved that this meeting is adjourned.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recuse
Arthur Cooley	X				
Michael Hanley	X				
Meredith George				X	
Warren Day	X				
Brian Wilcox				X	

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm. The Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Jessy Alvarado, Clerk-Treasurer & William L. Bamann Deputy