

Town of Watertown Fire District  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
May 18, 2023

The May Monthly Meeting was called to order by Arthur Cooley at 6:11 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. Meredith George and Brian Wilcox were excused due to work commitments.

Secretary/Treasurer: William Bamann

Chiefs: Assistant Chiefs Ronald Wareham and Jason Lee.

District Employees: Fred Sourwine

Guests: Chief Matt Timerman and Assistant to the City Manager Logan Eddy from the City of Watertown

The floor was opened for public comment. Chief Timerman and Mr. Eddy addressed the Board to tell them that the City would consider their request to provide costs to respond to Town of Watertown calls if a written request was made or if the Board made a presentation to the City Council or to the Mayor. The Board thanked them for their cooperation and may consider it in the future.

There being no one else who wanted to speak, the floor was closed for public comments.

**Communications:** Emails were sent to all the Board members regarding upcoming training and the Association of Fire Districts newsletters.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the April Monthly meeting were provided via email 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 April meeting are 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.

Town of Watertown Fire District  
 Monthly Meeting Minutes  
 May 18, 2023

**Bills and Treasurer's Report:** Secretary-Treasurer Bamann 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 all the Vouchers for payment. One Commissioner also needs to review and sign/initial the account reconciliations and Bank Statements.

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

*Be it resolved that the bills presented be paid.*

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

The Motion carried.

Secretary-Treasurer Bamann presented the Actual versus Budget report to date as well as the Bank Account balances (attached). The details of the New York State budget language for training stipends for volunteer firefighters was also presented (attached). He then presented a draft budget for 2024 (attached) to stimulate the Board to start thinking about next year's budget as the budget process will start soon and there's several new issues to consider.

**Chief's Report:** See Chief's Report attached.

Personnel changes in the fire department were also presented (attached).

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

*Be it resolved that Justyn St. Croix is approved as an Associate member of the Fire Department.*

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

The Motion carried.

Town of Watertown Fire District  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
May 18, 2023

Employee's Report: See District Manager's report.

Committee Reports: None.

Old Business:

The Fire District Manager and Firefighter Job Descriptions are still awaiting approval.

The new HR policy and Union Negotiations are on hold until the disposition of the new job descriptions is finalized.

The issue of the Recreation Hall rental fees and the resolution (Resolution 2023-004) from last month were discussed. The Fire Department's Rec Hall committee met with two Commissioners and presented their issues with the resolution. The resolution is too restrictive and is resulting in potential rentals backing out due to the new costs. A list of other hall rental costs in the area was presented for comparison (attached). The Rec Hall Committee asked the Board to reconsider the Resolution and said it would get back to the Board with their recommendations after more research.

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

*Be it resolved that Resolution 2023-004 is rescinded and the Rec Hall Committee may charge the previous rates established.*

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 Business: None.

Town of Watertown Fire District  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
May 18, 2023

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 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 7:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



William L. Bamann  
Secretary-Treasurer