

Verdoy Fire District

988 Troy Schenectady Road
Latham, New York 12110
Phone (518) 785-7291
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BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Present were:

Commissioners Germaine (PG)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Counselor Terry Hannigan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	President Conroy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Russell (PR)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Counselor Tim Hannigan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Secretary Vroman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Bentley (PB)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chief Politis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Treasurer Scimeca	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Meservey (BM)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chief DiNovo	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner _____ ()	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chief Carmichael	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call to Order:

- The November 21, 2019 Commissioners Meeting of the Verdoy Fire District was called to order at the Verdoy Fire Department by Commissioner Russell at 7:34PM.

Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence

Approve Minutes:

- Motion by **BM** and 2nd by **PG** to approve and waive the reading of minutes of the regular meeting held on October 24, 2019.

Correspondence:

- Fire Commissioner Training Available – 2020 Dates
- Notice from Congressman Paul Tonko's office in regard to the FY19 Assistance to Firefighters Programs
- FOIL request from Gregory V. Serio
- Received five Notices' of Intent for the 3 vacant Commissioner positions

Secretary:

- Date for the 2020 Organizational Meeting will be Thursday, January 2nd, 2020 at 7pm.

Treasurer's Report:

- As of October 31, 2019, District Funds totaled **\$867,925.80**; Motion by **BM**, 2nd by **PB**.
- Motion by **BM**, 2nd by **PG** to approve Dennis Riley as Deputy Treasurer at a rate of \$25.00/hr. for training purposes through December 31, 2019.

Payment of Bills:

- Motion by **PG**, 2nd by **BM** the Board approved payment of the vouchers as audited.
 - Add bill from Professional Service Industries, Inc for Asbestos testing at the hotel under account code .4042

Commissioners:**Germaine**

- Submitted letter of resignation for December 31, 2019 at 2359.

Russell

- Property Maintenance
 - Elevator Testing → There is a new company doing the inspection and that has been completed
 - Roof Ladder → Working on closing this project out; finishing up the paperwork
- Burn Pod
 - Asked Chief DiNovo what was going on with it, buttoned it up for winter
- Red Car
 - Discussion was had with the Chief and a resolution has been made to change the designator from EMS 11 to Squad 11; Additional changes include adding brackets and changing the radio identifier. Changing name to better represent the future of the vehicle and the department. Trying to broaden the use of the vehicle. The EMS program is important here. We are getting more and more EMS calls and we can't make it to all of them. Unknown of what is going to happen in 2020. We touch a lot more people in our district doing EMT work then responding to alarm drops.
- Incident Safety Officer Program
 - The policy was discussed, and everyone came to the same conclusion that the current policy is outdated. Now because of different changes in personnel and vehicles and different ways of doing things, it was determined that an update was needed to the policy. Instead of trying to push something through in a hurry, Chief DiNovo has been asked to look at the current policy and to come up with something for the new Board of Commissioners to put into place in January 2020.
- Commissioner Badge for Brian Meservey – *see new business*

Bentley

- Brief discussion on EMS program. Doesn't feel that it has been supported. There is a particular chief who doesn't even have an active CPR card. Current 61 Chief has done nothing but alienate the two top responders.
- Lengthy discussion on the star of life on the side of the EMS vehicle.
- Is not going to be a part of a department that does not support and EMS program and will be going to one that does.

Meservey

- Brief discussion on a laptop for the new District Treasurer and required programs
- Will reach out to Tech II to get a login/password for new Treasurer

Attorney Hannigan:

- The District is working on the FOIL report and will assist the Secretary in preparing the final response
- Lengthy discussion on the Commissioner election process and how those who intend on running need to identify what office they are running for. The upcoming election is unique in that there are 3 open spots, which doesn't happen that often

- Need to work on getting the required forms into OFPC stating there were no cancer claims for 2019. Needs to be submitted by December 1, 2019. Then January 1st a list of current active firefighters needs to be submitted
- Commissioner Russell asked how to fill the additional two vacant Commissioner positions at the beginning of the year. Attorney mentioned that the new Board would have to appoint the two vacant positions
- Commissioner Meservey requested proof of residency of one of the individuals who is running for Commissioner in the upcoming elections; does not feel that one of the candidates meets the requirements. Attorney mentioned that a person can have more than one residence. It comes down to a factual determination that a judge would decide. Feels that the inquiry has to be done after the election, as there is not enough time to do prior to the election. Case in western NY where an individual had two residences and was able to establish that. Will look into this and provide more specific answers.

President Conroy:

- No Report; not present

Public:

- Dave Meservey was present and had a brief discussion on the EMS program and the EMS car. He would like to see the medical program continue as well.
 - Commissioner Bentley mentioned that there is a Chief who started Colonie EMS so everyone is going to take what he says as gospel. He has been telling people that no one can drive the car unless they are qualified as an EMT. That is incorrect, it is all about how you represent yourself. If you were flagged down and were not an EMT, then you could advise the person that you are not an EMT, but you will call for help.

Report of Chiefs:

- **Chief Politis**
 - **SCBA implementation**
 - New Scott SCBAs are in and we are in the process of meeting with and orienting “face or face” all interior firefighters. New SCBAs will also require that we adjust all of our apparatus SCBA brackets. As soon as we get all interior firefighters qualified, we will place the new SCBAs in service.
 - **Annual Required Training**
 - The annual required training is; Bailout proficiency OSHA requirements New SCBA qualification Harassment/Discrimination Training Captain Santore is preparing a matrix to let all members know where they stand.

This week I'll be sending out Target Safety Assignments for members to obtain any missing requirements they couldn't accomplish during drills/meetings.

- **Safety Program**
 - Past Commissioner Friedman and I had made significant revisions to the safety program. The revisions were intended to have a program that was achievable. Given an impending change in operational leadership, my

recommendation is to table any action on the program until January. (See attached draft) Alternatively, Chief DiNovo may opt to begin revising the program and be ready with implementation in January 2020.

- **Utility Vehicle**
 - Chiefs have met with Commissioners Meservey and Russell and have decided on the following direction for the vehicle;
 - Star of life and EMS 11 identifier will be removed from the vehicle
 - The vehicle will be re-identified as Squad 11 as it replaced Squad 11
 - It needs to have the following work done on it;
 - Radio needs to be re-flashed as Squad 11
 - SCBA and Fire extinguisher brackets need to be installed
- **Chief DiNovo**
 - No Report
- **Chief Carmichael**
 - Asbestos report came back for the hotel and it was negative. The Bill was added to the abstract.

Unfinished Business:

- NONE

New Business:

RESOLUTION 19-36 TO ADOPT THE STATE OF NEW YORK DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN. WHEREAS, THE VERDOY FIRE DISTRICT WISHES TO ADOPT THE DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK AND OTHER PARTICIPATING PUBLIC JURISDICTIONS (THE "PLAN") FOR VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION OF ALL ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES; AND WHEREAS, THE VERDOY FIRE DISTRICT IS A LOCAL PUBLIC EMPLOYER ELIGIBLE TO ADOPT THE PLAN PURSUANT TO SECTION 5 OF THE STATE FINANCE LAW AND WHEREAS, THE VERDOY FIRE DISTRICT HAS REVIEWED THE PLAN ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 457 OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE AND SECTION 5 OF THE STATE FINANCE LAW OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK; AND WHEREAS, THE PURPOSE OF THE PLAN IS TO ENCOURAGE EMPLOYEES TO MAKE AND CONTINUE CAREERS WITH THE VERDOY FIRE DISTRICT BY PROVIDING ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES WITH A CONVENIENT AND TAX-FAVORED METHOD OF SAVING ON A REGULAR AND LONG-TERM BASIS AND THEREBY PROVIDE FOR THEIR RETIREMENT.

- Motion: **PG**
- Second: **PB**
- **VOTE: PR – Yay, BM – Yay, PG – Yay, PB – Yay; motion passed**
- Motion by **PB**, 2nd by **PG**, to appoint the following inspectors for the annual District Elections to be held on December 10, 2019 from 6pm to 9pm and authorize the payment of \$35:
 - Chair: Richard Nash
 - Election Inspector: Russ Santore

- Election Inspector: Gail Friedman
- Alternate: Evan Ashley
- Alternate: Kevin Rose
- Motion by **BM**, 2nd by **PG**, to spend up to **\$500.00** under account code **A104.3** to make the necessary changes to the EMS 11/ Squad 11 SUV to include removing the star of life, EMS 11 identifier, re-identify the vehicle as Squad 11, have the radio re-flashed as Squad 11, and install SCBA and Fire Extinguisher brackets to the back of the vehicle.
- Motion by **PB**, 2nd by **PG**, to spend up to **\$1,000.00** under account code **.401** to purchase a laptop for the new District Treasurer to include installing required programs.
- Motion by **PG**, 2nd by **PB** to spend up to **\$55.00** under account code **.4271** to purchase a Commissioner Badge for Brian Meservey.
- Paul Bentley submitted his letter of resignation as Commissioner at the conclusion of the meeting and it is effective immediately.

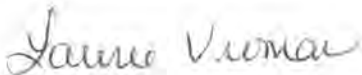
Adjournment:

- Motion made by **PG**, with a second from **PB**, to adjourn the meeting at **8:37PM**. *All in favor, motion carried.*

2019 Meeting Schedule *(All meetings begin at 7:00pm unless otherwise noted):*

- December 10 (Commissioner Elections)
- December 19 (Regular Meeting)

Respectfully submitted,



Laurie Vroman
Secretary, Verdoy Fire District