Highland Fire District

Page 15

Regular Meeting March 9, 2021 7:00 PM St 1

Commissioners:	Stephen DiLorenzo	(PRESENT)
	Benjamin Bragg	(ABSENT)
	Christian Erichsen	(PRESENT)
	John Fraino	(PRESENT)
	Alan Barone	(PRESENT)
Secretary/Treasurer	James Passikoff	(PRESENT)
District Clerk	Denise A. Holzberger	(PRESENT)
Chief	Peter Miller	(PRESENT)

At 7:00 Pm, Chairman Dilorenzo called the regular meeting to order, led the salute to the flag, and called for a moment of silence for fallen firefighters.

1. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Dilorenzo asked for a motion the approve the minutes of January 6, 2021 re-Organizational meeting and January 6, 2021 regular meeting and February 9, 2021 regular meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner John Fraino moved to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2021 Organizational meeting, meeting, seconded by Commissioner Alan Barone. VOTE: 4 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 1 ABSENT Motion was carried.

MOTION: Commissioner John Fraino moved to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2021 Regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Alan Barone.
VOTE: 4 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 1 ABSENT
Motion was carried.

MOTION: Commissioner Chris Erichsen moved to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2021 Regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Alan Barone.
 VOTE: 4 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 1 ABSENT
 Motion was carried.

2. Authorization to pay Bills:

Chairman DiLorenzo asked for a motion to authorize payment of the bills as reviewed on March 8, 2021 by Commissioners Fraino and Barone and Chief Miller. Abstract of bills total is \$82309.58 for 2/10/21-3/9/2021.

There was discussion regarding the bill for T-shirts. Chief Miller explained that was for our incentive programs. Also, Verizon cell bill is high; Commissioner Erichsen to look into other plans.

MOTION: Commissioner John Fraino moved to authorize payment of the bills totaling \$82309.58, seconded by Commissioner Chris Erichsen. VOTE: 4 YES 0 No 0 Abstain 1 ABSENT Motion was carried.

3. Correspondence- nothing to report.

Chairman DiLorenzo dispensed with the normal order of business to hear Phil DeAngelo's report on our LOSAP funding. Phil DeAngelo joined via zoom. Phil DeAngelo stated that the markets have been good; tech became over-values and there has been a sell-off of large cap growth. Large cap has outperformed in the Dow in the last 2 Years. Keeping pace with the s & P 500 with half exposure our bond portfolio is holding; we are in good shape. Chairman DiLorenzo asked if the \$1.9 billion bail our going to affect us. Fed Chairman is not going to raise rates. Europe has a large infrastructure response. Rates will depend on how money is spent. Stimulus package will be effective . A change in investments to higher cash value stocks . S & P Return 500 should return 6-7% this year. The Board thanked Phil for his update.

4. New Membership- none.

5. Committee Reports: Buildings & Grounds Station1- Commissioners Bragg and Barone

Storage container- pending warmer weather for painting.

<u>Hot Water</u>-no hot water in the building right now; Taylor plumbing working on replacing a circuit board.

Roof Top Unit - replaced

<u>MCS</u>- component needs to be changed to enable the Police to monitor our outside cameras. Cost would be \$1800.00.

<u>Sanding-</u> ST 1 and 2 parking lots by Town. Town highway Department sanded parking lots for . We should send a note of thanks to the Highway department

Buildings & Grounds Station 2 – Commissioners Erichsen and Fraino

Nothing to report.

Sale of 20 and 30- Chief Miller has spoken to Brindlee; 2 of the same truck could prove to be an advantage in the selling process. Chief has blueprints and stripper for 20 and drawing of 30.

7. Insurance/Workers Compensation

Commissioner Alan Barone stated that for a nominal fee our accidental benefit could be raised from \$150,000 to \$200,000. We are in good shape with insurance for our apparatus. Commissioner Fraino stated we need the size and age of the tanks at St.2. Underwriters may want to inspect. Ladder and pumpers have been updated last year.

Group Term Life- \$25,000 for under age 70. At 70 life insurance is halved to \$12,500.

8 Physical Fitness – nothing to report

9. Ulster County Fire District Association- Commissioners Bragg, DiLorenzo

9/16/2021 at Highland Fire District

10. Service Awards- 2020 LOSAP Census is ready to send.

February 2021 Activity posted March 2, 2021

11. Treasurer's Report- Treasurer Passikoff discussed the January and February 2021 Financial Report.

<u>Annual Update Document</u>- Treasurer will send to Board prior to Board for approval prior to sending to OSC. Extension has been filed until May 1, 2021

12. Public Comment-

AC Mike Gaffney requested a letter of support for his candidacy for Director of Emergency Services. The Board agreed to compose and send a letter.

HHCo.#1 – President Jim Balint stated Elections would be held on April 6, 2021.

13. Chief's Report- Chief Miller reported the following:

<u>February 28, 2021 OSHA</u>- We had a situation during OSHA's afternoon session of an individual testing positive to a Covid test . He left the firehouse immediately. The Officers and Commissioners discussed the situation and determined hat a cautious response was best and stopped the OSHA Class. The third group was not exposed. It was determined that there just an incidental exposure.

Jim Balint filed a form with NYS not the Ulster county Health Department and his place of work permitted him to continue working and NYS cleared him. Ulster county DOH said he should quarantine.

Commissioner Alan Barone asked who did the contact tracing. Assistant chief stated if Ulster county calls the individual they must quarantine.

Note: OSHA will be re-scheduled for March 29, 2021 (For Members who need to complete only)

<u>Physical Exams</u>- Chief Miller explained we are working on another vendor for physical exams; cost should be \$130 less than what we were paying before.

<u>Gear Retrieval</u>- from past members. A Police report must be supplied to our insurance in order to process a claim.

Department Election- April 6, 2021

14. Old Business-

Police Department Lease- Commissioners Fraino and Barone

15. New Business-

Storage rooms- doors to be installed and then will be ready for use

<u>Administrative Assistant</u>- no issues with using a staffing agency . Need to notify civil service. Chief and Commissioners to work on duties.

MOTION: Commissioner Alan Barone moved to authorize going forward with the position of Administrative Assistant, seconded by Commissioner John Fraino.
VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent
Motion carried unan.

Upgrade for Cameras- cost is \$1800 for MCS to do this.

MOTION: Commissioner Alan Barone moved to authorize the upgrade to our cameras at a cost of \$1800 to be done by MCS, seconded by Commissioner John Fraino. VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent Motion carried unan.

LOSAP Funding

MOTION: Commissioner John Fraino moved to authorize \$100,000.00 be transferred to our LOSAP Fund seconded by Commissioner Alan Barone. VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent Motion carried unan.

Group Term Life Insurance- further information is needed regarding rates for 70 and older.; Chairman to talk to our broker and forward to Board members.

16 Adjournment-

MOTION: There being no further business, Commissioner Fraino moved to adjourn at 8:55 PM, Seconded by Commissioner Alan Barone. VOTE: 4 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 1 Absent Motion carried unan.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise A. Holzberger, District Clerk

APPROVED BOFC mtg 4/13/2021