

**NORTH GREECE FIRE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
1766 Latta Road Station #1  
7/14/2020**

**PRESENT:** Chairman T. Emerson, Commissioners Alan DeCarlo, M. Beaty, M. MacKenzie, B. Rickman; Treasurer W. Bedford, Secretary Kari Dutton, Administrator T. Gretzinger, Fire Chief S. DeRosa, Atty. R. DiRaddo

**ABSENT:**

**PUBLIC:** able to listen through our website on YouTube.

Chairman called the regular meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and noted the fire exits. The opening of the meeting was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for our departed members.

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- Local state, county and national organizations would recommend not to have public meetings. This may change by the next meeting. The public can leave a comment or concern at [info@northgreecefd.com](mailto:info@northgreecefd.com).
  - There is no need to change the door code at station 2 at this time.
  - July birthdays were mentioned: K. Preston, Mike MacKenzie and Walt Bedford.

**MOTION BY** Commissioner M. Beaty, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner A. DeCarlo, To approve the regular 6/9/2020 meeting minutes.

*M. Beaty-yes, A. DeCarlo-yes, T. Emerson -yes, M. MacKenzie – yes, W. Rickman - yes Carried*

**MOTION BY** Commissioner M. MacKenzie, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner M. Beaty, To approve the regular 6/23/2020 meeting minutes.

*M. Beaty-yes, A. DeCarlo-yes, T. Emerson -yes, M. MacKenzie – yes, W. Rickman - yes Carried*

**Treasurer W. Bedford**

- Treasurer Bedford read the monthly financial report, detailing receipts, disbursements, exception report, budget summary, grants, and status of permissive referendums. Financial report appended to minutes.
- A new Greece Central School District transportation administrator found two invoices dating back to late 2018 and sent them to North Greece for payment. A discussion ensued regarding two Sunoco invoices included in the abstract received by the GCSD in final quarter 2018 and forwarded to the NGFD July 2020. Past practice has been when the amount of fuel (diesel or unleaded) reaches a certain low limit, BC Knapp and Treasurer Bedford are notified, and when a tank containing that fuel is low, a load of up to 10K is then called into Sunoco and the requested fuel is deposited. NGFD is credited with the deposit (similar to a debit card) and the invoice is sent to and has NGFD listed as the purchaser. The GCSD for some reason hung onto the invoice without payment. Research conducted by BC Knapp, Treasurer Bedford and Chief DeRosa determined that the diesel was indeed ordered by NGFD as the diesel was low, at the same time there was 6K of unleaded still in the tanks, therefore unleaded was not needed. It appears the GCSD ordered the unleaded and both were delivered in the same time frame and both the unleaded and diesel invoices were sent to the GCSD. The unleaded is still under investigation. The BOFC approved payment of the diesel invoice. After the meeting it has been determined that the unleaded was indeed the responsibility of the GCSD, therefore no action on behalf of NGFD is necessary.
- The treasurer has begun working on our budget. He needs information. Final assessments for 2020 just came out. The tax cap is at 1.56%. The growth factor has not been released yet. It looks like a \$900,000 increase due to personnel being added. We should be ready to start working on this at the next meeting.

**MOTION BY** Commissioner A. DeCarlo, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner M. Beaty, To approve the monthly financial report as submitted by Treasurer Bedford.

*M. Beaty-yes, A. DeCarlo-yes, T. Emerson -yes, M. MacKenzie – yes, W. Rickman - yes Carried*

**MOTION BY** Commissioner M. MacKenzie, 2nd by Commissioner M. Beaty, To resolve to approve payment of voucher nos. 5675-5706 totaling \$42,037.04 as submitted by Treasurer Bedford and audited by the Board of Fire Commissioners on 7/14/2020.

*M. Beaty-yes, A. DeCarlo-yes, T. Emerson -yes, M. MacKenzie – yes, W. Rickman - yes Carried*

*There was no correspondence of note received this month.*

**Secretary K. Dutton**

- The need for a future (5-year) plan was brought up.

**Fire Chief S. DeRosa**

- 1,570 calls YTD, 51% EMS.
- Repeaters for the trunk radio system will be programmed this coming Thursday and Friday.
- North Greece will be slowly converting to the trunk radio system on August 1<sup>st</sup>. This transition will be limited to single unit responses for at least 1-month. The County is planning on a full cutover sometime in the coming few months but no definitive date yet. Good news on the new transmitter, all 14 locations that had no signal are fully functional. The Chief was thanked by Commissioner MacKenzie for all of his help in this area.
- Request Board permission to modify the spending for the purchase of the 15 fire police portable radios, shoulder mics and chargers. The actual estimate came in at \$49,408.80. The previous motion was for \$46,000. The price difference reflects programming and chargers which were not put into the first quote from Motorola. There are ample funds in the communications account to address the amended price.

**2020.5000.2.07.14**

**MOTION BY** Commissioner A. DeCarlo, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner M. MacKenzie , To amend motion 2020.5000.1.06.23, to state a cost not to exceed \$49,404.80 for the fire police radios.

*M. Beaty-yes, A. DeCarlo-yes, T. Emerson -yes, M. MacKenzie – yes, W. Rickman - yes Carried*

**2020.6000.2.07.14**

**MOTION BY** Commissioner A. DeCarlo, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner T. Emerson, To approve the purchases of replacement Hurst E-Tools on Quint 270 with a cost not to exceed \$30,500 of budgeted money from the equipment account.

*M. Beaty-yes, A. DeCarlo-yes, T. Emerson -yes, M. MacKenzie – yes, W. Rickman - yes Carried*

- There was a discussion regarding renewing a new contract with the county for the pre-emption system which expires the end of September. Our attorney is going to contact the county engineer Jim Pond. Ken Preston will look for the national safety study of these systems.
- Fire stations continue to re-open and sign in sheets and screening and still being done for the career staff.
- The Chief Officers did prepare the food for last night's Fire Department Meeting, on behalf of the fire district.
- The Annual Awards Ceremony at Ridgemont Country Club has been postponed.
- The town memorial in October has been cancelled.
- Applications for new hires is going well. Certified civil service list received today. Interviewed 5 potential candidates today.

**Attorney R. DiRaddo**

- The Manitou Road property is closing tomorrow. The money will come as soon as the property goes on record.
- Public hearings: When looking at the 34 executive orders it appears that you must have a good viable option for public comment. This room would work well for such a forum.
- We've had a good response to online training.

**Deputy Treasurer 2 K. Preston**

- AFDSNY webinars have been a huge success. We are continuing to educate those who normally come to conference, but small districts which didn't have funds can now participate in the free webinars.
- There will be a special board of directors meeting on July 30<sup>th</sup>. We will discuss cancelling the fall conference. Some of those programs will be placed online during the colder months.
- The State Chiefs, the District and FASNY met with OFPC by Zoom to talk about laws passed over the last year: the volunteer cancer bill, the fire apparatus lemon law and the chief officers qualifications. Close to 3 hours was spent and their legal staff dominated the conversation. We are now waiting for OFPC to come back with written information. It is a slow process. They are not very willing to change from the original writing.
- This Friday and Saturday Ken will be in Albany. It is the first time the 3 presidents from three associations will be discussing the future of fire districts. They recognize that what has worked for decades doesn't anymore. They will be discussing the feasibility of coming together as one voice.

**IT/Deputy Treasurer A. Hinds-no report**

**Administrator T. Gretzinger**

- LOSAP system and COVID legislation has passed allowing a board to adopt an amendment to their point system to allow awarding up to 5 points per month while the executive order was in place to those members affected. It would be a board resolution but doesn't need voter approval. It will cost \$300 for Penflex to amend our plan. We had taken care of awarding the points that they would have been awarded but the law doesn't allow this. We will need to adopt an additional point category, but we have until April to do so. Penflex prepares a resolution for Ray to review. We will have to look at points awarded at the time that members weren't allowed to respond. She will put together more info. Ray would like to see the Chiefs orders. How to go backward needs to be considered, maybe in the resolution itself. We gave active people point credit for what they would ordinarily be toned out for which was our call based on some of the rules in the executive order. Ray needs more information.

**Commissioner M. Beaty**

**2020.1000.3.07.14**

**MOTION BY** Commissioner M. MacKenzie, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner T. Emerson, To spend up to \$4,000 for sprinkler inspections for firehouses and training grounds by Empire Fire Protection Systems. This is required every 5 years for codes.

*M. Beaty-yes, A. DeCarlo-yes, T. Emerson -yes, M. MacKenzie – yes, W. Rickman - yes Carried*

**2020.1000.4.07.14**

**MOTION BY** Commissioner M. Beaty, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner B. Rickman, to install 3 drops for the Plymo-vent system to switch from vacuum to magnetic for \$8,500.

*M. Beaty-yes, A. DeCarlo-yes, T. Emerson -yes, M. MacKenzie – yes, W. Rickman - yes Carried*

- Working on finalizing a RFP to be sent out for paving, concrete, milling of this station (1) for appx. \$150,000. We will need a permissive to spend out of that fund to cover the cost. Our attorney recommended a public bid not a RFP. All the detail needs to be in the notice. Walt recommends 1 person responsible for the project. Can hire a construction manager. Most engineering firms hire contractors. A Construction manager may be a good first step to supply us with specs. Atty. DiRaddo will contact a manager he knows to consult.
- Comm. Beaty is interested in attending the Symposium in the Sun if it's being held.

**Commissioner A. DeCarlo -No Report**

**Commissioner M. MacKenzie**

- The MCFDOA is still planning on meeting on Sept. 17th.

**Commissioner B. Rickman**

**Chairman T. Emerson**

- We do need to start strategic planning.

**MOTION BY** Commissioner M. MacKenzie, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner A. DeCarlo, To resolve to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:15 p.m.

*M. Beaty-yes, A. DeCarlo-yes, T. Emerson -yes, M. MacKenzie – yes, W. Rickman - yes Carried*

Respectfully submitted,

Kari Dutton, Secretary  
Board of Fire Commissioners  
North Greece Fire District