

**NORTH GREECE FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
1766 Latta Road Station #2
4/23/2024**

PRESENT: Chairman M. Stolte, Commissioners W. Bedford, J. Maxwell, W. Rickman; Treasurer/IT A. Hinds, Secretary Kari Dutton, Administrator T. Gretzinger, Deputy Chief J. Lissow, Fire Chief K. Battaglia

ABSENT: Commissioner M. Beaty (listened by video)

PUBLIC: Joe Camiolo

The Chairman called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 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.

PUBLIC TOPICS

Chairman read the District's established procedure for handling public topics set forth on each agenda as follows:

- A. The Board will now conduct the public comment period for those who have notified the Secretary no later than 15 minutes prior to this meeting.
- B. When the Chairman calls upon you, please stand and state your name/address and what you want the Board to consider.
- C. As the Board conducts essential business at this meeting, a 3-minute rule on all public comments has been established. Please do not expect the Board to answer any questions at this time.
- D. Once the public comment period ends the public will not be permitted to comment.

Joe Camiolo addressed the board stating that he gave options for station 3 locations to the chairman. He encouraged the board to research other properties before rebuilding at the current location.

Treasurer A. Hinds

MOTION BY Commissioner J. Maxwell, 2nd by Commissioner W. Rickman, To resolve to approve payment of bills listed on the abstract of vouchers totaling \$51,666.58 as submitted by Treasurer Hinds and audited by the Board of Fire Commissioners on 4/23/2024.

*M. Beaty – absent, W. Bedford – yes, J. Maxwell – yes, W. Rickman – yes, M. Stolte – yes
Carried*

- The board was thanked for sending the treasurer to the GFOA annual conference last week. It was extremely beneficial. The sessions and networking opportunities were great. The content was relevant to us. Relevant items:
 - The Multiyear plans in process are important not just in case of audit, but they can also affect our bond rating.
 - The State Comptroller DiNapoli was there, and talked about the retirement system which is our second largest single line in our budget. He expects the employer contribution rates to go up yet again this year.
 - Health Insurance rates, our 3rd largest single line in our budget, are also likely to spike again this year.
 - Whitewashing of checks is the most common source of bank fraud going on right now. Positive Pay with our bank protects us from this.
- There was a discussion regarding online bill pay. A process will have to be developed. There would be a \$7.95 fee which is less than we currently spend on stamps and envelopes. We pay around 50 bills per month. OSC has guidelines to follow. The board was in favor of moving forward with online bill payment.

Secretary K. Dutton

2024.7000.9.04.23

MOTION BY Commissioner M. Stolte, 2nd by Commissioner W. Bedford to approve the following updates to SOP's: 1213 Staffing & Scheduling used to be 1206 "Filling Open Career Firefighter and Officer Position, 3006 Accountability, and the retirement of SOP's: 2301 A, B, C – N. Greece special Op's team.

*M. Beaty – absent, W. Bedford – yes, J. Maxwell – yes, W. Rickman – yes, M. Stolte – yes
Carried*

Administrator T. Gretzinger-No Report

Fire Chief K. Battaglia

- We have responded to 1,276 calls year-to-date. 60% of those were EMS calls.
- The board is in favor of ISO presenting our Class 1 certification on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at 10:30 AM. This will be held at station 1 outside, weather permitting, and should take approximately 10-15 minutes. Invitations will be sent to dignitaries: assemblyman, town supervisor, 911, water authority. News media should also be invited. Class A or C may be worn.
- We will be sending Engines 273 & 278 to participate in the Memorial Day Parade.
- There was a serious fire on Crosby Lane. Our crew performed admirably. Unfortunately, there was a casualty.
- There were 9 prospective volunteers at the department information meeting. The directors will set up interviews with interested parties.
- Amedica is picking up our expired turnout gear tomorrow. This gear will go to Guatemala.
- The station 3 public open house went well. Approximately 25 citizens came. Tours were given. Questions were answered and everyone in attendance seemed positive about us staying in that neighborhood.
- We are proud of the committee for the new 270. They are currently in Ohio. Pre-construction is tomorrow. They have 3 pages of discussion regarding the pre-bid contract.

Deputy Chief J. Lissow

- HQ roof update: Elmer Davis recommends an infrared scan of the roof first. The cost is \$3,000 and we are waiting for it to be scheduled. Communications equipment could be a challenge.
- FF Tom Cottorone is working on inventory (currently radios). Next week he will help with fire safety.

Commissioner M. Beaty

- Elmer Davis believes the infra-red scan is worth it. It will help find trouble spots. The whole roof shouldn't have to come up. Prevention of ice damage was discussed.
- Bartlett Lawn has been told what work we'd like done this year at the stations (minimal at station 3).

Commissioner W. Bedford

- MCFDOA meeting information was emailed: we were complimented on programs we are doing that no one else is doing.

Commissioner J. Maxwell

2024.4000.4.04.23

MOTION BY Commissioner J. Maxwell, 2nd by Commissioner W. Bedford, To send up to 8 people to the AFDSNY fall conference at Turning Stone 10/20/24-10/23/24 at a cost not to exceed \$1,600 per person.

M. Beaty – absent, W. Bedford – yes, J. Maxwell – yes, W. Rickman – yes, M. Stolte – yes
Carried

Commissioner W. Rickman-No Report

Chairman M. Stolte

- An article in the Greece Westside News highlights the memorial at station 1.
- MCFDPA would like us to report on the cancer screening done for our members. The company may also send a representative. Other districts are interested in this program.

MOTION BY Commissioner J. Maxwell, 2nd by Commissioner M. Stolte, To move to executive session at 6:31 PM to discuss matters relating to the hiring/firing of personnel.

M. Beaty – absent, W. Bedford – yes, J. Maxwell – yes, W. Rickman – yes, M. Stolte – yes
Carried

MOTION BY Commissioner M. Stolte, 2nd by Commissioner J. Maxwell, To return to regular session at 7:06 PM.

M. Beaty – absent, W. Bedford – yes, J. Maxwell – yes, W. Rickman – yes, M. Stolte – yes
Carried

2024.3000.10.04.23

MOTION BY Commissioner J. Maxwell, 2nd by Commissioner M. Stolte, To temporarily appoint FF Tyler Galka to the position of “acting lieutenant” effective May 5, 2024.

M. Beaty – absent, W. Bedford – yes, J. Maxwell – yes, W. Rickman – yes, M. Stolte – yes
Carried

2024.9000.2.04.23

MOTION BY Commissioner M. Stolte, 2nd by Commissioner W. Bedford, To file the paperwork with the state allowing our firefighters to get the healthcare worker bonus.

M. Beaty – absent, W. Bedford – yes, J. Maxwell – yes, W. Rickman – yes, M. Stolte – yes
Carried

- There was a discussion of creating a strategic planning committee.

MOTION BY Commissioner J. Maxwell, 2nd by Commissioner M. Stolte, To resolve to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:18 p.m.

M. Beaty – absent, W. Bedford – yes, J. Maxwell – yes, W. Rickman – yes, M. Stolte – yes
Carried

Respectfully submitted,

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