

Commissioners Meeting
February 20, 2023

Attendees:

Secretary: Shawn Smith

Commissioners: John Pavelock, Karen Edwards, Trisha Finen, Peggy Darling, Kelly Engel

Representatives from Fire Department: Carl Finen, Matt Smith, Miranda Nieto

Absent:

Public Attendees: Grace Engel

Guest:

Meeting: called to order at 18:30

Minutes reviewed: Minutes reviewed from January:

Motion to accept January minutes with the below revisions Peggy Darling, seconded by Trisha Finen, all in favor.

Correspondence:

- 2023 Annual Meeting & Leadership Summit Expo

Old Business:

- Chairman of the Board
 - Peggy Darling makes a motion to appoint Kelly Engel as Chairman of the Board for 2023, seconded by Karen Edwards. Opposed -Trisha and John Pavelock
 - Trisha Finen makes a motion to appoint John Pavelock as Chairman of the Board for 2023. No seconded
 - The vote was held for Kelly Engel to be appointed as Chairman of the Board for 2023. There were 2 ayes and 2 nays.
 - Being presented with a tie, the Board was unsure if the proposed approved appointee could vote for themselves. It was recommended the Secretary reach out to the district lawyer to question voting for oneself for an appointed position.
 - Peggy Darling asked Kelly Engel, if you could vote for yourself, would you? Kelly Engel's response was yes.
 - **Feb 2023 meeting** – Peggy Darling makes a motion to appoint Kelly Engel as Chairman of the Board for 2023, Karen Edwards seconded.
 - Trisha Finen makes a motion to appoint John Pavelock as Chairman of the Board for 2023. No seconded
 - The vote was held for Kelly Engel to be appointed as Chairman of the Board for 2023. There were 3 ayes and 2 nays.
- Marie Miller presented that the department has been awarded a grant for \$1500 to assist in the purchase of Wildland Firefighting Equipment. This will be used to purchase a Gear

- Dryer. Marie presented the full quote to the Board of Commissioners, totaling \$4,027.29, She is requesting the district pay the remaining balance of \$2527.29
- Peggy Darling makes a motion to pay the remaining balance for the Gear dryer, Karen Edwards seconded, all in favor.
 - For budget purposes, this be deducted from our Equipment fund.
 - Marie Miller ran our national grid account number. It was confirmed it was a commercial account so that qualifies the district for rebates. One rebate offered is commercial lights. Marie will be looking into quotes and present to the Board when ready.
 - Chief Finen has presented applications for 3 possible new members.
 - Marty Handler – approved by the dept in the Jan meeting.
 - Miranda Nieto – approved by the dept in the Jan meeting.
 - Kelly Engel – presented to the Commissioners.
 - Peggy Darling makes a motion to approve Marty Handler, Trisha Finen seconded, all in favor.
 - Kelly Engel makes a motion to approve Miranda Nieto, Peggy Darling seconded, all in favor.
 - Trisha Finen makes a motion to approve Kelly Engel pending Background and LENS check and approval by the department, seconded by Trisha Finen, all in favor.
 - Feb meeting, all good
 - Chief Finen presented a quote for new pagers at a cost of \$390.
 - Pagers to be retrieved by the Chief.
 - Bob Williams
 - Either Monica Eckhard or Corey Finen as they are in the same household
 - Purchase request is for 3 pagers. New Members, Marty, Miranda, and Kelly are all in need for a pager,
 - Peggy Darling makes a motion to purchase 3 pagers, Trish Finen seconded, all in favor.
 - **Feb meeting**, Corey Finen has turned his pager in.
 - Carl Miller will be turning his old one in.
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 - Scene lights were purchased by the Dept through the Phelps Foundation along with a portable saw.
 - John Pavelock advised the Board of Commissioners that he received a call from the Town Supervisor as there was confusion to the worker's comp claim that was presented to the Town Secretary, as he does not believe Worker's Comp claims for Employees of the local Volunteer Fire Districts are handled by the Town.
 - McNeil advised Peggy Darling the claim was to go to the Town.

New Business:

- Secretary will not be available on the 3rd Monday in March. Secretary requested the meeting be held on Monday, March 13th.
 - Secretary will put an ad in the paper to change to this date for March only.
- National Grid bill – over 2k kwh. With mini splits it is expected to increase but the usage seems excessive
 - Chief will ensure the temperature is locked and set at 60.
 - Secretary will reach out to National Grid to question the usage.
- New Business – Secretary to contact the town to get a copy of the Town Law Book

- John Pavelock presented official Town of Vienna minutes from June 22, 1936, stating “fire Commissioners be part of not less than two members from each town”. The minutes were stamped and duly signed by the Town of Vienna Deputy Clerk, Kathy Pavelock.
- Fire extinguishers got certified.
- Old Engine 2 next steps: – Peggy Darling will put an ad onto eBay. Cap reserve will be 10k.
- Physical policy. Access reached out to the Chief to offer physicals, Secretary printed paperwork and price list to present to the Commissioners.
 - John Pavelock is drafting an RFP for annual physicals starting 2023 and will email it to the Commissioners prior to the March meeting.
- John Warren provided a letter to the Chief advising that he is taking a leave of absence for 6 months.
- Peggy Darling brought information to the meeting regarding the 10% tax reduction being proposed. Additional information can be read here; [NY tax break for volunteer firefighters.](#), amongst other sites
- OSHA training, Peggy Darling has reached out again, still no response.
 - John Pavelock provided Chief Finen with copies of my OSHA Authorized Outreach Trainer Status for General Industry and Disaster Worker.
- The drafted new physical policy was sent to all members on the board during this meeting. Each Commissioner will review and send notes prior to the March meeting so the Secretary can print recommended revisions to be discussed during the March meeting.

Financial Bank Statement: Statement for January 2023 were presented for the board’s review.

Monthly Invoices: Invoices for February were reviewed and authorized for payment by commissioners that were present at this meeting.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 19:32 by Peggy Darling seconded by John Pavelock. All in favor

Minutes Submitted
Shawn B. Smith
Secretary/Treasurer