WALDEN FIRE DISTRICT

**REGULAR MEETING**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**February 13, 2023**

The monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Walden Fire District was called to order by Chairman Werner at 6:00pm.

The pledge to the flag was led by Chairman Werner. A moment of silence for fallen brothers and sisters. Roll Call: Chairman Roy Werner

Commissioner John Stabner

Dave Kurtz

Sam Phelps- video conference

Secretary Denise McNeely Treasurer Diane Holbert

S.H. Clerk Susan Morrison Chief Chic McNeely Asst. Chief George Brown Asst. Chief Brad Davis

Asst. Chief Jason Faso Commissioner Rich McNamee- absent

**Minutes of January –** Chairman Werner made a motion to accept both Regular and re-organizational minutes 2nd by Commissioner Stabner

**Financial report –**Chairman Werner made a motion to accept 2nd by Commissioner Stabner, carried. Statements verified by Chairman Werner.

**Disbursements –** Chairman Werner motioned to pay all bills, if found correct, 2nd by Commissioner Kurtz, carried.

**Correspondence**- read, Chairman Werner motioned to hold communication over to new business 2nd by Commissioner Stabner

Received:

Walden Fire Dept (hall use, new members)

Valley Central Varsity Swim Team (fee req waived)

**Chief’s report:**

FOR THE MONTH OF: February DATE: 02/08/2023

COMPLETED BY: Chief Charles McNeely

# Number and Type of Alarms

* + For January we had: 18 calls
  + 3 gas leaks
  + 1 mva
  + 1 structure related call
  + 1 rescue call
  + 12 other minor calls

# Personnel

* + Key 094-16384 issued to Mark Garcia Curet
  + Key 094-26180 issued to Mike Lynch
  + ABC’s for Tanner & Primavera OK, Wieczorek -no show
  + Sabin Tanner started orientation.
  + Patrick Primavera started orientation.

# Training

* + Fit tested firefighters at Montgomery firehouse on 1/10 and 1/28; approximately 28 firefighters were fit tested. Two more dates are scheduled. Chief Quinn from Montgomery; interested in having some of his members trained on the fit test device to make things easier.
  + Justin Kurtz signed up for BEFO/IFO
  + Kevin McColl signed up for Trench Rescue Awareness @OC
  + Rubin Enchautegui signed up for ICS400
  + Jason Faso & Kevin McColl signed up for ICS300 @ Cortland
  + 10 members to Flashover training @ Mechanicstown NYSAFC, $150/nonmember. April 22 or 23
  + Kevin Delmonico & Michael Gregorio signed up for Basic structural collapse & Trench Rescue Awareness @OC

# Maintenance

* + 238 brought to Campbell for repairs on a leak in the front intake; pipe was removed and sent out for repair. One of the switches for the driver’s seat is not working. Campbell advised the seat is discontinued and there are no more parts for it. Campbell sent a quote for a new seat. Back up camera was not working but the issue seemed to have resolved itself. Will continue to monitor it. Campbell also sent a quote for a new camera.
  + 243 had the carburetor on the pump replaced by Dan’s Small Engine.
  + Gathered quotes for service from area shops.
  + Gathered quotes for tires on 246
  + 2021 Explorer was sent to Healey Ford in Goshen to repair a plastic molding under the passenger side door. The next day it went to

Rapid Tire for repair on a slow leak on the driver’s front tire.

* + 237 had a leaking valve on the officer side rear tire. Rapid Tire replaced the valve.
  + Spoke with Healey about the 2013 Expedition. They fixed some wiring and were ordering a computer part that should resolve the problems. The computer part seems to be on back order from the distributor, but they are going to see if one is available from another dealership.
  + Working on getting quotes for tire chains
  + Knoxbox was upgraded from local access to cloud access. All the boxes that have been installed are now connected to the Wi-Fi and can be updated without being tethered to a computer.
  + Scheduled quarterly service for air compressor.
  + 2010 pickup & 2015 Explorer were serviced and detailed.

# Requests for Apparatus Leaving District

* + None

# Upcoming goals

***30 Day goals*** None

***90 Day goals*** None

1. **Purchase Requests**

Chairman Werner made a motion to allow member to attend Flashover Class 2nd by Commissioner Kurtz, carried.

**Social Hall report**:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Contract # | Deposit | Rental | Resident | Non Resident | Member | Non Profit | Waived Fee |  |
| 7-Jan | 439 | 200 | 400 |  |  |  | X |  |  |
| 8-Jan | 438 | 200 | 0 |  |  | X |  |  |  |
| 13-Jan | 415 | $200 | 1000 | X |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16-Jan | FH Blood Drive |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 20-Jan | WES PTO | n/a |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 21-Jan | 448 | $200 | $0 |  |  | X |  |  |  |
| 29-Jan | 442 | 200 | 600 | X |  |  |  |  |  |

**Old Business:**

* + **Legal Issues-** Chairman Werner states the Cornwall Suit is active again.
  + **Apparatus-** none
  + **Alpine-** Chief McNeely states the last transfer of FireHouse info was complete however there is still missing information regarding members medical & the inventory separated by vehicles.
  + **Boat**- no update.
  + **Surplus-** Commissioner Kurtz states he received an offer from Norvelt FD in PA for $40,000.00 with the stipulation of replacing front tires.
  + **Misc.- none**

**New Business:**

**Correspondence:**

**WFD-** Chairman Werner made a motion to allow the dept use of the social on April 9th Easter Sunday for a fundraiser 2nd by Commissioner Kurtz, carried. Possible use the evening of the 8th if there’s no conflicting rentals.

**WFD-** Chairman Werner made a motion to allow the Harry Edwards Jr use of the hall for a gathering after a family funeral 2nd by Commissioner Kurtz, carried

**VC Varsity Swim Team-** Chairman Werner made a motion to waive the rental fee for their upcoming event 2nd by Commissioner Kurtz, carried.

**Resolution-**

**WALDEN FIRE DISTRICT 23-2**

**Resolution to Conduct Public Hearing For Partial Real Property Tax Exemption for**

**Qualifying Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Service Workers**

**WHEREAS,** pursuant to Chapter 670 of the Laws of 2022 effective December 9, 2022, the state Real Property Tax Law was amended by adding a new §466-a authorizing local governments including the Walden Fire District (“Fire District”) to enact by local law, ordinance or resolution such partial tax exemption for Fire District real property taxes to qualified enrolled members of said emergency services providers, following a public hearing; and

**WHEREAS,** the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Fire District has determined that it may be in the public interest to adopt a resolution granting such partial real property tax exemption for Fire District real property taxes to promote firefighter and volunteer ambulance worker recruitment and retention; and

**WHEREAS,** the proposed exemption is for the primary residential real property located in the Fire District that is owned by an enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service that provides services within the city, town or village in which the enrolled member resides to make a portion of the property exempt from taxation and assessments levied by the Fire District to the extent of ten percent (10%) of the assessed value of such property, exclusive of special assessments and subject to the requirements mandated by law; authorizing any enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service who accrues more than twenty years of active service, to be granted the ten percent (10%) exemption for the remainder of his or her life as long as his or her primary residence is located within the County; allowing the un-remarried spouse of a deceased enrolled member who was killed in the line of duty to continue the exemption if the deceased enrolled member had been an enrolled member for at least five (5) years prior to the line of duty death; and allowing the un-remarried spouse of a deceased enrolled member to continue the exemption if the deceased enrolled member had previously claimed the exemption and had been an enrolled member for at least twenty (20) years before his or her death.

**WHEREAS,** a public hearing to allow all persons interested in the matter to be heard must be conducted before any such resolution authorizing a partial tax exemption is considered by the Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that a Public Hearing shall be conducted on March 13, 2023, at 5 :3 0 P.M., at the Walden Fire District Offices located at 230 Old Orange Avenue, Walden, New York for the purpose of soliciting public comment and hearing all persons interested in said partial property tax exemption for Fire District taxes for qualifying volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Fire District Secretary is directed to post and publish a Notice of Hearing in the customary format pursuant to the statutory mandates for posting and publication of such notices.

Motion to adopt the Resolution made by Commissioner Werner. Seconded by Commissioner Kurtz.

the Board was as follows:

Commissioner Werner Aye ~~/ Nay / Absent~~

Commissioner Stabner Aye ~~/ Nay / Absent~~ Commissioner Kurtz Aye ~~/ Nay / Absent~~ Commissioner Phelps  ~~Aye / Nay~~ / Absent Commissioner McNamee ~~Aye / Nay~~ / Absent The Resolution was adopted.

Dated: February 13, 2023

Denise McNeely, Secretary Walden Fire District

**Computers-** Chairman Werner made a motion to replace the computers in the Radio Room, Civil Office and Assist Chief Davis desk with DELL @ $1424.00 each 2nd by Commissioner Stabner, carried.

**Public Hearing Taxes-** Chairman Werner discussed the resolution that was previously read.

**New Members-** Chairman Werner made a motion to accept Cody Delmonico and Mackenzie Delmonico pending ABC and physicals 2nd by Commissioner Stabner, carried.

**Insurance Review-** Chairman Werner states that we had a review done and we need to update a couple minor things. One being the Microsoft Factor Authenticator, everyone will need to use, to access Office 365 on the network.

**Miscellaneous-** Chairman Werner states that we will be using Harriman Army Navy Store for Uniforms/ Class B and 100 Run Club.

Chairman Werner states that anyone that has a NYS issued pistol permit is prohibited from carrying the firearm on the property and/or in any municipal building. The fire house falls under these criteria’s. Only active Police officers have the ability to carry on the premises.

Commissioner Kurtz made a motion to hire MRG Mobile Detailing to clean and apply upholstery fabric protection the social hall chairs at $1360.00 2nd by Chairman Werner, carried.

Chairman Werner states that the PD has arranged for the Heart Health Bus to be here on March 8th set up in the parking lot and registration will take place in the social hall for those members who would like to have testing done this, your private health insurance information will be needed.

Chairman Werner states that any board member that is unable to attend the meetings in person will be able to attend via video or Zoom conference only. Address of your location will need to be sent in for posting.

**Public Comment- none**

**Executive Session-** Chairman Werner motioned for an executive session at 6:54pm; pursuant to Public Officers Law Article 7 section 105 (f) for the purpose of discussing contracts, 2nd by Commissioner Stabner, carried.

Chairman Werner made a motion to open the meeting at 7:04pm, 2nd by Commissioner Stabner, carried.

Chairman Werner states that Norvelt FD of PA made an offer on E-237 for $40,000.00 plus conditions for new tires, Chairman Werner made a motion we will counteroffer with a number previously discussed 2nd by Commissioner Kurtz, carried.

Chairman Werner made a motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:05pm 2nd by Commissioner Kurtz, carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise McNeely, Secretary Walden Fire District