Fly Creek Board of Fire Commissioner Monthly Meeting

Date: May 19, 2022

Members present: Matthew Pernat (chairman), Vincent Ruggiero (vice chairman), Joan

Kegelman, Betty Staffin, Christine Voulo, Pam Deane (treasurer)

Meeting called to order at 7:03pm

Pledge of allegiance

Matt Pernat – Previous secretary has been unresponsive and did not attend last meeting, need to appoint new secretary; Cassidy Lent has been nominated

Cassidy Lent – A librarian at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, have lived in Fly

Creek for almost two years and in Cooperstown before that, new member of Fly Creek Fire

Company as Auxiliary member and secretary

Motion to accept Cassidy Lent as secretary made by Vincent Ruggiero, seconded, approved

# Minutes of March 2022 and April 2022

* Still do not have March minutes
* Reading of April minutes o Additions/corrections
  + Betty Staffin stated that these minutes were missing information, more happened that isn’t in the minutes, there are no absent members listed, by-laws blown out of the water
  + By-laws were recently approved and sent out
  + Betty Staffin stated that she is not receiving this information
    - Adam Kantor corrected her phone several months ago
    - Christine Voulo stated this is a company matter and not a commissioner matter

o Motion to accept made by Vincent Ruggiero, seconded by Christine Voulo, approved

Correspondence

* none

# Financial Report

* Guest speaker – Lynn Bass o Audit report o Treasurer’s report not being filed?
  + Copy of report o Annual update document o Municipality required to submit o Records balance o Revenue and expenses o Assets – insurance
  + Series of questions asked regarding policies o Bank statement information
  + Change in operations, added to beginning cash balance o Contractual expenditures
  + Loan information

Betty Staffin – those numbers come from the treasurer

* + Can have an accountant do it if we prefer o They put in the numbers given by the treasurer
  + State comptroller great to work with – will help us figure out filling it out

* Thank you, Lynn, for attending and explaining

* Pam Deane o Otsego - $787.68
  + - Outstanding check still not located o Copy shop and ACE
    - How much are they for?
    - Bank statement with the auditor o McQuaid – $1932.65 o Putnam 3 months – $105.00 o Morris Kroker LLC equipment - $712.54 o Superior plus propane - $1759.18 o Spectrum - $129.98 o NYSEG - $536.58
  + Firemag supply - $117.00

* + May (to date) – last page of packet o Truck maintenance - a little over $4000 left o Over in legal???

* Joan Kegelman stated that the fire company and fire district bills are intermingled and that there are outstanding bills with the copy shop from February. The folks at the shop printed off everything to figure out what’s going on.

* Christine Voulo stated that it seems like these were paid, based on the April minutes. 44772?

Credit?

* Motion to accept financial report made by Joan Kegelman, seconded by Vincent

Ruggiero, approved

Chief’s Report – 3rd Assistant Chief Leonard Pashley for Chief Christopher Voulo

* Fire Company o 11 fire calls
  + 0513 back in service – Pump heat exchange no longer functioning and needs replacing. Getting a price.
  + Engines 0511 and 0514 need servicing
  + A/C units in meeting hall and Chief’s office – need estimates o Spectrum internet – constantly not working, need upgrade o Pump testing scheduled for May 22nd @ 9:00am o Hose testing being scheduled
  + EVOC thru 911 being offered Friday, July 29th, 6:00 – 10:00pm, and Saturday, July 30th, 8:00am – 4:00pm
* EMS
  + 14 toned

§ 5 in Fly Creek, 1 in Cooperstown

* Fire Police o No report
* Auxiliary – Marianne Ruggiero o Meeting on May 19th o Elected officers
  + - Marianne Ruggiero – President
    - Shirley Dickison – Vice president
    - Joan Kegelman – Treasurer
    - Liz Susman – Secretary o Hoping for return of pancake breakfast during Fly Creek days, August 27th

# Old business

* Christine Voulo reported on the video on emergency response on billing. It was more geared towards departments with more calls, not in our best interest. It was about 1.5 hours long.
* Joan Kegelman wrote letter to the Town of Otsego in regards to the American Rescue Plan Act. They have new board members and are recalculating funds. They will let us know if we will receive any Covid relief money.

# New business

* EPIC will donate lawn care to us for one year. Cassidy Lent to write thank you note to EPIC.
* Pam Deane is unable to keep cleaning the fire house. She doesn’t have the time. Thank you, Pam.

# Public comments

- Marianne Ruggiero o Fill-in secretary on February 10th o Executive session

* There have been questions about what happened
* A motion was made during this session by Matt Pernat, seconded by Joan Kegelman, with no dissenting votes

Mike Staffin stated that this was a dysfunctional board and a board of 3 commissioners. He stated that it needs to be fixed internally or a revote should happen. All the bickering isn’t doing the company any good.

Betty Staffin hasn’t signed up commissioners course. She states she doesn’t have time.

NYS Code of Ethics from Comptroller’s office

Any position where a family member could benefit another family member

Mike Staffin stated that multiple members have been leaving. Christine Voulo stated that this was not true and this was reiterated by 3rd Assistant Chief Pashley. There have been eight new members join over the last several months. The average age of a volunteer firefighter is 35-75. Something needs to change, as younger people are leaving because there is nothing to keep them here. They get a free education and training through the fire company, but because they’re volunteers, we can’t require them to serve for a certain amount of time. The question is how do we keep them.

Sign Code of Ethics

* Pam Deane and Betty Satffin to sign next meeting
* Betty Staffin stated that she has not been getting IAR since February and only has a sample copy of the code of ethics. She was advised to speak with Adam Kantor, as the webmaster for IAR.

Cassidy Lent sworn in by Vincent Ruggiero

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 9th @ 7:00pm

Motion to adjourn made by Matt Pernat, seconded by Betty Staffin, approved

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

C. Lent