

POUND RIDGE FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 2024 REGULAR MEETING

**NB – All votes are assumed to be unanimous unless otherwise noted.*

PRESENT: Chairman Peter Gallagher, Vice Chairman Joe Roemer, Commissioner Frank Tavalacci, Commissioner David Ekholm, Commissioner Edward Trail, Caretaker Sam Dodge, Chief Vincent Zafonte, Lt. Steven Anuszkiewicz

ALSO PRESENT: Secretary/Treasurer Justin Friedland,

CALL TO ORDER Chairman Gallagher called the regular meeting of the Pound Ridge Fire District to order at 7:24 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Roemer's motion to accept the January minutes was seconded by Commissioner Ekholm and was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Commissioner Ekholm's motion to approve payment of the bills as submitted, plus the bill from NYSEG in the amount of \$35,095.15 for a CT cabinet, trenching, installation, hookup, etc. from the L&I reserve fund, for the building project, was seconded by Commissioner Roemer and was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT:

Commissioner Roemer's motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was seconded by Commissioner Ekholm and was unanimously approved.

CHIEF'S REPORT: 24 calls in January. (list attached)

MEMBERSHIP New member Andrew Cohen.
Chris Chen has resigned as he is moving to the Pacific Northwest.

CHIEF'S PURCHASES: Chief has spoken to Matt from NE Aquatic Services about hydrant maintenance. He charges \$225 per hydrant to inspect. He says he is capable of doing any work that is needed, from tree trimming to underwater work. Chief asks for \$2,500 to have him inspect eight (8) hydrants that are questionable. He can then give us the information to create an RFP so we can put the job(s) out for bid. The money would come from the Hydrant Repair fund and would require a permissive referendum.

Upon motion by Commissioner Tavalacci, seconded by Commissioner Ekholm, the Board unanimously adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Pound Ridge Fire District find it necessary to expend monies from the Hydrant and Water Tank Repair Fund to finance an evaluation of 8 dry hydrants in the Town of Pound Ridge, in advance of their repair and renovation, subject to permissive referendum as required by Section 6-g. of the General Municipal Law now therefore be it

RESOLVED that monies not to exceed \$2,500.00 shall be expended from the Hydrant/Water Tank Repair Fund to finance an evaluation of 8 dry hydrants in the Town of Pound Ridge, in advance of their repair and renovation, and it is further

RESOLVED that the Fire District Secretary shall publish a notice which sets forth the date of such resolution and an abstract of such resolution concisely stating the purposes and effect thereof, and further stating that such resolution was adopted subject to a permissive referendum, and such notice shall be substantially as follows:

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Pound Ridge Fire District on February 13, 2024 adopted a resolution for the purpose of expending monies from the Hydrant and Water Tank Repair Fund of said Fire District not to exceed \$2,500 to finance an evaluation of 8 dry hydrants in the Town of Pound Ridge, in advance of their repair and renovation. Said resolution was adopted pursuant to a permissive referendum and shall not be effective until six (6) days after its adoption or until a permissive referendum is held provided a Petition is filed by resident taxpayers of the Fire District as provided by Section 6-g of the General Municipal Law and the resolution approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Electors of such Fire District affected by such resolution.

LONG TERM PLANNING UPDATE: Continued discussion about cost of new Chief's vehicle, trade-in value, wisdom of keeping trucks for longer period of time i.e. not replacing at this time. More to be discussed, as cost of replacement is now creeping towards \$140,000.

Chairman Gallagher then led a discussion of the document he produced which details and projects district expenditures and budget needs through 2031. Document has an Option A and an Option B which provide for different valuations and put-aways for various funds. Additionally, questions arose about what to do with aging pieces of apparatus, what to do to reserve funds, and the possible need in December to cancel the Equipment Reserve fund and replace it with a Small Equipment Fund, AND an Apparatus Fund. Discussion will continue.

Regarding the addition project, the new timeline to complete specifications is early to mid march with a goal of distributing at the end of March. Dave Ekholm to solidify the date so we can give the attorney 2 weeks notice.

WATER SUPPLY: NR

INSURANCE: NR.

COMPUTER: NR

TOWN & PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS: Chairman Gallagher says we may need to go back to the planning board for revised site plan approval given certain changes that have been made in the addition plans.

MEDICAL: Physicals scheduled for May 30th and June 1st or 2nd.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS: Inspection now scheduled for the traditional last Saturday in April. 4/27. Location TBD. Chariman Gallagher took responsibility to work with the chief and caretaker Dodge to assess options for inspection so it can be presented next month.

Sent out RFPs for new cleaning service. Only received one response. Pro Nordic cleaners. Will do 4 visits per month for \$950/month.

Motion made by Commissioner Ekholm to approve and hire Pro Nordic at \$950/month. Seconded by Commissioner Roemer.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Roemer's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Commissioner Ekholm and unanimously agreed to by all the attending Commissioners. Accordingly, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Justin Friedland Secretary/Treasurer