

CHARLTON FIRE DISTRICT
786 Charlton Road
Charlton, NY 12019

FEBRUARY 2008

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Meeting called to order: 7:32pm

COMMISSIONERS in Attendance:

Dave Milne	No
Doug Sargent	Yes
Kevin O'Connor	Yes
Bill Heilman	No
Duane Rabideau	Yes

Minutes from the previous month:

Kevin O'Connor asked for a motion approving the minutes from January. Duane Rabideau made the motion with one correction noted on page 2. Doug Sargent 2nd the motion, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Letter from East Glenville Fire Department regarding class on 3/22, cost is \$25 per person. The chief already had it posted.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

CALLS FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH: 9

EMS	4
Fire/Structure	0
Auto	0

Electrical	0
Mutual Aid	5 Struct
Assistance	0
Brush Fire	0
Fire Alarms	0
C O Emergency	

1. Chief's car is ordered another 4 weeks or more before delivery
2. Getting info together for bid package on lights, graphics, radios, and cabinets. One company will be meeting at the firehouse, no date has been set.
3. New CO detector received and in service
4. Unable to find or recover bolt cutters on 182 and 184. Need to order new at approximately \$130 each.
5. The Chief has a bill from Will LaRue for EMT class, Will has passed the class and is now and EMT

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The financial report for January was reviewed. The bills pending audit for February are approximately \$8547.57. The tax levy check has been received and deposited. Doug Sargent made a motion accepting the treasurers report and pay the bills pending audit, Duane Rabideau 2nd the motion, motion carried. One bill was questioned from Darley regarding a purchase made and was not reviewed or previously approved. Doug Sargent purchased fittings for the truck, Kevin O'Connor questioned the Chief as to whether he knew about this, and the Chief said he was not involved in the purchase. Doug said the first set were sent back because they were incorrect, he was asked if the second set could be sent back, he said yes. Doug felt the second set would work; Kevin O'Connor has put this on hold until next month.

The Secretary stated that a newsletter is due to go out next month; the secretary would like to explain how the fire tax levy is determined so this would answer resident questions. A format will be put together for next month's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. 18-5; the secretary was asked by Paul Wilde what the district was doing with the truck decorating his yard. Kevin stated that he dropped the insurance on the truck to \$5,000 because insurance will not cover many of the items due to the truck sitting outside. Kevin stated he thought Paul Wilde was to sell the truck as is. It came up about donating it to the fairgrounds. The Chief said he will contact them, Kevin said a list of options will be put together and discussed at the next meeting.
2. The trailer renewal came due; Kevin O'Connor approved a one year renewal on the trailer vs. two. This will cost approximately \$6 per month more. If this becomes a problem, the board will discuss it at the next meeting.
3. Kevin stated he would be meeting with the Chief to go over the bid packages for the new vehicle.
4. Subdivision has been approved. Duane received the maps the day of this meeting. He will be filing them with the county and the cost should be \$40-50. Duane stated the turnaround is usually one week. The secretary noted the special election is set for March 4th 6-9pm to sell the land back to the Shadicks. The closing with Emerichs is set for March 11th.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Kevin O'Connor asked for a motion to pay the incoming bills for the installation banquet, Doug Sargent made the motion, Duane Rabideau 2nd the motion, motion carried. He secretary will have the signup sheet posted this week.

2. Darley: Doug ordered storz adapters, Kevin asked for a motion to purchase the two fittings for drafting, it was asked what they were for. Draw through pressure relief, Doug stated he was asked to purchase them or someone mentioned purchasing them to him so he ordered them. The first set was incorrect; the billing for the second set has not arrived. It was noted that they may not work; Doug stated if they did not work he would pay for them himself. It was mentioned about returning them, and it was stated they could not be if they get placed on the truck. This matter has been tabled.
3. The secretary brought up the training classes for commissioners who were just elected. The cost is \$125 per commissioner; both Kevin and Duane are required under new legislation to attend. Doug Sargent made the motion approving the commissioner training, Duane Rabideau 2nd. The secretary will get Kevin and Duane registered for the class 2/9 at Thomas Corners.
4. There is a bill for \$82 from Will LaRue for his lab fees/books for EMT class. Kevin O'Connor made a motion to pay this, Doug Sargent 2nd, motion approved.

PRIVLAGE OF THE FLOOR: Jerry Belisle stated he felt that the Board should have the secretary present the treasurer's report like Jeff Voigt does at the company meeting. He wants to see beginning and ending balances and each item paid stated. Kevin told him there were various accounts, what is he looking for? Overall ending balance? Jerry said yes, Kevin said the board will bring it up next meeting.

John Morgan stated he is loaded and he would like everything noted in the minutes. First, subdivision: isn't the fire district exempt? The secretary explained to John that we the fire district we representing the Emerichs and the Emerichs are not exempt from the fees. Duane Rabideau concurred stating this is correct. It was asked why the district was paying the fees? It

was explained that this was part of the contract with the Emerichs. Next John stated he has been asked why there is a 20% change in the tax levy on the property tax bills, the secretary stated the change occurred due to assessments in the town of Charlton, the Board did not change or increase the levy. Ed Cronin Jr. stated that when he was on the board they operated on .40/\$1.00 and that we should not hose the tax payers; if we don't need the money give it back. The treasurer explained that the Charlton Fire District has never increased the tax levy, they board has always operated on what was received when in reality the levy could be increased due to fuel, insurance, bond payments and payroll are not included in the budget. The Charlton Fire District has had no problem operating on what they receive and has never asked for an increase. This year's levy is \$20,000 more than last year which is based on 2006 assessments in the town of Charlton. The levy received each year is based on assessments two years prior. John Morgan stated that if the district has \$20,000 more this year than the money should be used to make the firehouse look nicer for the firemen like replacing the ceiling, the toilets, new floor, and heat, whatever. The board should make an effort to make the place look decent for the firemen who use it.

Third, John asked about the siren and why it has been turned off. Kevin stated why does the siren need to be on when we all have pagers? Trent Mitchell stated many people do want the siren on. John Morgan stated if you're not going to use it then take it down but he thinks the board is dead wrong. The secretary stated that a few months prior at privilege of the floor Mr. Chotkowski stated Harmony had turned their siren off to see if it would make a difference in the electric bill, the Charlton Board decided to try the same thing. It has not made a difference in the bill.

Fourth, the trailer, John asked why we were paying for the trailer? Kevin stated it was rented to store records, John and others in the audience stated it was throwing good money after bad and it is not necessary or doing the residents or the firemen any good. It was stated that residents are questioning the increase in the fire tax on this year's bill, no one would state who the residents are, Kevin said they would address the residents when they are given names, the Board was told they were out of whack.

The board has done nothing for the firemen or the tax payer except spin its wheels. Trent Mitchell then brought up 185 and why 185 has a broken pump housing, the Chief said who knows, it was stored outside and it did not have water in it so no one knows why it is broken, Trent stated it is too bad it has turned to crap and nothing was done like selling it years ago when the opportunity was there. Trent then mentioned the siren; Kevin said no problem turning it on if it is not making a difference on the bills. No one else had anything else to say, except John Morgan that insisted the secretary get every word in the minutes.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:16 p.m.