

January 5, 2022

The special scheduled joint meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Ridge-Culver Fire District and Laurelton Fire District was held at the Laurelton Firehouse, 405 Empire Blvd, in the Town of Irondequoit on January 5, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by the Chairman (noted below) who then led the pledge.

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioner	Present	Chairman
Rick Faro	NOT PRESENT	
Past Commissioner Paul Groat	X	
Mark Lipari	Via phone	
Mike Napoli	X	
Tim Shone	X	
Rich Turner	Via phone	
Tim Warth	X	X
Bob Woltz	NOT PRESENT	
Scott Zampatori	Via phone	
Rick Zwaga	X	
Chas Ingersoll	X	
Others	Present	
Chief Steve Sessler	X	
Lt. Jim Mastin	X	

- Approval of the previous meeting minutes motioned by Commissioner Napoli and seconded by Commissioner Shone. Motion was carried.
- Review Agenda by Commissioner Warth.
- Open the floor for any additional items for the agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

- None

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

- There was an LFD resident from Virgil Drive present for the meeting who had questions about his fire tax bill and how the consolidation would affect his bill and future bills. Commissioner Shone explained the need for more career staff due to the lack of volunteers which caused the increase in fire taxes for 2021 and 2022. The consolidation will help both districts to reduce massive staff increases while properly staffing the current apparatus.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

- None

ACTION ITEMS

- No changes to the Operational Plan as presented last month.
- There was discussion and review regarding the brand-new Joint Consolidation Agreement. The first rough draft has been distributed to both Fire District's Commissioners for further review (draft attached to these minutes).

- The Chief had questions about cross-staffing between both departments for both career and volunteer staff. This was sent to Peter and has not been answered at this time.
- Chief Sessler asked about purchasing as we get closer to the consolidation date. It has been assumed that all purchases, debts, and current assets will be simply transferred to the new IFD.
- Need final determination on SEQR level.
- Discussion regarding the Fire Chief IMA (draft attached to these minutes). This has been sent to legal for final review. The Chief had a question about needing to be sworn in as Fire Chief for both districts.
- The Local CBA committee will be meeting soon to discuss the proposed language.

OPERATIONS REPORT

Chief Sessler and Lt. Josh Mastin

Operations

- Would like to add LFD to the RCFD Target Solutions and CrewSense (Vector Solutions) account to track training for both organizations. The renewal will be due in March, and we would like it done by then. The cost difference would be about \$3,200 to add all the LFD career and volunteer staff to the current programs. Also, in the process of both organizations switching to Utica National Insurance. To be voted on in February.

COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Personnel**
 - **Commissioners Lipari & Shone**
 - Union Contract - Working on it. No updates.
- **Equipment/Apparatus**
 - **Commissioners Napoli & Zwaga**
 - No report.
- **Legal / Procedural**
 - **Commissioners Warth & Ingersoll**
 - Working on the Joint Consolidation Agreement.
 - Discussion regarding bringing legal back into the next meeting.
- **Building**
 - **Commissioners Woltz & Groat**
 - No report

- **Budget**

- **Lt. Jim Mastin, Commissioners Shone, Groat and Warth, Treasurer Marini and Secretary/Deputy Treasurer Riesenberger**

- There was some discussion about the "2% funds" and how they will be managed after the consolidation. Both Fire Departments will need to meet and discuss their individual bylaws and establish the new procedure for funds distribution. There was further discussion how the departments are different and how the funds are currently managed. The Two Percent Foreign Fire Insurance Funds are to be used for all active firefighters as described by the Office of the New York State Comptroller and the New York State Department of Financial Services. For reference, the FASNY 2% Handbook is attached to these minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

- The LFD BOFC has voted to abolish their current LOSAP program and will be going out to the public for a vote soon. More information will be provided to members as requested.

NEW BUSINESS

- The proposed temporary Board of Fire Commissioners for the newly consolidated Irondequoit Fire District will be Commissioners Lipari, Zampatori, Warth, Ingersoll and Turner. This list will be presented to the Town of Irondequoit for appointment or approval until an official district election can be held in the following December.

Motion for Adjournment: Made by Commissioner Ingersoll

Second: Made by Commissioner Napoli

Time: 7:21pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Rodd Riesenberger

District Secretary

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, February 2, 2022, at 6:30pm at Ridge Culver