

REGULAR MEETING

SOUTHAMPTON FIRE DISTRICT

MARCH 25, 2004

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Southampton Fire District was called to order by Chairman Press in the Library of the Tuckahoe School, 468 Magee Street, Southampton, New York, in accordance with the notice provided to the news media, copy of which is attached hereto. The meeting opened at 7:30 PM with the salute to the flag followed by a moment of silence.

Chairman Press spoke of the loss of ex-chief Douglas Dolliver last week. He was an asset to the fire service during his 34 years of service and he will surely be missed.

PRESENT: Commissioners Robert Grisnik, W. Mark Press, David Price, Tom White, Secretary Bette-jeanne H. Schreier, Treasurer Mike Hadix

ABSENT: Commissioner Tom Martinez

GUESTS: Southampton Fire Department 1st Assistant Chief Brian Cooke, Attorney William F. Glass, Jr.

Chairman Press welcomed the guests and asked our attorney, Mr. William F. Glass, Jr., to give us a brief bio and background information.

1st Assistant Chief Brian Cooke reported on the monthly activities of the Southampton Fire Department and an update of the total calls and man hours for the year.

A motion was made by Mr. Grisnik and seconded by Mr. Price to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 12, 2004 and the Work Session of February 26, 2004 as presented. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Press	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. White	Not present	<u>VS1-66</u>

The Board reviewed the 9 vouchers presented by the Treasurer. The list is attached to these minutes.

A motion was made by Mr. Grisnik and seconded by Mr. Price to approve the vouchers as presented. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Press	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. White	Not present	<u>VS1-67</u>

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Mr. Hadix (a copy attached herein) and on a motion made by Mr. Grisnik and seconded by Mr. Price; the Treasurer's Report was accepted by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Press	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. White	Not present	<u>VS1-68</u>

The Secretary reviewed the correspondence sent and received over the last month. A letter was sent to Southampton Town Fire Marshal Cheryl Kraft thanking Fire Marshal Davonski and Code Enforcement Officer Frano for their presentation last month regarding safety issues during the US Open to be held at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club from June 14-29, 2004. Letters were sent to the Town Planning Board with recommendations for the following subdivisions: John Terisi & Glen Cerrato, Southampton Meadows, John Senyk, Robert Romeo, and a J. Seraile followup. Request were mailed to Southampton Village Trustee Ed Britt and Southampton Town Planning Board Chairman Dennis Finnerty requesting copies of past files and pending files of subdivisions in our district. Mr. Britt answered that the information was available at the Southampton Town Planning board office and Mr. Finnerty has not replied to date. A letter was sent to Mr. Herman J. Miller of the Suffolk County Water Authority regarding hydrant placement on Water Mill Towd Road and the possibility of a water main on Scuttle Hole Road, Water Mill. No reply has been received to date. An approval request from Suffolk County Water Authority for two hydrants on Edge of Woods Road was signed and returned with a letter requesting the billing to be changed from the Town of Southampton to the Southampton Fire District. A letter was sent to Southampton Town Supervisor Patrick Heaney regarding an accounting breakdown from the Village of Southampton in 2003 to aid in our negotiations. No response has been received. The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance replied regarding our governmental entity status confirming that we do not pay state taxes on purchases. This letter and an official purchase order are the only necessary items to indicate this status. The Suffolk County Water Authority sent an estimate of \$79,504 for the water main installation on Tuckahoe Road. Mr. William F. Glass sent a memo regarding the Fire District Workshop held on March 20, 2004 at the Brookhaven Town Fire District. The Bridgehampton National Bank has requested copies of driver's licenses and social security numbers of the commissioners for the account we have at that bank. The Southampton Town Fire Marshal's monthly report and a Suffolk County report have been received. Lexington Plaza, our landlord, has requested a copy of liability insurance. The Southampton Town Planning Board sent copies of resolutions regarding the West Neck Woods development for our file and two more subdivisions to review (Alexandro Demetriades and Abe Haruvi).

Committee Reports

- A. Budget – The Southampton Village has not contacted us for discussion.
- B. Long Range Planning – No report

C. Wells and Hydrants – Commissioner Price reported that four (4) deep wells can be removed in our district. There are 2 located in the Deer Run development, 1 on Petrel Road and 1 on North Sea Road (Raynor Road).

A motion was made by Mr. Press and seconded by Mr. Grisnik to authorize Commissioner Price to contact well companies regarding removal of subject wells keeping the equipment in exchange for removal. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Press	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. White	Aye	<u>VS1-69</u>

A motion was made by Mr. Press and seconded by Mr. Grisnik to authorize Commissioner Price to contact LIPA to remove electricity to subject wells. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Press	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. White	Aye	<u>VS1-70</u>

- D. Government Liaison Committee – No report
- E. Liaison to Department – No report

Old Business

A contract was received from Coughlin, Foundotos, Cullen & Danowski, LLP for accounting services discussed at the Work Session of February 26, 2004. The accountants would prepare forms and audit the Southampton Fire District annually for a variable hourly rate not to exceed \$4000 annually.

A motion was made by Mr. Grisnik and seconded by Mr. White to accept the proposal from Coughlin, Foundotos, Cullen & Danowski, LLP and designate this firm as our accountants. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Press	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. White	Aye	<u>VS1-71</u>

Secretary Schreier spoke with Doug at Hamptons Telephone regarding a DSL line to our office. The service would normally be \$75.00 monthly, but Doug has offered a fee of \$49.99 monthly for DSL and a reduction of monthly phone services from \$22.00 plus tax to \$18.00 plus tax.

On a motion made by Mr. Grisnik and seconded by Mr. White the secretary was authorized to contract with Hamptons Telephone to have DSL installed at the offices of the Southampton Fire District. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Press	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. White	Aye	<u>VS1-72</u>

Insurance issues were discussed. The landlord has requested a copy of premise liability insurance. A general liability policy would cover assets like our office equipment. There is a question whether the fire wells in the district should be listed under assets in the general liability police. Chairman Press will meet with Linda Kabot, Southampton Town Councilwoman, and Wanda Roberts Brown, Southampton Town Attorney to determine this. Mr. Grisnik recommended checking NYSR (New York State Insurance Reciprocal) for possible coverage. A Directors and Officers policy would probably have annual premiums of \$6000 because it is based on budget. Workmen's Compensation was also discussed.

A motion was made by Mr. Grisnik and seconded by Mr. Price to authorize Mr. White to look into General Liability Insurance for Southampton Fire District. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Mr. Press	Aye	
Mr. Price	Mr. White	Aye	<u>VS1-73</u>

A mock up of a sign for the district was reviewed. Discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

New Business

Chairman Press brought up his concern about a policy for the Southampton Fire District to have regarding water main extensions in areas of new development. The Southampton Town Planning Board sent correspondence noting two adopted resolutions on September 25, 2003 and January 15, 2004 indicating that the Southampton Fire District recommended fire wells in the West Neck Woods subdivision. The Southampton Fire Protection District was in place at the time of the September resolution and the recommendation came from Southampton Village Trustee E. Britt. The Southampton Fire Department Chief and the Board of Commissioners do not agree with this decision.

A motion was made by Mr. Press and seconded by Mr. Grisnik, to authorize a letter be sent to the Southampton Town Planning Board requesting that corrections be made in the resolutions dated September 25, 2003 and January 15, 2004 stating that the Southampton Fire Protection District recommended not the Southampton Fire District. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Press	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. White	Aye	<u>VS1-74</u>

Chairman Press questioned whether a district could establish a reserve account for water main extensions requiring subdivisions to pay a fee per lot to said account. Mr. Glass pointed out that the Southampton Fire District recommends. It has no zoning or planning authority. The Southampton Town has the zoning and planning authority.

Chairman Press reported that at the Tuesday meeting of Board of the Village of Southampton, a resolution was passed to explore the feasibility of combining the fire district of Southampton Village with the Southampton Fire District.

On motion made by Mr. Press and seconded by Mr. White, the Board of Fire Commissioners agreed to go into Executive Session at 9:10 PM. The vote to approve this was as follows:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Press	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. White	Aye	<u>VS1-75</u>

The following topics were discussed in executive session.

Negotiation strategy with the Village of Southampton

We still do not have an idea of indirect expenses.

We agree with the unifying the village and Southampton Fire District.

A letter should be sent regarding discussions for fire protection services contract for 2005. Mr. Glass will fax a letter to the secretary.

Question regarding 2% money from New York State. If there is a Benevolent Association, the check must be made out to it not the fire department. Mr. Glass will check into this.

Private Roads

By law, the Southampton Fire District cannot pay rental fees for hydrants placed on private roads.

Suggestion was made to identify private roads in the district, get attorney opinion to send with letter to Suffolk County Water Authority to remove from Southampton Fire District account and to

Homeowners Association (or homeowners) informing individuals of responsibility.

Mr. Glass will fax a sample letter from the Southampton Fire District to the private road homeowners.

A real estate tax reduction for volunteer firemen was enhance on February 27, 2004. The school districts have to pass it to provide for members. The Governor's Message is posted on www.state.ny.us

Bonds issue scenarios were discussed.

Executive session was adjourned at 10:23 PM and the Board of Fire Commissioners returned to the regular meeting.

There being no further business to be brought before the Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, a motion was made by Mr. Grisnik and seconded by Mr. White to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved as follow:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Press	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. White	Aye	<u>VS1-76</u>

Chairman Press declared the meeting adjourned at 10:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bette-jeanne H. Schreier
Secretary