

REGULAR MEETING

SOUTHAMPTON FIRE DISTRICT

May 14, 2009

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

PRESENT: Commissioners Fred Andrews, Robert Grisnik, David Price, Harald Steudte, Tom White, Treasurer Mike Hadix and Secretary Kristin White

ABSENT: N/A

GUESTS: Southampton Village Fire Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Dennis Roy, Ex-Chief Joe Corr.

A motion was made by Mr. Steudte and seconded by Mr. Price to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 16, 2009 with corrections. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Andrews	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. Grisnik	Aye
Mr. Steudte	Aye				<u>VW6-48</u>

Chief's Report: Chief's report was submitted by Chief Roy. There has been 60 calls in the village, 33 district, reported no, but the Chief recalls 2 mutual aid with North Sea Fire Department, and 1 call on the Reservation. There has been nothing out of the ordinary, no structures fires, all numbers are down, the false alarm calls are also down. The Chiefs asked the alarm companies if they have been finding that people are turning their systems off, the response was that people are servicing their system more often.

Mr. Stuedte asked if there had been any discussion as to pulling building permits on residences under construction with multiple false alarms. Can the Chiefs make this recommendation?

Chief Roy responded that they initially ask to have work ceased for the day and have the system tested, the department also asks the code enforcers to come in and check everything. Chief Roy wasn't sure if they had gotten to the point of discussing pulling of the permit.

Mr. Steudte recalled that a stop work order put was issued on St. Andrews when under construction. He personally had to call Town hall several times because of the practices of the construction company. With the assistance of Ex-chief Corr it was stated that the

chiefs do not have the power to pull building permit, but after several calls they do call the Fire Marshal who does have that power. The current construction sites have seemed to have gotten the message that these multiple false alarms are no longer tolerated.

Mr. Andrews asked if there are currently any offenders of multiple false alarms, Chief Roy responded that is the past there were many but it seems to have come to a stop with the fee raise.

It was asked of Chief Roy if he would share with the Board of Fire Commissioner what the presentation in front of Village Board was in reference too. He stated it was an informal presentation in reference to the future renovation/construction on the Hampton Road Fire Station in reference to square footage, looks, how it is laid out, etc.

The Board reviewed the 14 vouchers presented by the Treasurer.

Mr. Price asked about the well on Jordan drive, is the district being billed for this? Yes we are. He also asked if Chief Roy knew if the shallow wells in the district had been pumped and when, Chief Roy responded they had been pumped last fall.

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

Mr. Andrews	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. Grisnik	Aye
Mr. Steudte	Aye				<u>VW6-49</u>

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. A motion was made by Mr. Steudte and seconded by Mr. Price to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Andrews	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. Grisnik	Aye
Mr. Steudte	Aye				<u>VW6-50</u>

Mr. Andrews stated to the Chief that the Board of Fire Commissioners would be delighted to entertain the same presentation that was being made to the Village Board.

The Secretary reviewed the correspondence sent and received over the last month. A list is attached herein.

#### Committee Reports-

Fire District Budget – N/A

Fire Protection Contract – As reported by Mr. Price: On May 6<sup>th</sup> there was a meeting of the Long Range Planning committee consisting of member of the Village Board, Board of Fire Commissioners and the Fire Department Chiefs. A discussion was begun with 4 village board members, the treasurer, two chiefs, Mr. Andrews and Mr. Price and agreement was made on a number of \$875,000.00 for Reserves, how these reserves are broken up is up to the fire department. A commitment letter was requested from the Village Board as to these numbers to bring to the Commissioner meeting, we do

not have at this time. It became obvious that the Village Board will move ahead with a building at Hampton Road with or without a Long Range Planning Committee meeting. Another meeting has been scheduled for May 19<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Price was disappointed with the lack of willingness to work with the Board of Fire Commissioners on a grand plan. Mike Coffe was in attendance at the meeting to guide the Village Board with the PR involved in moving ahead with the construction of Hampton Road. It is Mr. Price's opinion that the department is missing out on an opportunity by going ahead with their own construction. The contract looks good, just waiting for commitment from Village Board on the proposed numbers. Mr. Grisnik asked if there was a discussion on length of contract. Mr. Price responded two to five years with Mayor Epley proposing 5 yrs, it depends on what type of percentage will be tacked on, right now it is figured with a 5% increase annually. Mr. Price is not sure if the proposal will be a 5% increase right away tacked on to the \$875,000 or if it will begin in the second year. The total financial numbers in reference to running the fire department have come down in an excess of \$500,000. Mr Andrews's statement it was a very congenial meeting, the Village Board readily agreed to the numbers that Mr. Price and Mr. White came up with, coming down \$200,000 in facilities reserve, if these numbers are correct the district will end up paying less next year than we are this year with the newly agreed upon 60/40 split. The Village feels an urgency to go ahead with Hampton Road, and that is where their focus is. Either we move with them or we don't. The Village Board's priority is to move forward with this for August. They are looking to have a separate vote from their regular elections to finance the Hampton Rd project. The Village feels strongly that they want to have a vote while the majority of their residents are here. The Financial PR person was at the meeting to give advice on going ahead with the Hampton Road Fire House renovations.

#### Long Range Planning – N/A

Wells, Hydrants & Water Mains – We just received a box of hydrant markers, Mr. Price asked the Chief to please report if any hydrant markers are needed. Mr. Stuedte reported that he has been solicited by the SCWA to extend a water main down North Sea Mecox (from North Sea Rd) to Simms Lane (just east of the Majors Path Intersection) a ten year period for payment was proposed. He asked some of his neighbors if they were interested, he doesn't feel any of the neighbors were receptive. It was reported at the North Sea Fire House Officers Association meeting that this extension was in the works.

Old Business – The resolution to table the RFP for 60 days is now up. Mr. Stuedte stated it is obvious the Village does not want to go ahead with the study (to learn the overall fire protection needs of the Fire District and Village of Southampton); it would be to the district's advantage to do the study. Mr. White added we should at least determine what the cost will be. Mr. Stuedte agrees with Mr. White but also wants to move ahead with the study. Mr. Andrews stated we should wait to see the outcome of the next Long Range Planning Committee and see if we can take steps forward unilaterally. There doesn't seem to be any aversion to moving forward together. We need to make sure the Long Range Planning Committee gets off on the right foot. He thinks it would be a very bad idea to move forward at this point and launch our own study at this juncture without waiting another 30 days to see how the committee will proceed. Mr. Stuedte stated he

feels we need to do what is in our own best interest without influence of the feelings of the Village. We can move forward with several issues at the same time and see what pans out and not wait. Mr. Andrews agrees but also stated that a joint study would be far superior to individual studies. If this is a possibility we should see it out. If this ends up being an empty gesture than we go ahead, but this is the most promising venue for working out many concerns. Mr. Grisnik asked for the wording of the motion from two months ago when it was decided the board would table the RFP for 60 days. Mr. White stated that he wasn't looking to go forward with a study but felt we should at least find out what it will cost. We must at least do that. Mr. Stuedte stated Mr. Price spoke with two people in regards to the cost, but that was a year. Mr. Price said we should put out the RFP, not to do the study but determine what it will cost. His personal feeling is that it would be best if the study was of the entire fire protection area not just the District.

A motion was made by Mr. Andrews to defer any consideration of doing a study or issuing an RFP for 30 days, no second was made.

A motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Stuedte to circulate an RFP purely for financial consideration.

Discussion on motion: Mr. Andrews stated this is a consideration that should be on the table for the Long Range Planning Committee at its initial meeting scheduled for May 19th. With the cooperation of the Long Range Planning Committee it would be a positive thing, Mr. Andrews does not know how the Village would perceive this action with out their consideration. We would be ill-advised to preempt that action. Mr. Stuedte feels that the delegates of the District to the committee will have one more thing in their pocket if this is already decided, and not have to come back to the Board of Fire Commissioners for approval on this matter. Mr. White does not believe that in the four days between now and the meeting there will be any idea of what the study will cost. We shouldn't wait for the Long Range Planning Committee.

Mr. Andrews offered an amendment to the study to read that the District invite the Long Range Planning Committee to join the Board of Fire Commissioners in issuing an RFP and seeking to ascertain what the cost of the study would be. No second was made.

The original motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Andrews	Nay	Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. Grisnik	Aye	
Mr. Steudte	Aye	Mr. White	Aye			<u>VW6-51</u>

New Business – Mr. Price reported on the letter to Supervisor Kabot in reference to the proposed 51 townhouses in Water Mill, 12 affordable units have been proposed, after reviewing the plans it become obvious that their was potential to obtain a site for a sub-station in Water Mill. The site is 5.7 acres. It may not be the perfect site but it is an opportunity to obtain a site with 0 costs to the taxpayers. The second letter to Supervisor Kabot is in reference to better access to residences for emergency vehicles, possible mandating a 14 foot access to properties. A letter to SCWA in reference to the debris found in the dead end water mains was discussed, the District is asking the SCWA to

help with this problem. SCWA has acknowledged the problem, it was discussed with Mr. White and the SCWA representative stated to provide the cost of equipment repairs as well as the location of the problem main and they would take care of it.

Peconic Beverage site map in reference to moving an existing garage to the property located on County Road 39 was reviewed. There is no new construction.

There was a meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April with the Town Planning Board, the secretary had received notification that discussion at the meeting would be in reference to Hawke Enterprises.

Public Participation- Ex-Chief Corr asked about the Knox Box installation at P.C. Richards, if that was on the new building or the old. He wanted to know who was controlling the positioning and locking of these boxes. The Secretary stated that when these calls come in she refers them to the Village or Town Fire Marshal which ever office is appropriate. He also feels it would be beneficial for the Chief to coordinate with the fire marshal on the knox box placement as well as at the time of locking to be made aware of the key positioning and what each key opens.

A motion was made by Mr. Steudte and seconded by Mr. Price to go into Executive session at 8:40 p.m. for the purpose of discussing contractual matters. The motion was passed by the following vote.

Mr. Andrews	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. Grisnik	Aye	
Mr. Steudte	Aye	Mr. White	Aye			<u>VW6-52</u>

A motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Price to reconvene open session for the purpose of adjournment. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Mr. Andrews	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. Grisnik	Aye	
Mr. Steudte	Aye	Mr. White	Aye			<u>VW6-53</u>

A motion was made by Mr. Stuedte and seconded by Mr. Andrews to adjourn tonight's meeting. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Mr. Andrews	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. Grisnik	Aye	
Mr. Steudte	Aye	Mr. White	Aye			<u>VW6-54</u>

Chairman Grisnik declared the meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kristin White, Secretary