

REGULAR MEETING

SOUTHAMPTON FIRE DISTRICT

JUNE 14, 2007

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire 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, copy of which is attached hereto. The meeting opened at 7:40 PM with the salute to the flag followed by a moment of silence.

PRESENT: Commissioners Robert Grisnik, David Price, Harald Steudte, Treasurer Michael Hadix and Secretary Nicole Hadix

ABSCENT: Commissioners W. Mark Press, Tom White

GUESTS: Southampton Fire Department Chief Joe Corr, Samuel Dimon, Dan Raynor, Teri Westerhoff, Ted Hornski.

Public Participation – Mr. Raynor spoke stating the formation of the District is good since the District would be a watchdog over the Fire Department's money and how it is spent. He stated it was poor timing to introduce plans for a new firehouse and is glad it is off the table at this time. Mr. Raynor stated he would like to see the Commissioner's move forward with unification plans because the department membership feels like they are in limbo and they desperately need a new firehouse. Mr. Grisnik thanked him for his comments and agreed. He spoke of a recent meeting with the Fire Chiefs that was productive. Mr. Steudte apologized for arriving late and spoke of importance of dialogue with Chiefs and Village. Not much can be done until after village elections. Also the newly elected officials will slow the process down due to a learning curve. Commissioner Price agreed the Village and Town have to be in agreement with unification. He stated some preliminary discussions were in place for a vote possible this December. The vote could be for Village residents only or all residents of the District depending on the decision by attorneys for unification. He stated negotiations will continue, he agrees the recent meeting with the chiefs was very good. Mr. Raynor agreed saying Chief Pierson has come around. He stated now is the time to push forward, the district now has clout, the chiefs are on board. He feels the Fire Department is stagnant because of these unresolved issues and also behind the other local Fire Departments in terms of fire house conditions. Commissioner Price agreed, but spoke of the process; the issue of unification must be resolved first. He spoke of upcoming discussions with the village and town and also with Mr. Thiele and Mr. LaSalle due to the need for special legislation. Special legislation is needed to maintain LOSAP as well as keep the 5 individual charters intact. The plan is to maintain the department structure and minimize changes to the department and this requires special legislation from Albany.

Mr. Raynor suggested letting the membership know what changes to expect upon unification. He stated the biggest concern of the membership is slush money. Commissioner Price stated in order for 2% money to continue special legislation must be passed. Mr. Raynor suggested putting together a map of the membership to pinpoint where members live within the district. Commissioner Price stated this has already been done but needs to be updated. Commissioner Grisnik thanked Mr. Raynor for his comments.

Chief's Report – No NFPA report at this time. Chief Corr arrived late due to an emergency planning meeting on the reservation. Commissioner Steudte asked what the meeting was about. Chief Corr answered it was regarding any hazardous situation; to set up plans for any and all possible emergencies at the reservation with evacuation plans. He stated the local Red Cross evacuation centers are the Southampton High School and Riverhead High School. Chief Corr informed the board of an upcoming drill at Southampton Hospital.

A motion was made by Mr. Steudte and seconded by Mr. Price to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 10, 2007. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Steudte	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye			<u>VH4-61</u>

A motion was made by Mr. Price and seconded by Mr. Steudte to approve the eighteen vouchers presented by Treasurer Hadix for payment. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Steudte	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye			<u>VH4-62</u>

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed (a copy attached herein). A motion was made by Mr. Steudte and seconded by Mr. Price to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Steudte	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye			<u>VH4-63</u>

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

#### Committee Reports

Fire District Budget – Budget is up to date. Majority of large expenses have been paid for the year, except for the bill for hydrants due in August.

Fire Protection Contract – Within the first year of a 3 year contract.

Long Range Planning – No Report.

Wells, Hydrants & Water Mains – Secretary Hadix spoke of the Hampton Little Neck site plan which needed to be reviewed by the board. She also spoke of the “Notice to Bidders” for removal of four electric deep wells which needed to be approved by the Board. Commissioner Price asked to have Mr. Glass approve the Notice to Bidders. Commissioner Steudte stated the Fire District purchased a weed wacker and the community service workers have been using it to clear brush from fire hydrants. He stated he met with the Water Mill CAC which requested the use of some workers to pick up litter in the area. They are also continuing to paint wells and boxes. Mr. Dimon asked if the Fire Department could get a map of all electric deep wells so he as the tanker driver would know which wells are functional vs. non functional. Commissioner Grisnik stated Chief Pierson gets all the updated information regarding wells. Commissioner Steudte stated we are working on getting an updated map including numbered wells. Commissioner Price stated he received a dozen new District signs from the town.

A motion was made by Mr. Price and seconded by Mr. Steudte to approve the “Notice to Bidders” pending approval from the Southampton Fire District’s attorney Mr. Glass. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Steudte	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye			<u>VH4-64</u>

Commissioner Grisnik spoke of the site plan for Hampton Little Neck. Commissioner Price will consult with Commissioner Press and Chief Pierson regarding the SCWA request and the secretary will send out the appropriate response.

Old Business – Commissioner Grisnik talked about the model Code of Ethics adopted at May’s meeting and the revised Code of Ethics supplied by attorney Glass. There are a number of differences that will have to be reviewed by the Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Price and seconded by Mr. Steudte to table the review of the Code of Ethics for 30 days. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Steudte	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye			<u>VH4-65</u>

Treasurer Hadix presented the Board with the sample badges for their review.

A motion was made by Mr. Steudte and seconded by Mr. Price to order badges and cases for the commissioners from East End Quartermaster. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Steudte	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye			<u>VH4-66</u>

Commissioner Grisnik asked about the website. Treasures Hadix stated the website’s front page is done, all content should be completed and the website running by the end of the month.

---

New Business – No Report

Public Participation – Mr. Raynor asked about the status of the Chiarani property. Commissioner Grisnik stated the paperwork has been signed and a down payment made. All paperwork for the subdivision of the property is in the hands of the planning board. Mr. Raynor asked for a timeframe. Commissioner Price stated it could take 6 months to 1 year. The Fire District has a signed contract to purchase this property, however it will take time for all paperwork to be processed. Mr. Raynor stated that Chief Corr said he is concerned about the intersection of County Road 39 and North Sea Road. He felt a firehouse there would be a bad decision due the intersection being reconfigured. Commissioner Price stated the property is north of the intersection and would not be an issue. Commissioner Steudte restated the Fire District is in contract to purchase the property. There is a process they have to follow through the planning board and health department. The time frame is out of their hands.

Chief Corr and Commissioner Grisnik discussed a few dates for the next unification meeting with the Chiefs and the Fire District Board. Chief Corr requested the meetings start after 7pm.

A motion was made by Mr. Steudte and seconded by Mr. Price at 8:26 PM to recess to executive session to discuss personnel matters. The motion was passed by the following vote.

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Steudte	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye			<u>VH4-67</u>

The case of Southampton Fire District vs. Village of Southampton was discussed.

The executive session was adjourned at 8:40 PM and the Board of Fire Commissioners returned to the regular meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Steudte and seconded by Mr. Price to follow Mr. Orzechowski's recommendations in the case of Southampton Fire District vs. Village of Southampton. The motion was passed by the following vote.

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Steudte	Aye	
Mr. Price	Aye			<u>VH4-68</u>

The Commissioners asked the secretary to write a letter to Mr. Orzechowski requesting he forward all correspondence regarding the Southampton Fire District to the Fire District office for their records.

Chairman Grisnik declared the meeting adjourned at 8:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nicole Hadix  
Secretary

