

REGULAR MEETING

SOUTHAMPTON FIRE DISTRICT

JULY 8, 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 7:32 PM with the salute to the flag followed by a moment of silence.

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

Public Participation: Attendance list attached.

Concerns were discussed at length. Tim Hurley, representing the Southampton Volunteer Ambulance, questioned whether the Southampton Fire District was going to have their own rescue squad.

At the present time the Southampton Fire District is trying to maintain the status with the Village. The District has no plans of doing anything until all avenues have been exhausted to maintain a contract and a relationship with the Village of Southampton that provides the fire protection.

Edwin Schwenk, a taxpayer and former fireman, questioned why the Southampton Fire District and the Village of Southampton cannot come to terms for fire protection. He wanted to know if the problem was inadequate coverage or excessive cost for the taxpayer. The present rate per hundred appears to be competitive with neighboring fire districts. Southampton Village Trustee Ed Britt participated as a representative of the Southampton Village Board.

The Board of Commissioners is trying to negotiate a fair contract but so far the Village of Southampton has not provided a history of expenses, direct and indirect, to determine the actual cost of fire protection for the Southampton Fire District taxpayers. The issue is not with the men of the Southampton Fire Department. It's an administrative problem between the Village of Southampton and the Southampton Fire District.

Rodney C. Pierson, a fireman, commented that the firemen feel they are part of the issue because of the rumors circulating that the department may split up. Rodney B. Pierson commented that the presence of the commissioners from Bridgehampton, Hampton Bays, and North Sea sends a message that the Board of Commissioners is looking elsewhere.

The commissioners from Bridgehampton, Hampton Bays, and North Sea were invited to this meeting to help us with challenges, talk over mutual concerns, and answer questions about the election policy we face for the first time this fall. The Board of Commissioners would like to meet with the Council of the Southampton Fire Department but our contract

does not allow us to contact the Fire Chiefs directly. All correspondence must go through the Village of Southampton. We would like to open up the lines of communication with the Council but, aside from one meeting, there has been no follow-up.

Chief's Report: Chief James Walsh reported that there were no calls during the US Open held in June at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club.

Trustee Ed Britt submitted several "Incident Reports" which were requested by the Board last month. The "Incident Type Report" dated 1/1/04 through 6/20/04 and 1/1/03 through 1/1/04 only indicates incident types (e.g. fire, rescues & emergency medial service, hazardous). They do not breakdown the calls by location as we requested (village vs. outlying districts). The "Incident List" from 1/1/03 through 1/1/04 is a listing by street address. Copies are attached to these minutes.

A motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Grisnik to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 10, 2004 as presented. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye
Mr. Martinez	Aye	Mr. White	Aye
Mr. Press	Aye		

VS1-102

The Board reviewed the 8 vouchers presented by the Treasurer.

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

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye
Mr. Martinez	Aye	Mr. White	Aye
Mr. Press	Aye		

VS1-103

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

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye
Mr. Martinez	Aye	Mr. White	Aye
Mr. Press	Aye		

VS1-104

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

Old Business

Sebonack Golf Club – We still have to determine if the request is for public water on a private water main.

Mr. Price reviewed the FOIL list of membership. There are approximately 25 residing in the Tuckahoe School District and 68 in the Southampton School District. Mr. Grisnik ex-

plained that there is a real estate tax reduction for volunteer firemen. This was enhanced on February 27, 2004. The school district has to pass it to provide for members. The FOIL request to the Village of Southampton for volunteer firemen addresses was to determine the eligibility for such a consideration.

Activities for Approval

The Fire District Secretary was authorized on a motion made by Mr. Grisnik and seconded by Mr. Price to publish a Notice of Public Hearing for the 2005 Southampton Fire District Budget, with a Hearing Date of August 12th at our next regular meeting. The vote to approve this was as follows:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye
Mr. Martinez	Aye	Mr. White	Aye
Mr. Press	Aye		

VS1-105

On motion made by Mr. Grisnik and seconded by Mr. Martinez, the Board of Fire Commissioners agreed to go into Executive Session 9:05 PM. The vote to approve this was as follows:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye
Mr. Martinez	Aye	Mr. White	Aye
Mr. Press	Aye		

VS1-106

Invited Commissioners from Bridgehampton, Hampton Bays, and North Sea Fire Districts participated to discuss contract matters.

Executive session was adjourned at 9:15 PM and the Board of Fire Commissioners returned to the regular meeting.

New Business

Discussion continued with remaining participants regarding election procedures, the different groups that we should belong to, terminology and policy procedures.

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. Martinez to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved as follows:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye
Mr. Martinez	Aye	Mr. White	Aye
Mr. Press	Aye		

VS1-107

Chairman Press declared the meeting adjourned at 10:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bette-jeanne H. Schreier
Secretary