

REGULAR MEETING

SOUTHAMPTON FIRE DISTRICT

SEPTEMBER 8, 2005

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire 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.

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

GUESTS: Southampton Fire Department First Assistant Chief Joe Corr, Michael Conte, CEO Syntax Communications

Chief's Report - Chief Joe Corr gave an Incident Report for period from August 11 – September 8, 2005 which is attached herein. He also notified us that Herbert “Eggie” Raynor, a member of the Southampton Fire Department, who had fallen in the parking lot of the Windmill Lane Fire House while answering a fire (false) alarm, has had an operation but is recuperating at home. Commissioner Press reported that he has looked at the wells the fire department reported on last month and many of the ones needing attention are in hydrated areas. The board would like the input of the chiefs of the Southampton Fire Department as to how these wells should be handled. This would be discussed on the meeting to be held on September 22, 2005. Chief Corr mentioned the Muster to be held on Saturday, September 10, 2005.

A motion was made by Mr. Grisnik and seconded by Mr. Price to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 11, 2005 as well as the minutes of the Executive Work Session held August 30, 2005 as presented. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye	
Mr. Pierson	Aye	Mr. White	Aye	
Mr. Press	Aye			<u>VS2-79</u>

A motion was made by Mr. Grisnik and seconded by Mr. Pierson to approve the 4 vouchers as presented. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye	
Mr. Pierson	Aye	Mr. White	Aye	
Mr. Press	Aye			<u>VS2-80</u>

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

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye
Mr. Pierson	Aye	Mr. White	Aye
Mr. Press	Aye		

VS2-81

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

#### Committee Reports

A. Fire District Budget - The Commissioners reviewed the Budget worksheet for 2006. There was some discussion. The 2006 budget will be asking for the same rate as last year - \$0.392 per \$1,000 assessed valuation. A copy of the Southampton Fire District Budget Worksheet for 2006 is attached herein.

On motion made by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Pierson, the Board of Fire Commissioners accepted the budget for 2006 as presented. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye
Mr. Pierson	Aye	Mr. White	Aye
Mr. Press	Aye		

VS2-82

B. Fire Protection Contract – Mr. White reported that there have been no more negotiation meetings since August 1, 2005. A copy of his written request to the Village Board for a meeting is attached herein.

C. Long Range Planning - Chief Corr spoke of a concern from a member of the fire department asking why we have \$400,000 in a contract reserve fund. The commissioners requested that Chief Corr tell the fire department member to attend any of our meetings to get an answer to his question. The Southampton Fire District is budgeting for the future.

Mr. White explained that over the last seven years there has been 1.9 million dollars spent in procurement for the fire department. The town residents have paid 1.6 million dollars for this and the village residents have only paid 0.3 million.

A meeting between the Commissioners of the Southampton Fire District and the Chiefs of the Southampton Fire Department is scheduled for September 22, 2005 at 7:00 PM in the conference room.

Communication must be concise so that the membership of the fire department understands the issues and who is paying the bills. We will present the facts to the department whenever a meeting can be arranged.

There are 46 firemen in the department who live in the village. Sixteen are 70 years old and older. One is 20 years old. There are 29 fire fighters between 30 – 60 years old. There are double digits in the 60's and double digits in the 50's. A full complement of the department is 140 fire fighters but there are not that many at this time.

Chief Corr stated that the fear of the fire fighters have is that the 5 fire commissioners will dictate what the fire department can do. The new mayor is interested in understanding the issues between the fire department and the fire district. Knowledge is the key to understanding. The starting point will be the meeting on September 22, 2005.

D. Wells, Hydrants & Water Mains – no report

#### Old Business

November 4, 2005 – Southampton Town Fire District Meeting to be held at the Windmill Lane Fire House. Chief Corr indicated that the fire department will assist the fire district in this meeting (building use and manpower). Mr. Press will notify the Chairman DiMonda of the Southampton Town Fire District Meeting tomorrow.

Discussion continued with Michael Conte, CEO of Syntax Communication regarding strategy for a bond issue. The services that Syntax will provide are public relations counsel, strategy, message, writing and media relations. The fee structure accepted was the retainer rate of \$400 per month for all services.

A motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Grisnik to approve the services of Syntax Communication as per agreement (monthly retainer rate of \$400 per month). The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye
Mr. Pierson	Aye	Mr. White	Aye
Mr. Press	Aye		

VS2-83

Mr. Conte suggested that the commissioners go on a fact gathering mission during the meeting with the fire chiefs on September 22, 2005. Some one should take notes of all rumors in question so that the facts can be laid out in our future communications.

Mr. Conte will meet with several commissioners to continue this discussion on September 13, 2005 at 4:00 PM.

Logo – latest sample was distributed – to make patches or badges. Need samples for letterheads – with black and white or colors. Also need proper ID – check with other districts.

#### New Business

Put together an advertisement to clear the brush and snow removal around hydrants.

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Southampton Town Fire District meeting will be held at the Bridgehampton Fire House.

Mr. Price suggested that someone is needed to complete the paperwork for the state grant. Mr. Press would ask Linda Kabot for suggestions or perhaps contact Tom Martinez to see if he is still interested.

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

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye
Mr. Pierson	Aye	Mr. White	Aye
Mr. Press	Aye		

VS2-84

Chairman Press declared the meeting adjourned at 9:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bette-jeanne H. Schreier