

REGULAR MEETING

SOUTHAMPTON FIRE DISTRICT

September 10, 2009

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Southampton Fire District was called to order by Commissioner Price 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, David Price, Harald Steudte, Tom White, Treasurer Mike Hadix and Secretary Kristin White

ABSENT: Commissioner Robert Grisnik

GUESTS: 2nd Assistant Chief Southampton Village Fire Department Dennis Roy, Joe Corr.

A motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Steudte to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 20, 2009. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Andrews	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye	
Mr. Steudte	Aye	Mr. White	Aye	<u>VW6-71</u>

Chief's Report: Chief Roy reported the numbers of calls within the Village of Southampton, Southampton Fire District, Shinnecock Reservation and Mutual Aid for the period of time between 6/1/2009 and 9/10/2009.

The Board reviewed the 10 plus 1 vouchers presented by the Treasurer.

A motion was made by Mr. White 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. Steudte	Aye	Mr. White	Aye	<u>VW6-72</u>

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

Mr. Andrews	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye	
Mr. Steudte	Aye	Mr. White	Aye	<u>VW6-73</u>

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

Committee Reports-

Fire District Budget – The Budget has been redrawn to reflect the wishes of the commissioners. In the past years the fire district revenues for appropriation have been; In 2009 appropriations of \$1,526,746.00 with a tax rate of .256; in 2008 appropriations of \$1,600,586.00 with a tax rate of .2825; in 2007 appropriations of \$1,615,598.00 with a tax rate of .2993; and in 2006 appropriations of \$1,626,431.00 with a tax rate of .4203. Our proposed appropriations for 2010 are \$1,585,025.00 with a tax rate of .255.

Mr. Andrews asked what the difference in appropriations would be if the tax rate was cut to .25. The treasurer approximated about \$15,000. Mr. Steudte asked what the assessed valuation of the Fire District is. The Treasurer answered \$6,215,187,440, this is the taxable assessed value for the coming year of 2010, Mr. Steudte also asked what the value is for the last (2009) year. \$5,963,851,846.

Mr. Price asked what the next step was in the approval process of the District Budget, the treasurer responded it is up for discussion and approval of the Commissioners. A date has been set by the state for October 20, 2009 for the Public Budget Hearing. It will be advertised as stated by the NY State Bylaws.

The tax rate has been reduced from .4203 to .256 in the past 3 years. Mr. Andrews would like to see a rate of .25 achieved, he feels the budget can be reduced for the year 2010 to achieve this number.

A motion was made by Mr. Andrews and seconded by Mr. White to reduce the budget by \$20,000.00. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Mr. Andrews	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye	
Mr. Steudte	Aye	Mr. White	Aye	<u>VW6-74</u>

The treasurer will re-work the numbers to show the Commissioners desires.

Fire Protection Contract – A signed copy of the Fire Protection Contract has been recorded in the Fire District office, and the Secretary acting as record keeper has signed a copy of the Contract kept at Village Hall. There was some question as to whether there is a third copy located with the department and whether a signature by the secretary was necessary on that copy. It was agreed that likely the Village Copy is the official copy and that has been signed.

Long Range Planning – Chaleff and Rogers are moving ahead with the Site Plan for North Sea Rd. along appropriate path, no new developments at this time.

Wells, Hydrants & Water Mains – There may be an effort by The Suffolk County Water Authority to extend a water main down North Magee Street. A letter has been circulated to the residents asking for support.

Old Business – Waiting for closing date for Chirani property (North Sea Rd.).

New Business – The Board of elections has requested that the Southampton Fire District provide them with a new District Map. The Secretary has contacted the mapping company and the last official mapping was done in 2001. Mr. Price suggested contacting the Town of Southampton tax receiver office.

Mike Hadix District Treasurer stated his intention to not seek reappointment in 2010.

Mr. Steudte brought up the possibility of meeting with our neighboring districts to discuss what the impact on our East End Fire Districts to see what there intent of action would be for the upcoming new law affecting the ability to dismantle Districts and how their actions could affect the Southampton Fire District.

Mr. Price stated that he had desire to speak in a small group to other East End Town Commissioners about the future of the Fire Districts. In the future he sees that the East End Districts are going to become increasingly dependent on each other with decreasing volunteers and increasing costs associated with running a Fire District.

Mr. Andrews stated that perhaps we should wait for the RFP study to show what the future demands of our district will be before going forward with talks with other districts.

Mr. Price asked Mr. Steudte to go ahead and see if there are possible dates for an unofficial meeting with the Commissioners of our immediate neighbors.

At this time no responses to the proposed RFP have been received by the district office.

Public Participation – Mr. Corr requested a copy of the procedures for meeting operations and what is deemed appropriate for executive session. He also asked for a summary of the new legislation effecting Fire Districts. Without official wording the Commissioners summarised what had been explained to them by William Glass.

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

Mr. Andrews	Aye	Mr. Price	Aye	
Mr. Steudte	Aye	Mr. White	Aye	<u>VW6-75</u>

Commissioner Price declared the meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristin White, Secretary