

REGULAR MEETING

SOUTHAMPTON FIRE DISTRICT

October 9, 2008

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

GUESTS: Southampton Fire Department, Chief Joe Corr, 2nd Assistant Chief Rodney C. Pierson, Kelly Carrol Hamptons.com, Teri Westerhoff, Chris Brenner.

Public Participation: N/A

Chief's Report: Chief Rodney Pierson submitted the Incident Report for the month up to date as well as year up to date. It has been a slower month with the end of the tourist season with a total of 49 calls, mostly car accidents. The Chief shared with the board that this is the beginning of fire prevention month, a very busy month for the department. The Department speaks to every class in the district about fire prevention and teaches them what to do in the case of a fire. The district makes use of their fire prevention trailer, giving the children an opportunity to practice what they have learned. The children are able to crawl through a smoke simulation to experience what it would be like in real life. There are many members who participate in the program, it is well organized. Chief Pierson also noted that the North Sea Fire Department is involved and a thank you to them. The Fire Department will be hosting an open house on Sunday October 12 with demonstrations; this is open to the entire community.

Mr. Grisnik approved the minutes for motion. A motion was made by Mr. Andrew and seconded by Mr. White to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 11, 2008. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Andrews	Aye	Mr. Steudte	Aye
Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. White	Aye		<u>VW5-76</u>

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

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Andrews	Aye	Mr. Steudte	Aye
Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. White	Aye		<u>VW5-77</u>

Mr. Grisnik asked why the voucher numbers were out of order, the Treasurer explained the voucher coincide with the check used to pay them and that the checks had gotten out of order.

Revenues received to date reviewed, expenses updated with this months vouchers. Balances in accounts reviewed. Mr. Andrews asked what the general fund was; it is a fund that holds the money until it is decided on where they should go.

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

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Andrews	Aye	Mr. Steudte	Aye
Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. White	Aye		<u>VW5-78</u>

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

The secretary reviewed the False Alarm Report from the Department and found that out of the 450 false alarms, 33% are in the outlying district, of those calls 37% were to National Golf Links, Sebonac Golf Course or Stony Brook University.

The Hydrant Use Permit requested is for a hydrant in the village and will be forwarded through Chief Pierson to the Village Fire Commissioner.

We will discuss some of the correspondence under new business.

Discussion followed in reference to the application for Ray Smith and Associates. The application has to do with the issue of property access. The residents of Tuckahoe are concerned about trucks traveling through a residential area. It has been proposed to install a median forcing all truck traffic to use Montauk Highway. A mountable curb has been proposed and speced. Emergency trucks (i.e. ladder truck) coming from the east would have to go into center lane to make the turn, but it seems to be a good compromise all around.

In reference to Linda Gilmartin subdivision, the board is concerned about accessibility. A response will be drafted alerting the Town Board to the concern about accessibility of Emergency vehicles.

Committee Reports-

Fire District Budget – The Budget Hearing will take place at the Tuckahoe School on Tuesday the 21st. The treasurer requested the use of an overhead projector. An approval will be made on that night unless there is concern from the public.

Fire Protection Contract – The board is hoping to extend the contract with the village. An extension would be advantageous to get a study done. Mr. Andrews suggested that a letter be sent requesting an extension. Mr. Steudte suggested that the board go to the village meeting and request publicly an extension. Mr. Grisnik suggested we write a letter first and if nothing has been decided, and then make a public request. Mr. Steudte also raised concern about the future need for a new fire house and how that would affect a future contract. Mr. Andrews through talks with the mayor said the mayor doesn't see anything happening until after the first of the year, he is unable to get a majority from his board. Mr. Steudte feels that the Village is always putting the board off, saying wait until after.... Mr. Andrews agrees but feels that a joint RPF would be the most creditable. Mr. Steudte asked of Mr. Andrews, when do we stop waiting for the Village, Mr. Andrews suggested a few more months before the Board pushes, possibly by the first of the year. Mr. White asked of the Chief if he felt his 1st Assistant is interested in a joint discussion. The 2nd Assistant would not speak for the 1st Assistant but said he would like to see a joint discussion. Mr. White suggested we give The 2nd Assistant Chief a chance to show his support, desire, opinion on the matter and then go forward from there. Mr. Grisnik pointed out that in the past the Village Commissioner has said he will do whatever his Chief wants him to do. Mr. Price said if separate studies are done, the “tracks” will continue to get further apart. We must work towards working together. A deadline, with the help of the Chiefs, must be set with the Village.

Long Range Planning –

Wells, Hydrants & Water Mains – discussed with correspondence

Old Business – Chinairi property, Mr. White has spoken with Chinairi, he is done with installations. The Board of Health inspection was being done October 9. A survey would be given to the Board of Health and then back to the Town. Need to follow up and stay on top of.

New Business – Chaleff and Rogers wrote a letter of thanks for inviting them to the meeting, and a proposal for development of a site plan and its requirements. In the development of a site plan a committee of The Fire Department and Commissioners would need to discuss requirements. Also included was an estimated timeline of developing and approval of a site plan. Comments were asked for, Mr. Andrews felt we should let it sit for awhile, the Board may be getting ahead of themselves. At least 3 bids should be submitted. They will hold this until the first of the year.

Mr. Steudte asked how many outstanding hydrant permits were there. The Secretary will contact SCWA for a list of use permits.

Mr. Steudte also commented on the letter to the editor from Father Trench, there have been several letters. Father Trench has commented to Mr. Steudte that he will use whatever means he can to disband the Board of Fire Commissioners. He feels that we should do our own PR. Mr. Price agreed and said we should no longer let letters go without responding. Mr. Andrews does not feel we should respond to negative press. Mr. Steudte agreed but stated we need to do something, especially since many of the negative press is factually incorrect. Mr. Andrews stated that eventually we are all going to have to work together and the fewer scares we inflict the better. Mr. Steudte suggested some kind of newsletter instead of responding one to one.

Discussion of the false alarm statistics was begun by Mr. Andrews. Possibly we should contact the proper personnel at the institutions compiling the majority of the false alarms and see how we can minimize these alarms. At the University they have their own Fire Marshal, when he is there during the day he is the first responder, but at night he is on an on call basis, the calls goes to the Department first. The Board will assist in minimizing future calls.

A motion was made by Mr. Andrews and seconded by Mr. Steudte at 8:30 PM to recess as Executive Session was not necessary. The motion was passed by the following vote.

Mr. Grisnik	Aye	Mr. Andrews	Aye	Mr. Steudte	Aye
Mr. Price	Aye	Mr. White	Aye		<u>VW5-79</u>

Chairman Grisnik declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristin White, Secretary