
Old Business:

Commissioner Wickham forwarded the January meeting minutes to the Town of Seneca Town Clerk. He will follow up to find out if they have been posted on the town's website.

Kate discussed options for different reserve funds and suggested the board look into creating a bonded indebtedness reserve at this point in time and discuss proposing a capital reserve to the voters in December. Commissioners discussed what expenses would be allowed under each type of reserve and how much they would consider contributing. Commissioner Lehman felt with the bond paydown coming in 2024 for the building, this would be a good step to save for that purpose, as well as the annual payments.

Resolution #11 of 2023: Authorization to Create and Fund a Bonded Indebtedness Reserve Fund

WHEREAS, the Stanley Fire District Board of Commissioners is authorized under NYS General Municipal Law §6(h) to create and fund a reserve known as Bonded Indebtedness for the purpose of paying principal or interest on, or purchasing, bonds issued by the Stanley Fire District having a maximum maturity of no less than five years; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners is aware that the 2022 Annual Budget ended with a surplus in revenue, bringing the 2022 year-end unassigned, unappropriated fund balance to \$136,614.00; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners wishes to appropriate a portion of this unassigned, unappropriated fund balance to a Reserve Fund for the payment of Bonded Indebtedness; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Stanley Fire District Board of Commissioners hereby approves the opening of a Bonded Indebtedness Reserve fund and directs the Fire District Treasurer to make a \$50,000.00 contribution to this reserve.

Commissioner Lehman made a motion to accept Resolution #11 of 2023. Commissioner Wickham seconded. All approved, motion carried.

Commissioner Wickham spoke with a commissioner from the Seneca Castle Fire District and discussed getting together at the end of the month. He will also reach out to commissioners from Hall to see if they are available and will let everyone know when that is scheduled.

Commissioner Lehman wondered if the department would like to hold an event for the NYS volunteer recruitment day April 22-23. Jerry and Robbie both said they would like to hold an open house. We can put a message on the sign out front and advertise. They also discussed also having some type of demonstration for people to participate in. Commissioner Lehman also suggested having the commissioners help out financially or try to obtain giveaway items. Robbie shared that he would like to set up a facebook page for the department to help with recruiting and advertising as well.

Commissioner Lehman is waiting to dig further into an equipment plan until the commissioners meet to discuss options for the future.

Commissioner Fairbrother asked about the DEC grant that the department has applied for each year. Jerry has not received information yet, but will look into it as new turn out gear is needed in the coming months.

New Business:

Commissioner Wickham asked about the concern Mr. Townley had brought up about insurance ratings. Commissioner Lehman explained that the ISO rating affects properties in the fire district, not the fire district's insurance itself. The impact is generally greater on commercial properties than residential. In terms of the changes to our district, it isn't likely to significantly impact the community since our equipment and response times haven't changed, and the town has fire hydrants. The district will be notified if ISO is going to come out to do an inspection, which will last a few days. Mutual aid response is also considered, and we have that set up automatically, so we are not likely to see a significant change to the district's rating.

Commissioner Fleig researched metal house signs and had some questions. Primarily, do we want the whole sign to be reflective or just the numbers? Commissioner Wickham felt it would be better to have the whole sign reflective, everyone else agreed. Commissioner Lehman suggested we look at duplicating the program that Hopewell is currently offering. The signs would be vertical for the mailbox pole, green, double sided. Commissioner Fleig will keep going with her research.

Kate presented a list of assets for the district to report for the state annual financial report. Commissioners reviewed the totals and had no questions.

Resolution #12 of 2023: Accepting Fixed Asset Values as of 12/31/2022

WHEREAS, the Stanley Fire District Board of Commissioners received a request from the NYS Office of the State Comptroller to provide a listing of the district's capital assets and values; and

WHEREAS, the Fire District Treasurer has prepared a detailed list of capital assets for the Stanley Fire District detailing purchase and current values for land, buildings, vehicles and equipment totaling 1,559,121.45 as of 12/31/2022; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Stanley Fire District Board of Commissioners hereby accepts the fixed asset list prepared as of 12/31/2022 and directs the District Treasurer to maintain and update such information annually.

Commissioner Lehman made a motion to accept Resolution #12 of 2023. Commissioner Fairbrother seconded. All approved, motion carried.

Chief's Report:

Jerry will be attending an advisory board meeting in the coming days. The county Emergency Management office is in the process of reviewing the report from the full EMS study conducted this past year. He also reported that there has been discussion with Senator Helming of having the state create a program that would offer stipends for volunteer firefighters. There are also programs that would offer retirement for volunteers based on participation in training and meetings. Membership is an issue that even paid departments are having, so he is looking forward to what the final outcome of this study will be.

Jerry reported that he was contacted by the company that manages gas from the digester at Lawnhurst. He offered to meet with the department, which Jerry will take advantage of because they would like to see the equipment and understand how it works.

Jerry submitted a copy of the bylaws of the department for signature. Commissioner Jantzen signed and this will be kept on file in the office.

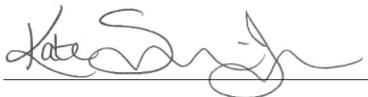
There is a new email address for the department, it is stanleyfire@yahoo.com. The office is all set up with the new monitor and working well.

Lastly, Jerry attended a training which discussed the need to clean turn-out gear on site to prevent exposure to carcinogens. He prepared a kit to have on the truck in order to do this and they trained on how to properly wash gear at the most recent meeting. Once they return from a call, the gear will get washed again in the washing machine.

Minutes were read aloud. Commissioner Fairbrother made a motion to approve the minutes, Commissioner Fleig seconded the motion. All approved, motion carried.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm on motion of Commissioner Lehman, seconded by Commissioner Jantzen. All approved.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kate Silverstrim-Jensen", written over a horizontal line.

Kate Silverstrim-Jensen