

Eggertsville Fire District

1880 Eggert Road
Eggertsville, New York 14226-2233

COMMISSIONERS:

BRIAN K. MULTERER – Chairperson
JOHN M. KWIATKOWSKI – Vice Chairperson
PATRICK M. GALVIN
CHRISTINA M. MASTRELLA
TYRONE P. SMITH

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

RAYMOND F. BRAUN
Secretary/Treasurer

May 1, 2025

Called the meeting to order by Chairman Multerer at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance: Kwiatkowski, Mastrella, Multerer and Smith, Chief Whitehead Jr., Andrew Hazzan, David Mastrella and Braun. Unavailable Galvin.

Motion by Multerer, seconded by Kwiatkowski, to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2025 meeting as written, motion carried.

Correspondence Sent:

04/08/2025 Legal Notice sent to The Amherst Bee for a Capital Reserve Truck Fund Permissive Referendum to purchase one Medium Duty Rescue Vehicle for \$400,000.00.

04/08/2025 Legal Notice sent to The Amherst Bee for the May 1, 2025 Regular Board Meeting to include video conferencing.

04/09/2025 Letter sent to the Town of Amherst Comptroller requesting Property Tax Revenue Confirmation for Year 2024 as directed by Lumsden & McCormick.

04/22/2025 Letter sent to Prospective Firefighter Roderick Peoples regarding a fire district physical examination.

04/22/2025 Letter sent to Prospective Firefighter Paul Eason regarding a fire district physical examination.

04/22/2025 Letters sent to Occustar Workplace Compliance for prospective firefighters Roderick Peoples and Paul Eason.

05/01/2025 Email to Catholic Health Systems requesting they pickup the EMS Director Agreement and Check.

Correspondence Received:

04/04/2025 Letter received from General Physician PC Women's Health Obstetrics and Gynecology advising Erin Drexinger will be out of service from 03/10/2025 until further notice.

04/07/2025 Notice received from Erie County Fire District Officers regarding Installation of Officers and upcoming Mini-Summit.

04/10/2025 Letter to Town of Amherst Comptroller returned with Year 2024 Budget Amount as requested by Lumsden & McCormick.

04/11/2025 Letter from Fire Districts of NY Mutual Insurance Co. Inc. advising beginning May 1, 2025 the medical bill review and pharmacy benefits management is being transition to Rising Medical Solutions, Inc. for medical bill review and Cadence Rx for pharmacy benefits management. In an additional letter they provided new medical and pharmacy benefit cards for Active firefighters.

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04/12/2025 Letters received from Firematic Supply regarding Annual Service on Engine #3 and Rescue #5.

04/18/2025 Notice received from the New York State Department of Health Division of State EMS regarding a Mental Health & Wellness Symposium to be held Monday, June 9, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn and Suites, 232 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY.

04/21/2025 Emails received from Andrew Hazzan requesting fire district physicals for prospective firefighters Roderick Peoples and Paul Eason.

04/22/2025 Letter received from McNeil & Co. regarding Claimant Giselle Martinez; Daniel Mullen, Date Received 10/30/2024, Date of Loss 10/24/2024 and Date Closed 04/15/2025. Indemnity payments of \$5,704.27 and expense payments of \$72.00.

04/22/2025 Received Proof of Publication of Legal Notice for Capital Reserve Truck Fund Permissive Referendum to purchase Medium Duty Rescue Vehicle.

04/29/2025 Affidavit of Publication Received from the Amherst Bee for the Legal Notice regarding the May 1, 2025 Regular Board Meeting.

Motion by Mastrella, seconded by Kwiatkowski, to receive and file the correspondence, motion carried.

Chief's Report:

Chief Whitehead Jr. reports the Eggertsville Hose Company has answered 473 alarms to date and 17 Firefighters in Training.

The Chief advised the Board that Erin Drexinger is still out on leave, Colin Demartin has resigned from the Eggertsville Hose Company and Galen Argyle is still on military leave.

Chief Whitehead Jr. advised the Board that he was informed that there is a small crack in the windshield for Truck #6, all repairs have been completed on Engine #2 and Rescue #5 is out this week for Annual Service/Maintenance and Repairs.

The Chief requested a copy of the Fire District Procurement Policy and a copy of the New York State Fire District Officers Guide.

Chief Whitehead Jr. has been in contact with Firefighter Barry E. Stark regarding use of fire district facilities on May 24, 2025 for a funeral lunch for his former Wife Sofie.

The Chief advised the Board that he will be out of town from May 12-14, 2025 and First Assistant Chief Donald Fetes will be Acting Chief, Second Assistant Chief Srdjan Sikirica will be Acting First Assistant Chief and Captain David Rogge will be Acting Second Assistant Chief.

Chief Whitehead Jr. advised the Board that the Recruiting Committee has acquired applications for four prospective firefighters and the Investigating Committee will be meeting in the next few weeks.

The Chief presented Material Requisitions as follows:

- Witmer Public Safety Group – Alterations to Past Chief Peters Turnout Coat \$33.75.

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- VSP Graphis Group – Replacement Graphics on Fire Chiefs' Vehicles \$450.00.
- Firefighter Nicole Woodford regarding expense reimbursement \$142.00.
- FDIC Expense Reimbursement request from Past Chief Brandon Peters \$479.82.
- Waterway Twin Tier LLC Year 2025 Hose Testing \$6,066.06.
- EMS Supplies from McKesson Medical \$1,460.65.
- Witmer Public Safety Batteries & Water Can Harness \$481.00.

Chief Whitehead Jr. advised the Board that the Apparatus Committee is in place to begin working on specifications to replace Engine #2 and Rescue #7.

President's Report: No report.

Report of Committees:

Alarm and Hydrant Committee:

Chairman Multerer asked the Chief to find a proper home for the portable fire hydrant standing in the Apparatus Room.

Apparatus Committee:

The Medium Duty Rescue Specification is on hold for processing the legal aspects to Attorney Mattrey for his review.

Convention Committee:

Smith advised the Board that the Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York Mini Summit will be held May 30-31, 2025 at the South Line Fire Company in Cheektowaga, New York.

Smith advised the Board that the Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York Annual Conference and Vendor Expo will be held October 2-4, 2025 in Saratoga Springs, New York.

Smith advised the Board that the International Association of Fire Chiefs Convention will be held August 13-15, 2025 in Orlando, Florida.

Mastrella advised the Board that Fire Fusion 2025 will be held October 13-16, 2025 in Charleston, South Carolina.

Finance Committee: Two Resolutions – See Treasurer's Report. Fifty-Seven emails have been exchanged between the Treasurer and Lumsden & McCormick regarding the Year 2024 Audit.

Health Care Committee: No report.

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House Committee:

Smith obtained proposals for patching, sealing and re-stripping the blacktop parking lot as follows:

D & H Paving Inc. \$19,330.00

Amherst Paving and Amherst Sealer \$18,876.75

Anastasi Trucking Inc. \$13,945.00

Mastrella asked Smith if the size of the parking spaces in the parking lot could be widened if possible.

Smith advised the Board that The MJA Company will be coming out to repair or replace the concrete expansion joints they previously repaired.

Smith suggest the Board consider providing the Fire District Caretaker with a Fire District Cellular Telephone or have the Caretaker submit invoices for the Boards approval at the rate of \$40.00 per month.

Smith raised a question regarding payments made to Architect Trigilio and if some or all of the third-party payments went to the various Engineering Firms, etc. Some payments were made directly from the fire district to the Engineering Firms. Braun believes that payments to Trigilio did not include large payments for Engineering Services.

Kwiatkowski advised the Board that replacement bulbs for various light fixtures around the building are no longer available. A proposal was obtained from NOCO Energy Solutions to replace the light fixtures with LED units at a cost of \$3,189.32.

Information Technology Committee:

Multerer advised the Board that a number of computers in the building presently using Microsoft Windows 10 are not compatible with Windows 11 that will be required later this year. There are three units in the Chiefs Office, one unit in the Benevolent Office and one Touch Screen Training Unit.

Inspection Committee:

Reminder to everyone, the Annual Inspection and Installation Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, May 10, 2025 at the Park Country Club.

Insurance Committee:

Andrew Hazzan requested Braun to provide an Insurance Certificate for this years Eggertsville Hose Company Softball Team. The Certificate is on hand electronically and will be forwarded to Mr. Hazzan.

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Jacket and Uniform Committee:

Multerer is awaiting a quotation regarding replacement jackets.

Service Awards Committee: No report.

Motion by Kwiatkowski, seconded by Smith, to receive and file the committee reports, carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

Motion by Multerer, seconded by Mastrella, to accept the proposal from Anastasi Trucking Inc. \$13,945.00 to patch, seal and re-stripe the blacktop parking areas at the fire hall, motion carried.

Motion by Multerer, seconded by Mastrella, to accept the proposal from Great Lakes IT Services to replace five computers that are not compatible with the new Microsoft Windows 11 at a cost of \$5,850.00, motion carried. The units to be replaced are three in the Chiefs Office, one in the Benevolent Office and one Training Touch Screen Unit.

Motion by Mastrella, seconded by Multerer, to accept the proposal from Tiveron Law PLLC to provide the Eggertsville Fire District with Legal Services at an Annual Retainer Fee of \$5,000.00 for the period beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, motion carried. The current agreement with Attorney William Mattrey will expire on June 30, 2025.

Kwiatkowski and Mastrella along with Smith will continue to work on compiling requirements for an Administrative Assistant and with a Head Hunter to obtain candidates for the Boards consideration. In addition, a Temporary Administrative Assistant position (one to four months) will be advertised in the Amherst Bee June 5, 2025.

The Board discussed the proposal from Stephen K. Hodges Jr. to provide contract work services to the Fire District at a rate of \$25.00 per hour. At this point there are two projects that could be handled by Mr. Hodges, one being replacement of the building telephone system and second upgrading the security camera system. The Board set a limit of 10 hours per week maximum for any projects to be handled by Mr. Hodges.

New Business:

Motion Kwiatkowski, seconded by Mastrella, to approve the request to have Past Fire Chief Brandon J. Peters Turnout Coat Alterations made by Witmer Public Safety Group at a cost of \$33.75, motion carried.

Motion by Mastrella, seconded by Multerer, to approve the request to have the Graphics on the Fire District Chiefs Vehicles Replaced by VSP Graphics Group at a cost of \$450.00, motion carried.

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Motion by Kwiatkowski, seconded by Mastrella, to approve the reimbursement of medical equipment to Nicole Woodford at a cost of \$142.00, motion carried.

Motion by Kwiatkowski, seconded by Smith, to approve the purchase of EMS Supplies from McKesson Medical at a cost of \$1,460.65, motion carried.

Motion by Multerer, seconded by Mastrella, to approve the purchase of Batteries and Water Can Harnesses from Witmer Public Safety Group at a cost of \$481.00, motion carried.

Motion by Kwiatkowski, seconded by Smith, to accept the quotation from Waterway Twin Tier LLC to provide annual hose testing at a cost of \$6,066.06, motion carried.

Motion by Mastrella, seconded by Smith, to accept the proposal from NOCO Energy Solutions to provide and install LED Light Fixtures around the fire hall at a cost of \$3,189.32, motion carried.

Motion by Kwiatkowski, seconded by Mastrella, to approve the request received from Firefighter Barry E. Stark to use fire district facilities on May 24, 2025 from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. for his former wife's funeral lunch, motion carried.

Motion by Smith, seconded by Multerer, to approve the request received from Firefighter Robert Woodford to use fire district facilities May 9, 2024 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., motion carried.

Treasurers Report:

Motion by Kwiatkowski, seconded by Smith, to pay the bills in the amount of \$112,273.50 as detailed on the attached breakdown, carried unanimously.

Motion by Multerer, seconded by Kwiatkowski, to authorize the Treasurer to transfer \$160,000.00 from the M & T Bank Budget Fund Savings Account to the M & T Bank Budget Fund Checking Account to replenish the Checking Account, motion carried.

Motion by Mastrella, seconded by Smith, to authorize the Treasurer to transfer \$1,525.00 from the Key Bank Capital Reserve Land & Building Fund Checking Account to the M & T Bank Budget Checking Account to reimburse the Budget Checking Account \$1,275.00 paid to RCW LA Studio, LLC, and \$250.00 paid to Ronald M. Trigilio, motion carried.

On Thursday, April 3, 2025 Purchased an M & T Bank Budget Fund Certificate of Deposit in the amount of \$650,000.00 for 60 days at 3.70% interest coming due June 6, 2025. The funds were transferred from the M & T Bank Budget Fund Checking Account.

On Thursday, April 3, 2025 Purchased an M & T Bank Capital Reserve Equipment Fund Certificate of Deposit in the amount of \$200,000.00 for 60 days at 3.70% interest coming due June 6, 2025. The funds were transferred from the M & T Bank Capital Reserve Equipment Fund Savings Account.

On Thursday, April 10, 2025 sold a Key Bank Capital Reserve Land and Building Fund Certificate of Deposit in the amount of \$722,376.66 for 335 days at 4.20% interest earned \$28,232.88, total return on the investment \$750,609.54.

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On Thursday, April 11, 2025 purchased a Key Bank Capital Reserve Land and Building Fund Certificate of Deposit in the amount of \$750,609.54 for 91 days at 2.90% interest coming due 07/11/2025.

On Thursday, April 10, 2025 sold a Key Bank Capital Reserve Truck Fund Certificate of Deposit in the amount of \$773,975.00 for 335 days at 4.20% interest earned \$30,249.52, total return on the investment \$804,224.52.

On Thursday, April 11, 2025 purchased a Key Bank Capital Reserve Truck Fund Certificate of Deposit in the amount of \$804,224.52 for 91 Days at 2.90% interest coming due 07/11/2025.

The Year 2024 Fire District Audit has been filed with the New York State Comptroller by Lumsden & McCormick and Certified by the Treasurer however, the LOSAP Audit Package is not available to date and will be submitted as an addendum when received and reviewed by our Auditor.

Motion by Mastrella, seconded by Kwiatkowski, to adjourn the meeting, carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond F. Braun,
Secretary/Treasurer