

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
JONESVILLE FIRE DISTRICT**

953 Main Street  
Clifton Park, NY 12065

---

**February 16, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes**

The February 16, 2023, meeting of the Jonesville Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:00PM by Commissioner Murphy.

Present were: Commissioner Boss, Commissioner Murphy, Commissioner Casper, Commissioner Tobin, Asst. Chief Willoughby, Secretary/Treasurer Parseghian, Purchasing Director Adams, and Station Manager Bonesteel.

Guests present were: David Meager, Amsure (via Zoom), Craig Relyea, (Firefly Admin Inc) Tim Hannigan (District Lawyer), Lori Dittmer, Commissioner O'Brien, Scott Johnston, Rich Craver, Nick Bounanno

**1. PAYMENT OF THE BILLS:**

**Resolution No. : BE IT RESOLVED TO approve the payment of Abstract #2 from the General Fund, and any approved Reserve Funds, to include those bills listed on the agenda and any presented at the meeting.**

Motion: Commissioner Casper

Second: Commissioner Boss

ALL in favor; motion carried

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

**Resolution No. : BE IT RESOLVED TO approve the minutes of the and January 2023 Board Meeting and Special Meeting minutes.**

Motion: Commissioner Tobin

Second: Commissioner Murphy

Abs: Commissioner Graves

Opposed: Commissioner Casper due to question on resolutions #7 and #57

### **3. PRESENTION OF NEW MEMBERS:**

**Resolution No. : BE IT RESOLVED TO approve the new members as follows:**

Motion: Commissioner Graves

Second: Commissioner Tobin

ALL in favor; motion carried

### **4. PRESENTION OF THE CHIEF'S REPORT (Given by AC Willoughby)**

- Informational
  - Congratulations to FF of the month Scott Castelli for January.
  - AFG Grant information was provided to the Board.
  - Attached is the updated list for OSHA 2022
- Training
  - Request for Commissioner O'Brien, Scott Johnston, Rich Craver, Jeff White, Christian Frazier and Commissioner Mendrysa to attend the Fire Sprinkler Systems course on February 23 and 28<sup>th</sup> at Hillcrest FD.
  - Request for Alden Mitola to attend the FAST course beginning tonight February 16<sup>th</sup> at Jonesville.
  - Request for 3-5 officers to attend the classroom portion of the Elevator class taking place at Clifton Park Firehouse This as an invite form Deputy Chief Cuttita.
  - Request for Zach Zerebynsky to attend BEFO/IFO course beginning February 28<sup>th</sup> ,2023 at Clifton Park Firehouse. I have reserved him a spot in the course and provided him with the necessary paperwork, etc.
  - Request for Commissioner O'Brien and Chris fox to attend the Instructor 1 course taking place November 27<sup>th</sup> through December 1<sup>st</sup> , 2023 at the state campus.
  - Request to take the Explorer Post 36 to the county communication center on March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023 for a field trip of the facility. I have drafted and submitted for review, a permission slip to be signed off by the parents of any Explorer Post member wishing to attend.
  - Request for R. Craver, and C. Willoughby to attend FDIC in Indianapolis from April 24-29, 2023. Request for transportation, lodging, and per diem fees.
  - Request for fire police and any other available personnel to assist at the annual Singlecut Brewery 5k on April 29<sup>th</sup> 2023 beginning at 10am. Along with the use of any necessary district apparatus.
- Apparatus/Chief's Vehicles/Equipment/Stations
  - 373 New batteries installed.

- Status of the shredder at station 2 and the confirmation of specific use.
- Status of the request for an anchor point at station 2. – Steve Bonesteel and Commissioner O’Brien working on it.
- Status of the display Cabinets.
- Personnel
  - Remove Commissioner Healy from the District rolls.

**Resolution No. 72: BE IT RESOLVED TO approve the Chief’s Report.**

Motion: Commissioner Tobin

Second: Commissioner Casper

ALL in favor; motion carried

**5. PRESENTATION OF DISTRICT STAFF REPORTS**

**Station Manager Report**

**Apparatus Repairs done in house:**

- ETA 362 – Water in hydraulic oil, Drained oil and reinstalled new oil. Ran to check operation- Okay.
- R 373 Batteries shorted out, Removed and Replaced all 6 batteries. Fixed broCommissioner air eject and replaced cover.
- Car 369 – Replaced all headlights, High and Low beams. Diagnosed and replaced defective coil for engine misfire. Replaced all wiper blades and fixed rear washer that wasn’t working. Set all tires pressures to spec.
- M 368- Diagnose and found a voltage issue, I looked further into and found a defective battery. Checked both batteries and replaced the bad one. Rechecked all okay.

**Items for approval:**

SRI Sprinkler system inspection contract to perform 5 year/Internal Inspection of the system. Cost is \$2485.00. Need approval to go ahead with testing and sign the contract.

**Purchasing Director’s Report (given by Treasurer)**

**Items for Approval**

- CusCommissionerer Care Agreement – Replenish \$6000 for 2023 and to pay immediately
- LOSAP list for 2022- Post for 30 days in each station

- Hose and Ladder Testing 2023- Waterway estimate of \$8,018.10. This year went much smoother than years past.

### **Items for Discussion:**

- Delinquent Physicals 2022 – List of Members was given to the Board and the Chief.
- Pittsfield Communication in stations completing the retune of all portable radios - \$4-8k per radio plus cost of Mic's.
- Bill Dell'Anno has resigned and returned all his equipment
- Email issue is being looked at with Barracuda. Ryan (ABS Solutions) has trained Bill how to override these issues if email gets blocked temporarily.
- Bill will be on vacation from February 20-24, 2023.

## **6. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Dave Meager, Amsure Insurance, joins the meeting via Zoom at 7:34 PM.

- Mr. Meager reminded the Board that he found alternative insurance carriers/policies for the District with more competitive pricing and benefits than the current policies held by the District for 2022 - Utica. He presented the current and proposed new insurance policies in detail. He noted that the District should be eligible for a dividend credit from Utica at the end of 2022. Mr. Meager also commented that cyber insurance has become very competitive, and the current carrier is requiring an updated questionnaire before renewing the policy. There was a discussion with various insurance questions addressed.

**Resolution No. 78: BE IT RESOLVED the Jonesville Fire District has reviewed and renewed the District's insurance benefits by procurement of the approved policies and gives the Treasurer permission to pay the premiums, up to \$61,000, upon receipt of the invoice.**

Motion: Boss

Second: Tobin

ALL in favor; motion carried

Dave Meager, Amsure Insurance, ends the meeting via Zoom at 8:00PM.

### **Treasurer's Report**

**Resolution No : BE IT RESOLVED TO approve the Staff reports as presented.**

Motion: Commissioner Tobin

Second: Commissioner Graves

All in favor; Motion carried

**PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Apparatus**

- Commissioner Graves to step down from committee.

**Buildings and Grounds**

- None

**Capital**

- None

**Equipment**

- ABS is done with email issue. Greenlight Contract in Tim Hannigan's hands for review.

**Personnel**

- None

**Policies and Procedures**

- Commissioner Tobin stepping down from committee.

**SCABIT**

- None

**7. OLD BUSINESS:**

- Fire Police would like more "substantial" food items for rehab vehicle. – Discussion – They will give a trial run at a tower drill.
- Sexual Harassment and Workplace violence training for 2022- Bill gave a list of who has not finished – Discussion ensued.
- District voting, elections, election officials. – Discussion
- Disposal of old uniforms – Tabled
- Display cabinets for Al Atwell items.
- Fuel- Tabled
- HVAC unit in station 1 training room – North unit has been rebuilt.
- Electronic version of Policies and Procedures.
- Employee wages and Benefits – No discussion
- Jonesville emails – For Chiefs and Line Officers

**8. NEW BUSINESS:**

- Property tax exemption.

DRAFT

DRAFT

***JONESVILLE FIRE DISTRICT***

***RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTIAL REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SERVICE WORKERS***

The Board of Fire Commissioners of the Jonesville Fire District (“Fire District”) at a Meeting held on the 16th day of February 2023, adopted the following resolution by majority vote:

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Chapter 670 of the Laws of 2022 effective December 9, 2022, the state Real Property Tax Law was amended by adding a new §466-a authorizing local governments, including Fire districts, to enact by resolution a ten (10%) percent partial real property tax exemption of the assessed value of the primary residence owned by a qualified enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated volunteer ambulance service that serves the city, town or village where the Fire District is located; and

**WHEREAS**, the intent of this Resolution is to permit the partial real property tax exemption for qualified enrolled members of said emergency services organizations for real property taxes imposed by the Fire District; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 16, 2023, after providing the statutorily required notice, a Public Hearing was conducted by the Fire District to solicit input and to hear all persons interested in the partial real property tax exemption of the assessed value of the primary residence owned by a qualified enrolled member of said emergency service organizations that serve the Fire District; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the primary residential real property located in the Fire District that is owned by an enrolled member of a volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service that provides services within the city, town or village in which the Fire District is located shall be exempt from taxation and assessments levied by the Fire District to the extent of ten percent (10%) of the assessed value of such property, exclusive of special assessments, subject to the requirements set forth in this herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that for purposes of this Resolution the “Authority Having Jurisdiction” shall mean:

- A. In the case of a fire district, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Fire District;
- B. In the case of an incorporated voluntary ambulance service, the Town Board; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that such exemption shall not be granted unless:

- A. The applicant resides in the Fire District which is served by the above listed incorporated volunteer fire company, volunteer fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service of which the applicant is a qualified enrolled member;



- B. the property is the primary residence of the applicant;
- C. the property is used exclusively for residential purposes; provided, however, that if any portion of such property is not used exclusively for the applicant's residence but is used for other purposes, such portion shall be subject to taxation and the remaining portion only shall be entitled to the exemption provided by this Resolution; and
- D. the applicant has been certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or voluntary ambulance service as an enrolled member who has served such incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or voluntary ambulance service for at least two years; and
- E. the applicant must submit such certification together with the tax exemption application to the local assessor.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that any enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service who accrues more than twenty years of active service, and is so certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service, shall be granted the ten percent (10%) exemption authorized by this Resolution for the remainder of his or her life as long as his or her primary residence is located within the Fire District, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the property tax exemption authorized by this Resolution and granted to an enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service shall, upon application, be continued to such deceased enrolled member's un-remarried spouse if such member is killed in the line of duty, provided that:

- A. Such un-remarried spouse is certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service as an un-remarried spouse of such enrolled member who was killed in the line of duty;
- B. such deceased volunteer had been an enrolled member for at least five (5) years; and
- C. such deceased volunteer had been receiving the exemption prior to his or her death, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the property tax exemption authorized by this Resolution and granted to an enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service shall, upon application, be continued to such deceased enrolled member's un-remarried spouse, provided that:

- A. Such un-remarried spouse is certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated

- voluntary ambulance service as an un-remarried spouse of such enrolled member;
- B. such deceased volunteer had been an enrolled member for at least twenty (20) years; and
  - C. such deceased volunteer and un-remarried spouse had been receiving the exemption for such property prior to the death of such volunteer, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that an application form for such exemption and a certification provided by the appropriate authority having jurisdiction shall be filed with the Assessor for the Town on or before the taxable status date of each year or as otherwise required as prescribed by New York State, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that no applicant who is a volunteer firefighter or volunteer ambulance worker who by reason of such status is receiving any benefit under the provisions of Article 4 of the state Real Property Tax Law on the effective date of this Resolution shall suffer any diminution of such benefit because of the provisions of this Resolution, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion to adopt the Resolution made by Commissioner Graves.

Seconded by Commissioner Casper.

On the Motion

Commissioner Boss - Aye

Commissioner Casper - Aye

Commissioner Graves - Aye

Commissioner Murphy - Aye

Commissioner Tobin - Aye

The Resolution was adopted.

Dated: February 16, 2023

Breann Parseghian, Secretary

Jonesville Fire District

**CHAIRMAN ADJOURNS THE MEETING**

**Resolution No. 84: BE IT RESOLVED TO adjourn the regular meeting at 9:11PM.**

Motion: Commissioner Miller

Second: Commissioner Tobin

ALL in favor; motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Breann Parseghian  
Treasurer/Secretary

DRAFT