

**Town of Goshen-Board of Fire Commissioners
Regular Meeting-Via Zoom
Wednesday, February 3, 2021 7:00PM**

Present: Chairman William Lane, Donald Sage, and Tony Damiani

Excused: Alternate Melissa Foster

Others: Chief Barry Hall, Fire Marshal Bill Baldwin

Call Meeting to Order: Bill Lane called the meeting to order at 7:10PM.

Bill Lane asked to discuss Correspondence as Fire Marshal Bill Baldwin was in attendance in regard to this item.

Correspondence: Fire Marshal Bill Baldwin with regret submitted his resignation to the Board of Fire Commissioners after 20 years of service. Bill also sent in a letter of recommendation for Deputy Fire Marshal Bob Diorio to be considered for Fire Marshal. Bob's resume was included with the letter Bill sent in. Discussion followed. The Commissioners thanked Bill for his years of service.

Reading of the Minutes: The minutes of the regular meeting of January 6, 2021 were reviewed by the Commissioners.

IN A MOTION made by Don Sage and seconded by Tony Damiani, it was **VOTED** to accept the minutes from the January 6, 2021 regular meeting as submitted. Bill Lane abstained. Motion carries.

The Clerk asked that the minutes from the Special meeting of January 13, 2021 be reviewed as well.

IN A MOTION made by Don Sage and seconded by Tony Damiani, it was **VOTED** to accept the minutes from the January 13, 2021 special meeting as submitted. Motion carries

Fire Chief's Report: Barry reported it was a slow month for the Fire Company. There were 13 calls. 8 EMS, 1 MVA, 2 Automatic Alarms and a major structure fire. Barry noted that the structure was contained quickly and the home was saved. It was a chimney fire in the kitchen and it took less than 300 gallons of water through the CAF system to extinguish the fire. Mutual aide was called in from several towns but luckily only the members were utilized and not the equipment. The members did a knock out job extinguishing the fire. Deputy Chief Peter Bernard commanded the scene and did a superb job. The Board extends a commendation to the Company for a stellar job on the East Street North fire.

Fire Marshal's report: The resignation of the Marshal was discussed. Bob Valentine sent state statutes to Bill Lane concerning replacing and appointing a new Fire Marshal. The statute states that preference shall be given to a member of the Company first. The required certifications and qualifications need to be held by the person seeking the position. The membership will be addressed on the position. There needs to be a good

working relationship with the person who is appointed. The appointment will be revisited at the March 3, 2021 meeting.

The report for January 2021 was reviewed by the Clerk.

IN A MOTION made by Don Sage and seconded by Tony Damiani, it was **VOTED** to accept the Fire Marshal's report as read. Motion carries.

Bills: All qualifying bills and vouchers were reviewed on report provided by the Clerk. The report was submitted with the agenda on the Town website.

IN A MOTION made by Tony Damiani and seconded by Don Sage, it was **VOTED** to accept and pay all bills as submitted on the report with an amendment to the Overhead Door Company bill for the ambulance bay door repair to show an amount of \$190.90. Motion carries

Old Business: A. Review and Revise Commissioner's Budget – Discussion on the Commissioner's budget which contains one line item for the Clerk wages. The clerk discussed the hours required to perform the duties of the job. With the new executive orders in response to Covid and posting rules, the work load has increased with posting information on the website and reports now requested to ensure the public can review the information normally presented at meetings. It was decided to base the budget on 15 hours a month bringing the requested budget up to \$3,060.00.

IN A MOTION made by Don Sage and seconded by Tony Damiani, it was VOTED to submit the Commissioner budget as revised to reflect 15 hours per month for a total budget of \$3,060.00 for the Fiscal Year 21/22. Motion carries.

B. Operating and Capital Budget discussion – The FY 20/21 capital budget was discussed at the January Board of Finance meeting and approved for \$195,000 which was \$14,000 less than requested.

Peter emailed a quote for a replacement Engine for Engine 1 which would be \$772,000. The quote is basically the same truck with a smaller cab. It was noted by the company submitting the quote that the quoted cost goes up 5% every year. It was requested that the two Engine line items be combined and titled "Truck Replacement" for a line item total of \$472,000. Discussion on funds to request going forward to fund the purchase of the new engine followed. It was decided to request \$150,000 for FY 21/22 capital budget appropriation.

The Capital and Operating budgets were discussed line by line to establish amounts necessary and increases or decreases to each line item. The Clerk will write up the proposed budgets to be reviewed at the March 3, 2021 meeting.

New Business: – None discussed.

OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD: None

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IN A MOTION by Don Sage and seconded by Tony Damiani, it was **VOTED** to adjourn the meeting at 8:40pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Erin Reilly
Commission Clerk