

TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE
Board of Fire Commissioners
Minutes of Meeting
Monday February 27, 2023
Woodbridge Fire Department -via ZOOM
<https://youtu.be/tp8eJQNHrno>

Present: *Chair Karen Baldwin Kravetz, Secretary Stephanie Ciarleglio, Commissioner Pasquale Izzo, Commissioner Scott Hunter, Chief Sean Rowland, Assistant Chief Ted Pocwierz, Fire Marshal Joe Cappucci, Nate Case (Executive Board Liaison)*

Absent: *Vice Chairman Michael Horton*

Call to Order

With a quorum (4 Commissioners present) at roll call, Chair Karen Baldwin Kravetz convened the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

Public Comment

None

Liaison Comment

None

Chairman's Report

Chair Karen Baldwin Kravetz welcomed Scott Hunter to the BOFC. Commissioner Hunter replied he was glad to be on and looking forward to serving on the commission. Chair continued. We wanted to acknowledge the passing and unprecedented service of Charlie Whiting. Chief Rowland commented that he was a member of the WVFA for 75 years, the longest serving member. His passing was a great loss to the department.

COVID-19 Update

Chief Rowland gave a summation.

We will continue to monitor cases as the winter months wind down. There are currently no FF's out with COVID.

Review Current Financial Statements

Chief Rowland discussed the current financials. The packet was sent prior to the BOFC.

P/T Maintenance – will be covered with the cleaning custodial line. R&M Machine. This line is over by \$42,000 and anticipate it will run over to about \$60,000. The BOS/BOF are and have been aware of this overage. We will closely monitor this line item which runs over due to unanticipated repairs to some of the engines. We will also monitor the repair building line item as well as the technical line. These are every day supplies and materials which have risen over 8% due to escalating costs. Chief continued. The Natural Gas line item is ok for now, but the budget for next year will be two and half times more and that number will deplete quickly. Chair Karen Baldwin Kravetz asked what the FH usage is for natural gas. Chief continued it is mainly to heat the FH, gas dryer and stoves. Discussion followed.

Fire Chief's Report – Fire Chief Rowland

Regarding apparatus. Engine 7 is out of service for compressor issues and coolant leak. Estimated cost of repair is \$7000. Good news. We did receive some of the portable radios we ordered (came in early, we were not expecting arrival until May). We are getting them engraved and programmed and then will hand out to all the FF's. Air packs are still 3 to 4 months out and the imaging camera should arrive in May. Some routine maintenance includes the Amkus tools on the trucks. Chief continued. There were a number of calls (Asst Chief will comment). The shed is moving forward. There is a meeting on March 8th with the inland/wetland committee. Hopefully we will then have approval to move out of the old FH in the summer to build the shed in the back and the Town can use that spot as the community center. Commissioner Scott Hunter asked what is stored at the old FH. Chief continued that the antique as well as supplies and extra hose, gear, pallets of water, speedy dry and car seats are currently housed there. Lastly, we are looking to nominate a Jr. member for the Selectman's award. Discussion followed.

WFD Activity report- Assistant Chief Pocwierz

Assistant Chief Pocwierz discussed his report (previously sent to the BOFC) with the numbers and types of calls for December, YTD (443 calls) and January. There were nonstandard calls, such as the RWA spill, fatality off west rock and a possible radioactive item found in a resident's basement.

Fire Marshal's Report – Fire Marshal Joseph Cappucci

FM Cappucci discussed his report of inspections since the last meeting: 71 appointments: 29 inspections, 19 plan reviews, 11 consultations, 1 pre plan review and 11 fire investigations.

Approval of January 4, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes

BALDWIN KRAVETZ requested a motion to approve the special meeting minutes from January 4, 2023

MOTION (IZZO) TO APPROVE JANUARY 4TH 2023 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION SECOND (CIARLEGLIO)

With unanimous ROLL CALL APPROVAL, the BOFC APPROVED THE JANUARY 4TH SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

MOTION CARRIES

Correspondence

Chair Karen Baldwin Kravetz read a thank you note the family of Charlie Whiting thanking the FD for assisting with the funeral arrangements and procession

Executive Session

BALDWIN KRAVETZ requested a motion to go into Executive Session and invite Chief Rowland and Nate Case

MOTION (IZZO) TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION SECOND (CIARLEGLIO)

No discussion.

With unanimous ROLL CALL APPROVAL MOTION CARRIES AND the BOFC entered Executive Session at 6:32pm

Adjournment from Executive Session

Executive session ended at 6:45pm. No actions were taken

Adjournment

MOTION (IZZO) requested MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOTION SECOND (CIARLEGLIO)

With unanimous ROLL CALL APPROVAL, the BOFC MEETING ADJOURNED at 6:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Tina O'Connor Clerk
Board of Fire Commissioners

Stephanie Ciarleglio
Secretary