

Enfield Fire District No. 1
Regular Commission Meeting Minutes
April 8th, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Vincent Grady.

Attendees for the Board: Zoom online also available

Vincent Grady	Scott Prentiss
Paul Benis	Maureen Brennan
Sean McGuire	Patrick Droney
Donald Hayward	William Moran

Also, in attendance was Chief Edward Richards and Deputy Chief William Higgins.

Public Comment:

Debbie Chapin asked for correction of the spelling of her name in the March minutes and questions budget item called long term debt as it is missing percentage and this will be corrected per Chief Edward Richards. She also inquired about the arrangements for snow removal billing and the reason for increase in the hose and appliances line and Chief Edward Richards explained the rationale.

Michelle Ellis inquired about any action or resolution of an incident involving personnel on July 13, 2020 and was advised we do not discuss personnel matters in public and this type of matter would not be discussed in a public forum. President Vincent Grady explained there is an ethics committee formed to address having an ethics policy in the by-laws. Patrick Droney and Donald Hayward explained as well that personnel matters are discussed in executive session and there was no policy that would have applied in this instance.

President Vincent Grady opens the nominations for the three-year terms for Board of Fire commissioners for regular terms:

There is nomination for a three-year term for commissioner at the upcoming election for Donald Hayward by Paul Benis and second by Scott Prentiss

There is nomination for a three-year term for commissioner at the upcoming election for Patrick Droney by William Moran and second by Vincent Grady

There is nomination for a three-year term for commissioner at the upcoming election for Vincent Grady by Patrick Droney and second by Donald Hayward

Motion to close the three-year nominations for commissioner by Maureen Brennan and second by Paul Benis motion passes by unanimous voice vote

President Vincent Grady opens nomination for vacancy of commissioner William Higgins

There is nomination for one year term for commissioner vacated by William Higgins at the upcoming election for Sean McGuire by William Moran and second by Patrick Droney

Motion to close nominations for vacancy of William Higgins by Patrick Droney and second by Paul Benis
Motion passes by unanimous voice vote

President Vincent Grady opens nominations to fill vacancy of David Ragon

There is nomination for one year term for commissioner vacated by David Ragon for Gary Castle by Patrick Droney and second by William Moran

Motion to close nominations for vacancy of David Ragon by Maureen Brennan and second by Paul Benis. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

Motion to close all nominations and resume regular meeting by Sean McGuire and second by Paul Benis. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

The minutes of the Regular Commission meeting held on March 4th, 2021 were read aloud by Maureen Brennan. Motion by Patrick Droney second by Sean McGuire to approve as amended. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

Scott Pretniss thanks Commissioner Brennan for efforts in keeping our district webpage up to date and advises all commissioners that they should be looking over the site and providing any needed input.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. Vice President Donald Hayward inquires about line 680/miscellaneous income and Chief Edward Richards explains we have received several grant/reimbursement payments and some training session payments from other towns. It is discussed that old equipment is being sold - \$6,500 for old duty vehicle, \$2,500 for old rescue 2, and \$10,000 hovercraft(still confirming fund on this one). Motion by Paul Benis, and 2nd by Maureen Brennan to approve report as presented. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

Fire Marshall's report is reviewed and motion by William Moran to accept as presented and second by Paul Benis. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

The Training Officer Report was discussed. Deputy Chief William Higgins states that the report should read seven (not 3) for pump operators under state courses section. This training is being tied in with the new engine and we will have seven certified new pump operators after this 48-hour course and other towns are participating in eight seats to offset costs. Deputy Chief William Higgins states that he and Scott Prentiss have reached out to CREC and spoke with the Principal for the purpose of recruiting cadets and this effort is ongoing. There is one new cadet that will be starting soon and one new member starting as well (and Vice President Donald Hayward confirms the start date of May 24th for new member). Deputy Chief Higgins explains onsite OSHA consult is going well and N95 testing is complete. Motion by Paul Benis second by Patrick Droney to approve as presented. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

Chief's Report was reviewed and discussed. Chief Edward Richards states the only major incident was the mill that burned down but it was not in our district. He states the firefighters did a good job and the fire was out quickly given the size. Vice President Donald Hayward inquires as to if there is interest in anyone purchasing the old pumper and the Chief mentions there has been some interest but nothing is finalized. Motion by Paul Benis, second by William Moran to approve as presented. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

Committee Reports:

Budget: There was a special commission meeting last month regarding the proposed budget. A motion will take place later in the meeting regarding this per President Vincent Grady.

Truck Committee: Chief Edward Richards states that he has an estimated date for the tower ladder of March of 2022.

Bylaws: President Vincent Grady confirms members have received a copy of the Town Ethics policy and requests members of the committee provide some available dates to meet to review ethics policy so that we can update this portion of the by-laws.

Station Two: Vice President Donald Hayward states he is working with banks on financing and weighing options of bonding vs. self-bonding. Committee is meeting next week. Attorney Landolina will be providing legal assistance in the process. They will be asking Shaker Pines for input as they recently went through the process and are in construction phase. Vice President Donald Hayward is looking for input from commissioners on \$1.6 mil vs \$1.8mil to propose for this project. There is an increase in lumber which may contribute to this.

Packets on Webpage: Maureen Brennan inquires as to if we want monthly commission meeting packets posted to webpage when available and consensus is this will be added.

Account Balance: Maureen Brennan mentions that Scott Prentiss has inquired about reporting account balances at each commission meeting. There was discussion regarding the specific accounts and what would be reported and the consensus is that we will provide the balance of the capital account at the commissioner meetings.

Executive Order 10E: President Vincent Grady inquires to Chief Edward Richards about this order as it relates to absentee ballots and the public budget vote. President Vincent Grady will confer with Attorney Landolina on this matter.

Town Clerk change: Paul Benis advises that the town clerk has changed as Suzanne Olechnicki has retired. We will update the district secretary so this can be changed on future correspondence.

New Business

Proposed Budget: Motion to recommend to the tax payers for the district vote the proposed budget with a 3.3 proposed mil rate as discussed at the March 18th special commissioners meeting by Scott Prentiss second by Paul Benis. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

Chief Edward Richards states to Maureen Brennan and President Vincent Grady that the FML audit engagement letter has been received and will need to be signed. The audit fee has increased by \$1,000 per year for the next three years.

Vice President Donald Hayward states it is good to see that the equipment that is out of use is being sold and inquires if the prime mover and the driver simulator trailer can be added to this list of equipment. Chief Edward Richards states we do use the prime mover and they need to have someone advise on the driver simulator trailer on how to bring it up to date.

Motion to adjourn at 9:06pm by Donald Hayward and second by Paul Benis. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Brennan

Clerk/Treasurer