

**The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners for November 9, 2005**

Chairman McCarthy convened the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners at 7:30p.m. with a moment of silence for members of the Armed Services and our fallen firefighters.

In attendance were: Chairman McCarthy; Comrs. Nethercott, Buonassisi, Nicoletti and Hoffarth; Chief Pille; Assistant Chief King; Financial Consultant Butler; Deputy Treasurer Matranga and Secretary-Treasurer Deegan

It was moved on a motion made by Comr. Hoffarth/Buonassisi to accept the minutes of the October 12, 2005 regular monthly meeting as read. MC.

Correspondence: 1.) A letter from District Counsel William N. Young, Jr. regarding post entitlement participation to the Service Award Program; 2.) A letter from Valhalla Fire Company No. 1 accepting for membership Timothy Preble; 3.) A letter from Valhalla Fire Company No. 1 accepting in good standing the resignation of ex-Chief John Bertrand with regret; 4.) A letter from Independent Fire Company accepting for membership Brian Guski and James Stone; 5.) A letter from Independent Fire Company accepting the resignation of Eric Lederer in good standing.

It was moved on a motion made by Comr. Nethercott/Nicoletti to accept for membership into the Department Brian Guski and James Stone. MC. FF Guski and FF Stone were sworn in by Chairman McCarthy.

It was moved on a motion made by Comr. Hoffarth/Nicoletti to accept for membership into the Department, Timothy Preble pending the completion a physical examination and receipt of a copy of his driver's license and arson background investigation. MC.

Following a brief discussion, it was decided not to accept the resignation of ex-Chief Bertrand and FF Eric Lederer until the Company Captains have collected all District equipment from both members. Chairman McCarthy requested the District Secretary send a letter to each Company Captain and Company Secretary outlining the clerical requirements to process the application of new members and the processing the resignation of present members.

It was moved on a motion made by Comr. Nicoletti/Nethercott to accept as read Financial Consultant Butler's report, that bills submitted for payment be approved and transfers executed. MC.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Balance Forward		\$2,529.55
Deposits		\$529.86
Transfers (from MMkt)		\$25,000.00
Vouchers		\$25,944.61
Voided Checks (#'s 1728, 2354, 2450)	CM	\$1,006.45
Closing Balance		\$3,121.25

**STATUS OF ACCOUNTS:**

Regular Checking	\$3,121.25
Fire District MMkt	\$84,299.15
Fire District CTF of Deposit	\$110,000.00
Capital Reserve MMkt	\$40,829.44
Capital Reserve CTF of Deposit	\$850,000.00

Building Reserve MMkt	\$2,202.09
Building Reserve CTF of Deposit	\$60,151.26
Repair Reserve MMkt	\$10,175.00
Repair Reserve CTF of Deposit	<u>\$11,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,171,778.19</b>

**CHECKS:**

3816	THE BANK OF NEW YORK	\$690.60
3817	VERIZON	\$161.18
3818	VERIZON WIRELESS	\$59.26
3819	CARD MEMBER SERVICES	\$103.12
3820	AAA EMERGENCY	\$2,174.61
3821	CHARLES STOTZ, INC.	\$266.00
3822	FIRE SYSTEMS, INC.	\$295.00
3823	VALHALLA DELI	\$549.00
3824	MICHAEL G. GRIECO	\$786.00
3825	XEROX CORPORATION	\$401.32
3826	STAPLES CERDIT PLAN	\$50.86
3827	TOWN OF GREENBURGH	\$987.50
3828	BERGER HARDWARE	\$71.34
3829	CON EDISON	\$27.42
3830	COMPROLLER	830.16
3831	AMERICAN EXPRESS	\$194.98
3832	NYS ASSOC. OF FIRE CHEIFS	\$50.00
3833	THE JOURNAL NEWS	\$52.47
3834	DECKER TOOL & EQUIPMENT	\$18.60
3835	UTICA NATIONAL INS. GROUP	\$3,051.00
3836	HUMMEL & BUTLER, CPA'S	\$660.36
3837	VALHALLA FIRE CO. NO. 1	\$152.38
3838	ORTIZ WELDING	\$295.00
3839	RUSCON TRUCK SERVICE	\$2,279.00
3840	NYS DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION	\$100.00
3841	GREG PILLE	\$30.82
3842	VERIZON	\$15.53
3843	BENEDICT, CALFAGNO & GRILLO	\$3,424.15
3844	CAMPBELL SUPPLY CO., ONC.	\$1,579.12
3845	POSTMASTER	\$100.00
3846	EXXON/MOBIL	\$490.44
3847	PITNEY BOWES	\$118.08
3848	NEXTEL COMMUNICATIONS	\$315.47
3849	CABLEVISION	\$44.95
3850	GRAINGER	\$786.82
3851	HI-TECH FIRE & SAFETY	\$166.29
3852	INSTITUTIONAL COMMODITY SERV.	\$92.38
3853	LYNN CARD COMPANY	\$106.50
3854	NEW CASTLE CONTRACTING	\$2,000.00
3855	FIRE HOOKS UNLIMITED	<u>\$2,366.00</u>
<b>TOTAL (40):</b>	<b>\$25,944.61</b>	

**TRANSFERS:**

FROM: Fire District MMkt #6700184941	
TO: Checking #670-0672326	\$25,000.00

FROM: Investor's Certificate #677-5663012

<b>TO:</b>	<b>Investor's Choice #670-0184941</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>Investor's Certificate #677-5721217</b>	
<b>TO:</b>	<b>Investor's Choice #670-184895</b>	<b>\$275,000.00</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>Investor's Certificate #677-5587227</b>	
<b>TO:</b>	<b>Investor's Choice #670-0184895</b>	<b>\$95,000.00</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>Investor's Certificate #677-5663292</b>	
<b>TO:</b>	<b>Investor's Choice #670-0184895</b>	<b>\$105,000.00</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>Investor's Certificate #677-5721225</b>	
<b>TO:</b>	<b>Investor's Choice # 670-0185042</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>Investor's Choice #670-0185042</b>	
<b>TO:</b>	<b>Certificate of Deposit to Mature 4/20/06</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>

It was moved on a motion made by Comr. Nethercott/Buonassisi to accept the Chief's Report as read. Activity Report for October 2005 is as follows: 37 Alarms for 594.5 man hrs.; 6 Dept. Drills for 246 man hrs.; 9 Company Drills for 167 man hrs.; 2 Meetings for 68 man hrs.; 3 Trainings for 26.5 man hrs.; 9 Misc. for 223 man hrs. for a Total of 1, 325 man hrs. Chief Pille thanked the District Secretary for reading the Chief's report for October 2005 and explained the Chief was supervising the Open House programs that evening as part of Fire Prevention Week. Chief Pille reported Fire Prevention Week's school visits, demonstration at Pepsico, the Memorial Service and the two Open House events were very successful with many members participating. The Chief added the new model of evening Open House was successful enough to continue it next year. Chief pille reported the two radiation meters have been received and will put into service following training on their use. Chief Pille reported the abandoned house at 11 Eastview Drive was used for training purposes by Valhalla Fire Company No. 1. Chief Pille reported there were two Department drills held on 10/30/05, one at Shaft 18 and one at the Kensico Dam, which were both very successful. Chief Pille thanked the Board for supplying refreshments after each drill. Chief Pille reported Police Chief Alagno has requested the Department participate in a Kensico Dam failure drill in the spring of 2006. Chief Pille reported he has yet to see a copy of the Kensico Dam Evacuation Drill despite his many requests. Comr. Hoffarth indicated the obvious difficulty in participating in such a drill without a comprehensive review of such a plan. Chief Pille reported 115 and 117 Stevens Avenue have Knox boxes. Chairman McCarthy thanked Chief Pille for his fine efforts with both the Fire Prevention Week activities and the two training drills.

Comr. Nethercott reported Rescue 9's light tower has been repaired and the generator on TL-49 has been serviced. Comr. Nethercott reported the installation of a new router and battery back-up for the office computer to facilitate the new Sun Pro package.

Comr. Buonassisi reported the chains on Rescue 9 have been serviced.

Comr. Hoffarth reported a meeting of the Investment Committee of the Service Award Program was held on 10/18/05 and the investments are doing well in the market. Comr. Hoffarth AAA Emergency has completed the servicing of all District fire extinguishers. Comr Hoffarth reported the legal papers required for the permissive referendum on the purchase of the new van have been filed. Comr. Hoffarth reported he and Safety Officer Ciancio attended a two-day Safety course, which was very informative and productive. Comr. Hoffarth indicated S.O. Ciancio is working on implementing several of the steps learned at the safety course. Comr. Hoffarth reported the new District website is up and

running and he has sent a variety of documents, minutes, pictures and data for the new site. It can be found at [www.valhallafd@.org](http://www.valhallafd.org). Comr. Hoffarth reported a letter was sent to Town Supervisor Meehan on private hydrants as a follow-up to the Quad District meeting. Comr. Hoffarth reported that following the recent county election the Grasslands contract may be process. Comr. Hoffarth reported flu shots are available at Family Medical care at District expense for all members of the Department.

Comr. McCarthy reported Engine 84's generator is scheduled to be serviced on 11/17/05, the air conditioner hose has been repaired as well as the rear rotary lights and wiper blades. Comr. McCarthy expressed his serious disappointment and dissatisfaction with Campbell Supply Company, and given the over \$1.4 million dollars the District has spent in recent years, the District should receive better service. Comr. McCarthy reported the new engine is due in early 1/06.

Comr. Hoffarth requested that Comr. McCarthy distribute to all fire squad members an enrolment form for the group life insurance program. Comr. McCarthy said he would do so. Comr. Hoffarth reported the FIT Test machine is due back in Valhalla in December. Comr. Nethercott will insure the machine is back as scheduled. Comr. McCarthy will speak with the Board in Hawthorne in an effort to obtain training certificates for FF R. Martell, Jr. Financial Consultant Butler reported a new opportunity to invest funds in a Muni NOW Account, which has a higher rate of return almost 3.75% on the investment for all District accounts.

It was moved on a motion made by Comr. Nethercott/Nicoletti to permit Financial Consultant Butler to transfer funds in January 2006 using this new Muni NOW Account from the District checking and money market accounts. MC.

Following a brief discussion regarding the enforcement of the District policy regarding annual physicals, the following members will be sent letter of suspension effective immediately pending the completion of their physicals: FF B. McClintock and FF M. Alfero. While several members of the fire squad have failed to have an annual physical, Chairman McCarthy will personally speak to each and inform them of this requirement. It was felt those members may not have been aware of this expectation.

Following a brief discussion regarding the transition of a fire squad member to an interior firefighter upon reaching his/her eighteenth birthday, Chairman McCarthy requested the District Secretary draft a proposed resolution addressing this matter.

While there was a brief discussion regarding the post entitlement changes from the Defined Contribution Plan and the Defined Benefit Plan of the Service Award Program, it was decided to discuss this matter at a future workshop before making any policy decision.

The District Secretary reported the Chief's Nomination election will be held at 330 Columbus Avenue from 7:00-9:00p.m. on December 8, 2005. Each company will receive a letter informing them of this and requesting two representatives be provided to conduct the nominations.

It was moved on a motion made by Comr. Hoffarth/Nethercott to permit the Independent Fire Company to sell Christmas trees during the first two weekends in December as a company fund raiser. MC.

Deputy Treasurer Matranga reported to the Board that while the Town publishes the fire district tax increase as over 5.5% for 2006, it is in fact only 3% when the certiorari reimbursements are factored out. Deputy Treasurer Matranga reiterated the very sound fiscal stewardship by the Fire District of funds from District residents.

**Safety Officer Ciancio reported that he and Comr. Hoffarth attended a two-day health and safety training course this past month. S.O. Ciancio indicated he will begin implementing several safety strategies shortly. S.O. Ciancio expressed disappointment at the failure of the Town of Mount Pleasant to enact any type of tax rebate for volunteer firefighters. S.O. went on to say that while the District has been very generous in providing state-of-the-art apparatus, equipment, training and support, the Town's lack of even acknowledging the contribution of volunteer firefighters is pitiful. As state and federal requirements for safety and training increase, placing more and more demands on the time of its members in this post 9/11 era, there is no recognition of this expectation even in the scheduling of various drills. S.O. Ciancio, a forty year member, ended by asking the Board to continue to advocate on behalf of the members to federal, state and officials who can effect a change. Comr. McCarthy thanked S.O. Ciancio for his comments and indicated the Board is open to any suggestions which will support its members.**

**With no other business to come before the Board, it was moved on a motion made by Comr. Nicoletti.Hoffarth to adjourn at 9:15p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Michael J. Deegan,  
District Secretary**