

RIDGE FIRE DISTRICT – BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF ORGANIZATION MEETING – JANUARY 11, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 7pm by acting Secretary Teresa Anderson with a salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

Present were Commissioners Dave Hellberg, Brian Brooks, Jeffrey Campo, Rosario Lobocchiaro, Frank Mancuso. Also present Treasurer Terry Ann Lawton.

Results of the District Election that were held on December 8, 2020 are in the minute book.

Commissioner Brian Brooks was sworn in by Commissioner Lobocchiaro The Oath of Office was signed and will be forwarded to the Brookhaven Town Clerk. Commissioner Brooks term is from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2025.

Acting Secretary T.Anderson requested nominations for Chairman of the Board for the year 2021. Commissioner Lobocchiaro nominated Commissioner Campo and seconded by Commissioner Hellberg. The Board was polled all in favor.

Acting Secretary T.Anderson requested nominations for Vice Chairman of the board for year 2021. Commissioner Lobocchiaro nominated Commissioner Mancuso and seconded by Commissioner Hellberg. The Board was polled and all in favor.

The meeting turned over to Chairman Campo.

Appointments

Motion by Commissioner Mancuso to appoint Teresa Anderson as District Secretary and Deputy Treasurer for the year 2021. Commissioner Lobocchiaro seconded the motion. The Board was polled with all in favor. The yearly salary for the position is \$49,394.80.

Motion by Commissioner Brooks to appoint Terry Ann Lawton as district Treasurer. Commissioner Hellberg seconded the motion. The Board polled with all in favor. The yearly salary for that position is \$22,066.72.

Motion by Commissioner Brooks to appoint Christopher Ring Esq. as Attorney for the Ridge Fire District for the year 2021. Commissioner Lobocchiaro seconded the motion. The Board was polled with all in favor. The retainer for services is \$12,000, with a hourly rate of \$275.00 per hour for excluded items.

Motion by Commissioner Mancuso to appoint John Boyd as EMS Coordinator for the year 2021. Commissioner Lobocchiaro seconded this motion. The Board was polled with all in favor. The Yearly salary for this position is \$ 93,516.80.

Motion by Commissioner Mancuso to appoint Leo Hadzigeorgiou as District Mechanic for the year 2021. Commissioner Lobocchiaro seconded the motion. The Board was polled with all in favor. The yearly salary for this position is \$ 99,112.00

Motion by Commissioner Lobocchiaro to appoint Sharon Farina as Custodian for the year 2021. Commissioner Mancuso seconded the motion. The Board was polled with all in favor. The yearly salary for this position is \$ 31,075.20

Motion by Commissioner Lobocchiaro to appoint Jose Marmol as Custodian for the year 2021, Commissioner Mancuso seconded the motion. The Board was polled with all in favor. The yearly salary for this position is \$ 39,291.20.

Motion by Commissioner Brooks seconded by Commissioner Mancuso to appoint the following full time employees as per civil service titles. EMT- Paramedic Steve Blum \$66,809.60, Cassandra Fiore \$56,992.00, Jennifer Gropper \$60,802.56, Tina Grusso \$65,915.20, Danielle Mohr \$56,992.00, Nicholas Sadowsky \$62,379.20, Joanna Guerrero \$51,630.70, Joseph Lesnick \$52,291.20 and Nicholas Viscusi \$56,992.00. The yearly salaries for these positions will be current contract negotiated with UPSEU.

Motion by Commissioner Lobocchiaro seconded by Commissioner Hellberg to appoint the following per diems employees as per their Civil Service titles. EMT-Paramedic Jade Fallon \$29.11, John Williams \$25.14, Erik Zalewski \$30.23, Nicholas Pobat \$25.14, Eric Ramirez \$25.14, Matt Mauro \$25.14, Katelynn Cacece \$25.14, Christine Bakos \$25.14, Karissa Bourdes \$25.14, Steven Galvo \$25.14, Zoltan Kiss \$31.09, Melissa Martins and EMT Basic Jonathan Eck \$24.78. The yearly rate of pay for these employees will be current negotiated with UPSEU.

Board approves the following ten paid holidays for full time employees. New Years day, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

The Ridge Fire District offers all employees the opportunity to join the New York State Employee Retirement system upon completion of probationary period.
All full time employees are offered health insurance thru NYSHIP if they choose.

Motion by Commissioner Lobocchiaro to appoint Winston Lee as NYS Instructor Coordinator for 2021. Commissioner Hellberg seconded the motion. The Board polled with all in favor. The rate of pay is \$55.00 a hour.

Motion by Commissioner Hellberg to appoint Jones and Little as Accountant for the fire district. Commissioner Lobocchiaro seconded the motion. The Board polled in favor.

Administrative

Motion by Commissioner Lobocchiaro to designate Capital One as Districts Official Depository. J.P Chase Bank and Depository Trust Corp, as paying agents for bonds seconded by Commissioner Brooks. The Board was polled with all in favor.

Attorney Christopher Ring published in Newsday on December 15, 2020 notice of the Organizational Meeting to be held January 11, 2021 at 7pm, with the first regular meeting to follow at 7:30pm January 11, 2021.

Motion by Commissioner Hellberg to designate Newsday as the district's official newspaper and have all official notice published in same. Seconded by Commissioner Brooks. The Board was polled with all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Hellberg to hold regular monthly meetings of the Ridge Fire District on the second Monday of each month at 7:30pm. If said meeting falls on a holiday, the Board can move said meeting to the following Tuesday or cancel same. The Board will hold a second meeting on the fourth Sunday of each month at 9am, seconded by Commissioner Brooks. The Board was polled with all in favor. Attorney Christopher Ring will publish yearly meetings in Newsday. Meetings of the Board of Fire Commissioners will be held at Ridge Fire District Station 3, 46 Panamoka Trail, Ridge until such time that the headquarters building at 20 Frances Mooney Drive, Ridge is completed. Thereafter, meetings will be held in the Commissioners meeting room at that location. The Board of Fire Commissioners reserves the right to hold meetings electronically if a public health situation requires same in accordance with NYS Executive Law.

Motion by Commissioner Brooks to continue membership in the following organizations for the year 2021 and paid dues as statements received. Associations of Fire Districts of State of New York, Suffolk County Fire Districts Association, Brookhaven Town Fire Districts Association, Long Island Fire Districts Legislative Committee, Suffolk County Fire District Managers Association, NYS Association of Fire Chiefs, Suffolk County Fire Chiefs Association, Brookhaven Town Fire Chiefs Associations, Brookhaven Town Volunteer Firemans Museum, and the national Fire Protection Association for the District and Chiefs Office, Long Island Emergency Vehicles Technicians Association. Seconded by Commissioner Lobocchiaro Board polled with all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Lobocchiaro to accept all rules and policies in place by Ridge Fire District for year 2021, with amendments throughout the year. Seconded by Commissioner Hellberg. Board polled with all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Lobocchiaro to accept the District mileage reimbursement rate at the current Federal rate. If Federal rate increases or decreases, the district will adjust it accordingly. Seconded by Commissioner Mancuso. Board polled with all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Brooks to set budget hearing for 2021 on October 19,2021, the third Tuesday of October. Seconded by Commissioner Hellberg. Board polled with all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Lobocchiaro to enter into contract with the Suffolk County Board of Elections for use of buildings. Seconded by Commissioner Mancuso. Board polled with all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Lobocchiaro to enter into contract with Brookhaven Town Highway Department for salt and sand for the year 2021. Seconded by Commissioner Hellberg. Board polled all in favor.

Motion to accept Adept Technology for the year 2021 made by Commissioner Hellberg seconded by Commissioner Mancuso. Board polled all in favor.

Departmental

Secretary Anderson received letter from Ridge Fire Department with results of their nominations for the Chief's Office for 2021.

Chief of Department : Lou Kaiser

Commissioner Mancuso motions to accept. Seconded by Commissioner Hellberg Board polled all in favor.

First Assistant Chief : Wesley Phillips

Commissioner Lobocchiaro motions to accept. Seconded by Commissioner Hellberg. Board polled with all in favor.

Second Assistant Chief : Kevin Leedham

Commissioner Mancuso motions to accept. Seconded by Commissioner Lobocchiaro. Board polled with all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Lobocchiaro to accept the following Ridge Fire Department members who reside outside the District: Thomas Ailman, Michael Barone, Raymond Berard, Colleen Dillon, Keith Delvecchico, James Demeo, Dennis Evans, Eugene Deal, Rina Guarisco, Andrew House, Stanley Lenz, William Schwabe, Krista Bratten, Mike Tutunjin.

These members will be accepted with the understanding that the Board will not accept more than 10 percent of membership residing out of district, with the exception being those members who join or have joined as rescue only. Seconded by Commissioner Mancuso. Board polled with all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Lobocchiaro to adjourn at 7:30pm seconded by Commissioner Hellberg. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa Anderson
Secretary- Ridge Fire District