

RIDGE FIRE DISTRICT- BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING- JANUARY 8, 2024

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 Jeff Campo, P.Pirozzi, Frank Mancuso, B.Brooks, Dave Hellberg Jr, Also present Treasurer Terry Ann Lawton.

Results of the District Election that was held December 12, 2023 have been filed.

Commissioner Pirozzi was sworn in by Commissioner Campo, The Oath of Office was signed and will be forwarded to the Brookhaven Town Clerk. Commissioner P.Pirozzi, term is from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2028.

Acting Secretary T.Anderson requested nominations for Chairman of the Board for the year 2024. Commissioner Hellberg nominated Commissioner Campo and seconded by Commissioner Brooks the Board was polled all in favor.

Acting Secretary T.Anderson requested nominations for Vice- Chairman of the Board for year 2024. Commissioner Campo nominated Commissioner Brooks and seconded by Commissioner Mancuso. The Board polled and all in favor.

The meeting turned over to Chairman Campo.

Appointments

Motion made by Commissioner Pirozzi to appoint Teresa Anderson as District Secretary /Deputy Treasurer for year 2024. Commissioner Mancuso seconded the motion.

Motion by Commissioner Mancuso to appoint Terry Ann Lawton as District Treasurer for year 2024. Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion. The Board was polled with all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Pirozzi to appoint Christopher Ring Esq. as attorney for the Ridge Fire District for the year 2024, Commissioner Mancuso seconded the motion. Board polled all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Mancuso to appoint John Boyd as EMS Coordinator for year 2024. Commissioner Hellberg seconded this motion. The Board was polled with all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Brooks to appoint Leo Hadzigeorgiou as District Mechanic for the year 2024. Commissioner Mancuso seconded this motion. The Board was polled with all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Mancuso to appoint Jose Marmol as Custodian for the year 2024. Commissioner Pirozzi seconded the motion. The Board was polled with all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Pirozzi to appoint Luis Diaz as Custodian for the year 2024. Commissioner Mancuso seconded the motion. The Board was polled all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Brooks to appoint Louis Kaiser per-diem custodian for the year 2024. Commissioner Hellberg seconded the motion. The Board polled all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Pirozzi to appoint the following full time employees as per civil service titles. Paramedic Steve Blum, Cassandra Lahn, Jennifer Gropper, Tina Gruosso, Danielle Occhiuto, Nicholas Sadowsky, Joanna Guerrero-Brown, Zoltan Kiss, and Nicholas Viscusi. The yearly salaries for these positions will be current contract negotiated with UPSEU. Seconded by Commissioner Mancuso, Board polled all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Brooks seconded by Commissioner Mancuso to appoint the following per diems as per their Civil Service titles. EMT-Paramedic Jade Andracchi, K.Bordes, K.Cacace, Jonathan Eck, Ryan Ferris, Stephen Galvo, Joseph Lesnick, Gina Migligonico, Nicholas Pobat, Eric Ramirez, Erik Zalewski, Kasey Miller, Trevor Malloy.

Board approves the following 12 paid holidays for non-union full time employees. New Years Day, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents Day, Memorial Day, Juneteeth , Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, Day after Thanksgiving, 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 chose.

Motion by Commissioner Hellberg to appoint Winston Lee as NYS Instructor Coordinator for 2024. Commissioner Mancuso seconded the motion. The Board polled with all in favor. The rate of pay is \$55.00 a hour.

Motion by Commissioner Brooks to appoint Jones and Little as Accountant for the Fire District
Commissioner Pirozzi seconded the motion. The Board polled in favor.

Administrative

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

Attorney Christopher Ring published in Newsday on November 17, 2023 notice of the Organizational Meeting to be held January 8, 2024 at 7pm, with the regular meeting to follow at 7:30PM.

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 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 headquarters 20 Frances Mooney Pond in Ridge in Commissioners meeting room at this 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 Pirozzi to continue membership in the following organizations for the year 2024 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 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 Vehicle Technicians Association, Seconded by Commissioner Hellberg Board polled all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Mancuso to accept all rules and policies in place by Ridge Fire District for year 2024, with amendments throughout the year. Seconded by Commissioner Pirozzi. Board polled with all in favor.

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

Motion by Commissioner Pirozzi to set budget hearing for 2024 on October 15, 2024, the third Tuesday of October. Seconded by Commissioner Mancuso. Board polled with all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Brooks to enter into contract with the Suffolk County Board of Election for use of buildings. Seconded by Commissioner Pirozzi. Board polled all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Pirozzi to enter into contract with Brookhaven Town Highway Department for salt and sand for the year 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Mancuso. Board polled all in favor.

Motion to accept Adept Technology for the year 2024 made by Commissioner Hellberg seconded by Commissioner Brooks. Board polled all in favor.

Departmental

Secretary T.Anderson received letter from Ridge Fire Department with results of their nominations for the Chiefs Office for 2024.

Chief of Department- Kevin Leedham, Commissioner Pirozzi motions to accept, seconded by Commissioner Brooks. Board polled all in favor.

First Assistant Chief- Daniel Brooks, Commissioner Pirozzi motion to accept. Seconded by Commissioner Mancuso. Board polled with all in favor.

Second Assistant Chief- Anthony Morabito, Commissioner Brooks motions to accept, seconded by Commissioner Pirozzi. Board polled with all in favor.

Motion made by Commissioner Pirozzi to accept the following Ridge Fire Department members who reside outside District, M.Barone, R.Berard, J.Demeo, D.Evans, R.Guarisco, A.House, S.Lenz, W.Schwabe, J.Mirando III.

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 Brooks. Board polled with all in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Mancuso to adjourn at 7:30pm seconded by Commissioner Hellberg all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa Anderson
District Secretary