

**East Greenwich Fire District
284 Main Street
East Greenwich, Rhode Island 02818
Telephone: 401-886-8686 or Fax: 401-886-8692**

Date: January 24, 2013

1. The regular meeting of the East Greenwich Fire District was called to order on January 24, 2013, at 6:30p.m., by Chairman Daly.

a. Chief Henrikson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

2. Member Present

a. William Daly, Chairman

b. Stephen Bartlett, Vice Chairman (arrived into Executive Session 6:45p.m.)

c. Mark W. Gee, Commissioner (arrived into Executive Session 6:45p.m.)

d. Mark Schwager, Commissioner

e. Philip Higgins, Commissioner

Other Members Present

a. Peter Henrikson, Chief

b. Russell McGillivray, Deputy Chief

c. Scott Spear, Legal Counsel (arrived into Executive Session

6:45p.m.)

d. Janice J. Peixinho, Fire District Clerk

Members Absent -none

3(a). Commissioner Daly determined a quorum on record.

4(a). Public Comment – none

5(a). Commissioner Daly entertained a motion to convene into Executive Session in accordance with RIGL §42-46-4 and §42-46-5(a)(1)(2) to discuss: Collective bargaining/contract negotiations with Local 3328, Grievance 2012-06, Commissioner Higgins 1st, and Commissioner Schwager 2nd, Vote 3-0, Higgins-yes, Daly-Yes, Schwager- yes, Unanimously Accepted-motion carried.

Roll Call: Daly, Higgins and Schwager

Also Present: William Perry-President Local 3328, Michael Jones-Vice-President Local 3328 and Tom Baily e-Board member.

Commissioner Daly entertained a motion to reconvene into open session and to keep the minutes sealed regarding contract negotiations, collective bargaining and grievance 2012-06, Commissioner Bartlett 1st, and Commissioner Higgins 2nd, Vote 5-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett-yes, Daly-yes, Schwager-yes and Higgins-yes,

Unanimously Accepted-motion carried.

Roll Call: Commissioner's Gee, Bartlett, Daly, Schwager and Higgins.

Also Present: Chief, Deputy Chief, Legal Counsel, Clerk and Treasurer.

Commissioner Daly then called the regular meeting to order at 7:28p.m.

3(b). Commissioner Daly determined a quorum on record.

4(b). Public Comment - none.

5. Consent Agenda

a. Treasurer's Report (refer to Year to Date: December 31, 2012)

Treasurer Hundley stated that the current year tax collections totaled \$2,350,000.00 through January 16, 2013. The collections included approximately \$205,000.00 paid in advance. The other revenues are tracking as expected. The total expenses through December 2012 were approximately \$2,660,000.00 or 48.8% of the total budget.

Commissioner Higgins asked about the health insurance, vacancies, capital project account and the 2 cents from the tax rate for capital projects. Treasurer Hundley stated that the budget shows that the

health insurance is approximately 52% spent due to the vacancies prior to the hiring of the new recruits. The capital project funds shows approximately \$31,004.00 still budgeted. Commissioner Schwager asked about the reserve account and the Treasurer said that surplus money was put into the accounts by resolution per the annual meeting. Commissioner Daly stated that the Warwick payment of approximately \$314,000.00 has been received. No other discussion.

Analysis of Reserve Accounts:

Impact Fee Account	\$456,873.63
Capital Projects Account	\$985,606.82
Smokes Account	\$ 5,711.69
Rose Trust	\$237,632.62
OPEB Reserve	\$148,902.00

Commissioner Bartlett 1st, moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented, Commissioner Higgins 2nd, Vote 5-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett-yes, Daly-yes, Schwager-yes and Higgins-yes, Unanimously Accepted-motion carried.

b. Chief's Report (Refer to Chief's report dated: January 17, 2013)

The Chief's report consisted of:

- Manpower Readiness Level (1 Lt. out on extended personal sick leave and 1 FF out with elbow injury, the Chief will be inquiring as to

why he cannot work light duty)

- No reports for safety officer, planning committee, dive team, health & wellness, general and personnel-related matters.**

The Chief stated that he had met with Joseph Duarte, DPW Director, and Fred Gomes regarding the flooring at Station 1(one). Mr. Duarte stated that his department is extremely busy but, they will try to assist the fire department regarding the flooring, Commissioner Gee commented that this is a serious problem. The Chief said that he will continue to work with the Town in preparing an “RFP” and that he knows that this is an absolute need and will continue working with the Town. In addition, the Chief said that the apparatus-ladder 1(one) received new tires, EMS – rescue 3 in service and it has only been used 8 times within the last year. Also, the recruits have been on shift as of last weekend and all other reports are attached for Commissioners review. The Chief attached a total incident chart for the last six (6) years for the Commissioners to review. Also, the Chief spoke about the vacancies, overtime and how the budget represents the expenses. No other discussion.

Commissioner Bartlett 1st moved to accept the Chief’s report as presented, Commissioner Higgins 2nd, Vote 5-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett-yes, Daly-yes, Schwager-yes and Higgins-yes, Unanimously Accepted-motion carried.

8. New Business

a. Discuss and Vote upon what action, if any, regarding disability pension benefits.

Commissioner Daly asked that Legal Counsel contact the State to receive guidance regarding the disability benefits and COLA. No other discussion.

a. Discuss and Vote upon what action, if any, regarding the energy audit at Station 2(two)

The Chief stated that an energy audit was done at Station 2(two) a couple of years ago and that several items were looked into including insulation, boiler, oil tank etc., the Chief would like to contact NEIT to do an analysis of the building. He did state that the boiler has been replaced at Station 2, after the previous study was done. No other discussion.

b. Discuss and Vote upon what action, if any, the bid award for the new rescue in the amount of \$205,928.00 to PL Custom emergency vehicles.

The Chief stated that November 2012 the District received a bid from PL Custom Emergency Vehicles for the new rescue in the amount of \$205,928.00 for the replacement of the rescue at station 2(two). The Chief was asked if the vehicle was an International, the Chief

confirmed “yes”. No other discussion.

Commissioner Higgins 1st, moved to approve the bid to PL Custom Emergency Vehicles in the amount of \$205,928.00, Commissioner Bartlett 2nd, Vote 5-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett-yes, Daly-yes, Schwager-yes and Higgins-yes, Unanimously Accepted-motion carried.

c. Approval of RE & PP abatements as recommended by the Town Assessor in amount of \$1,760.50 as per list attached.

Commissioner Bartlett 1st, moved to approve the abatements as presented by the Clerk in the amount of \$1,760.50 as per list attached, Commissioner Gee 2nd, Vote 5-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett-yes, Daly-yes, Schwager-yes and Higgins-yes, Unanimously Accepted-motion carried.

9. Old Business:

a. Discuss and Vote upon what action, if any, regarding OPEB.

The Treasurer submitted a report showing the calculations of the OPEB liability along with the listing of current and retired FF's, including benefits. The current liability is approximately \$19,000,000.00. Currently the District has created the OPEB fund with approximately \$150,000.00 set aside but the Commissioners agreed that the District needs to come up with a plan for setting aside funds

each year in this account. Commissioner Daly asked the Treasurer to contact GBR for more information. No action or vote taken – tabled until the next meeting.

b. Discuss and Vote upon what action, if any, the course of action on the Warwick Dispatch.

Commissioner Higgins 1st, moved to cancel the Dispatch Agreement with Warwick, retrieve equipment and Commissioner Gee added that the FD take charge and end it, Commissioner Gee 2nd, Vote 4-1, Gee-yes, Bartlett-yes, Daly-no, Higgins-yes and Schwager-yes, motion carried.

c. Discuss and Vote upon what action, if any, regarding the correspondence from DOT and PAL regarding land at the corner of Cedar and Post Rd

The Chief received a letter from the Department of Transportation on January 3, 2013. The documents received included two (2) copies of the Purchase and Sales Agreement for the proposed sale of 97,896 sq.ft., more or less, described as Condemnation Plat 650, Parcels 4 and 5, located in the southeast quadrant of Post Road and Cedar Avenue, in the Town of East Greenwich. Also, the Chief stated he would need to have approval for an archaeological study on the land because the State has informed him that the land may contain an ancient burial ground. He said that the FD cannot proceed until this

study is performed. The Chief said that he has been in touch with public archaeological laboratory in Pawtucket who has conducted the phase 1 study and he will need to enter into a phase 2 study. The Chief has spoken with RI Historical Preservation Society and RIDOT regarding the issue. The phase 2 study could cost approximately \$22,000.00 and the study may qualify for reimbursement of Federal Funds. No other discussion.

Commissioner Bartlett 1st moved to approve the expenditure of approximately \$22,000.00 for the archaeological study, (charged to the Impact Fee Account) Commissioner Schwager 2nd, Vote 5-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett-yes, Daly-yes, Higgins-yes and Schwager-yes, Unanimously Accepted, motion carried.

d. Discuss and Vote upon what action if any, regarding strategic planning

Clerk was asked to distribute the prior goals and strategic planning from last year. Postponed until next meeting.

e. Discuss and Vote upon what action, if any, regarding proposed By-Laws

Commissioner Daly stated that the discussion for this item would be postponed until after the meeting with the Town Council on February 4, 2013.

f. Discuss and Vote upon what action, if any, regarding the Nominating Committee

The Clerk stated that there was no need to take any action regarding the Nominating Committee because the Moderator has appointed the following; David Dumas, Marilyn Kiesel, Joseph Cardello, Gerard Ratigan and Vincent Meola. Clerk Peixinho said that she will contact the Committee to setup interviews for the two (2) positions that will be available this June. The advertisement will be posted until the end of February. In addition she said that Commissioner Daly and Schwager positions are 3 year terms. No other discussion.

9. Minutes of the previous meetings

a. Approve December 20, 2012

Commissioner Gee 1st, moved to approve the minutes as presented, Commissioner Bartlett 2nd, Vote 5-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett-yes, Daly-yes, Schwager-yes and Higgins-yes, Unanimously Accepted-motion carried.

10. Public Comment

The Chief stated that the minutes of the EGFD would be posted on the Secretary of State's website for public viewing.

Michael Jones asked about the study for OPEB and the

\$19,000.000.00. He would like to see more accurate numbers. The Chief stated that the report is available and the Treasurer will make the reports available to the public.

11. Executive Session

Commissioner Daly entertained a motion to convene into Executive Session in accordance with RIGL §42-46-4 and §42-46-5(a)(1)(2) to discuss: Grievance 2012-06, update on the Contract Negotiations with Local 3328, Deputy Chief's Contract and the Administrative Assistant position and duties

Commissioner Chair reconvened the Members of the Board into open session and to keep the minutes sealed regarding Grievance 2012-06, update on the contract negotiations with Local 3328, Deputy Chief's Contract and the Administrative Assistant position and duties, Commissioner Bartlett 1st, Commissioner Gee 2nd, Vote 5-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett-yes, Daly-yes, Schwager-yes and Higgins-yes, Unanimously Accepted-motion carried.

Roll Call

Commissioners: Gee, Bartlett, Daly, Higgins and Schwager. Also present: Chief, Deputy Chief, Legal Counsel and District Clerk.

11. Adjournment

**Commissioner Gee 1st moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:28p.m.,
Commissioner Bartlett 2nd, Vote 5-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett-yes, Daly-yes,
Schwager-yes and Higgins-yes, Unanimously Accepted-motion
carried.**

Attest:

A True Copy;

Respectfully submitted,

Janice J. Peixinho

Janice J. Peixinho

EGF District Clerk