

West Corners Fire District  
Regular Meeting Minutes – July 19, 2023

Attending:

Commissioner Loveland  
Commissioner Griffith  
Commissioner Schroedel  
Commissioner Davis  
Commissioner Heide

Guests:

R. Boyer

Chairman of the Board Loveland called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Motion was made by Schroedel, second by Davis to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on June 21, 2023. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

**Communications:**

1. All June bank statements received and reconciled
2. Chief Mileage reports for June
3. Financial reports [see details in Treasurer's report]
4. Company minutes from June
5. FEMA program update
6. Legal rep letters for audit: McKertich/Whitaker
7. PitStop Popcorn insurance certificate
8. List of items needing attention
9. Computer Shop quote
10. Insurance paperwork for injured firefighter claim
11. Matco insurance certificate
12. Har Rob appraisals
13. Copy of resignation letter from H. Martinez
14. Notice from NYSEG regarding cutting trees in the area
15. Letter from Coughlin & Gerhart re: audit
16. Letter from AFSDNY re: Director elections
17. Town of Owego Fire District check received for portable radios

**Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer reported the following balances:

**NBT Account**

Account 2 NBT	\$ 10,733.57
Account 3 NBT	\$ 8,761.64
Building Reserve Acct NBT	\$ 293,911.10
Fire App Equip Reserve 3 NBT	\$ 177,858.23
Fire App Equip Reserve NBT	\$ 44,156.39
Fire Apparatus Acct 2 NBT	\$ 64,629.14
General Fund NBT	\$ 301,951.80
Grant Reserve Acct NBT	\$ 12,120.78
NBT Operating	\$ 4,396.14
NBT Payroll Account	\$ 2,850.44
Operating	\$ 8,646.44
Repair Reserve Fund NBT	\$ 15,252.34
	<hr/>
	\$ 945,268.01

West Corners Fire District  
Regular Meeting Minutes – July 19, 2023

Accounts Receivable	\$ 1,000.00
Total Current Assets	<u>\$ 946,268.01</u>

**Federal Account**

Checking Account	\$ 1,217.32
Total Current Assets Federal	<u>\$ 1,217.32</u>

- Balance sheet as of July 19, 2023
- P&L from January 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023
- Budget vs Actual Department side from January 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023
- Budget vs Actual District side from January 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023
- Balance sheet as of July 19, 2023 for Federal Account
- P&L from June 20, 2023 through July 19, 2023 for Federal Account
- Bank accounts reconciled for month of June 2023
- First reimbursement for generator received from Town of Union
- Two percent money received
- House account set up with United Radios
- Invoice Town of Owego as per Chief's request
- Check received from the Town of Owego
- Letter sent to PAC Sign requesting reimbursement
- Met with Finance Committee to review various items

Motion was made by Schroedel, second by Davis to accept the treasurer's report as read. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Schroedel, second by Davis to pay TCS for the new computer upon receiving the invoice and installation of the computer. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Schroedel, second by Griffith to pay all bills from the NBT account, check numbers 6887 to 6917, and the bill from the Federal Account, check number 1001. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

**Training:**

1. E. Dean to Vital Signs conference in Syracuse in October
2. Hosting NYS Fast Class in October 9, 11, 14
3. Sep 19 we will be attending a state class as our regular training night

**Committee Reports:**

Finance Committee:

1. Need to set work session for budget prep. Meeting will be set for August 9, which is our regular work session.

Building & Grounds:

1. Loveland will contact Gow for quote for new windows for the training building
2. Davis cut some brush at Station 2.

Insurance:

1. We need a Builder's Risk policy for the generator project. This is a requirement from the Town of Union contract.

West Corners Fire District  
Regular Meeting Minutes – July 19, 2023

2. All paperwork has been sent to insurance regarding the firefighter injury from the Cider Mill fire.

**Fire Prevention:** Report from May and June 2023

**Chief's Report:**

1. Rigs are having PM's done. Rescue and ladder are done, rescue had some issues that had to be fixed. Ladder needs a repair on a check valve. Tires on the rescue are still ok, but they are out of date per DOT.
2. Received some of the DEC grant items
3. Bought some suction hose for brush truck
4. All new radios are installed
5. Chiefs are working on their budget
6. The monitor in the training room is dying and needs to be replaced

**Company Report:**

1. H. Martinez has resigned and become a life member
2. Picnic August 27<sup>th</sup> 11am at Glendale Park

**Guest Comments:** None

**Old Business:**

1. Resolution was offered to grant a Tax Exemption to Eligible Volunteer Fire Fighters as provided for by real property tax law. Second was offered by Heide. Resolution passed with the roll call vote as follows:  
Loveland – AYE  
Griffith – AYE  
Schroedel – AYE  
Davis – AYE  
Heide - AYE
2. Har Rob appraisals were received
3. Generator – current electrical box needs upgrading as there is not enough space for the generator. Fixing the electrical box may require more money from the Town grant. It is unknown if the generator has been ordered yet and will take 2-3 days to install when it is received.
4. Kitchen repair on hold as it is suggested to contact an architect regarding updating the entire building. Heide will head this up.
5. Garbage truck has been ordered for ice cream social
6. We are on the list for parking lot repair by the Town
7. Dedication plaques for the training building and the new engine have been installed
8. Campville Fire is purchasing the old radios (6 radios & gang charger \$1,000)

**New Business:**

1. Motion was made by Griffith, second by Schroedel to purchase a new computer for the FOB system at a cost of \$789.99. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Grey Goose contacted regarding website upgrade; we will invite John for the September work session to discuss options.
3. 2022 CPA audit is being worked on
4. Motion made by Loveland, second by Schroedel to have Treasurer pick up the check issued by the Town and then immediately make the payment to Matco (relating to generator). All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

West Corners Fire District  
Regular Meeting Minutes – July 19, 2023

5. Motion made by Loveland, second by Griffith to host blood drives on August 31, October 26, and December 29, from 1-6 pm. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
6. Motion made by Loveland, second by Davis to dispose of excess furniture currently on bay floor. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
7. Schroedel is working on obtaining license plates for all vehicles, starting with Chief's vehicles
8. Motion made by Davis, second by Schroedel to purchase a Builder's Risk Insurance policy, cost approximately \$2,000. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
9. Motion made by Schroedel, second by Davis to allow E. Dean to attend Vital Signs class in Syracuse in October. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
10. Motion made by Loveland, second by Griffith to have Gow & Sons remove the no parking signs at station 2 when they paint the doors. We will replace the signs. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
11. Motion made by Loveland, second by Griffith to issue the 2% insurance check to the company in the amount of \$7,717.57. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
12. Loveland requested to use the training room for his daughter's baby shower on July 30. Motion made by Schroedel, second by Davis. Motion passed: AYE: Loveland, Griffith, Schroedel, Davis; NO: Heide

**Applications:** None

Motion was made by Schroedel, second by Davis to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 pm. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

*Betty J Homa*

Betty J. Homa, District Secretary  
Electronically signed

West Corners Fire District  
Regular Meeting Minutes – July 19, 2023

**West Corners  
Fire Department**

**FPO Report  
2023**



**Bureau of Fire Prevention  
Monthly Incident Report  
May-23**

Alarm Types	# of Alarms	Alarm Hours	Mutual Aid	Given	Received
Fire	18	10.8	Endicott	2	
E.M.S.	20	1.8	Endwell		
Error			Vestal		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>38</b>		West Endicott	1 (1)	
			Union Center	2 (2)	2 (2)
Engine 98			Maine	6 (6)	2 (2)
			Newark Valley		
			Owego		
			Campville	1	
			Berkshire		
			East Maine		
NFIRS submitted			Glen Aubrey		
			Whitney Point		

cc Board of Fire Commissioners  
cc Chief

\*BGM Airport

(#) indicates number of automatic mutual aid/standby calls

West Corners Fire District  
 Regular Meeting Minutes – July 19, 2023

**West Corners  
 Fire Department**

**FPO Report  
 2023**



**Bureau of Fire Prevention  
 Monthly Incident Report  
 Jun-23**

Alarm Types	# of Alarms	Alarm Hours	Mutual Aid	Given	Received
Fire	17	16.7	Endicott	2	
E.M.S.	18	3.4	Endwell	1	
Error	1		Vestal		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>36</b>		West Endicott	2	
Engine 98			Union Center	2 (2)	1 (1)
			Maine	3 (3)	1 (1)
			Newark Valley		
			Owego		
			Campville		
			Berkshire		
			East Maine		
NFIRS submitted			Glen Aubrey		
			Whitney Point		
cc Board of Fire Commissioners			Apalachin	1	
cc Chief					

(#) indicates number of automatic mutual aid/standby calls

\*BGM Airport

West Corners Fire District  
Regular Meeting Minutes – July 19, 2023

**RESOLUTION OF THE WEST CORNERS FIRE DISTRICT  
TO GRANT A TAX EXEMPTION TO ELIGIBLE VOLUNTEER  
FIREFIGHTERS AS PROVIDED FOR BY REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW §466-a**

WHEREAS, § 466-a of the Real Property Tax Law authorizes the Fire District after a public hearing to grant a tax exemption to enrolled volunteer members of the West Corners Fire Department

WHEREAS the Fire District has conducted the public hearing required by the Statute and elicited public comment on said topic

WHEREAS the Board of Fire Commissioners has determined that the granting of the tax exemption will enhance recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters in the Fire Department

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that an exemption be granted at 10% of the assessed value of the real property owned by an enrolled volunteer firefighter who meets the eligibility requirements established in this resolution;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the enrolled member of the West Corners Fire Department must meet the following requirements to be eligible for the tax exemption:

1. The enrolled member must reside in the territory served by the Fire District
2. The property must be the primary residence of the enrolled member
3. The property is used exclusively for residential purposes, provided however, that in the event any portion of such property is not used exclusively for the applicant's residence but is used for other purposes, such portion shall be subject to taxation and the remaining portion only shall be entitled to the exemption provided by this section
4. The enrolled member has been certified by the Chief of the Fire Department to have served at least two (2) years of active service and such certification has been approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an enrolled member of the West Corners Fire Department who accrues more than twenty years of active service after the adoption of this resolution, and as certified by the Chief of the Fire Department shall be granted the ten (10) percent exemption as authorized by this resolution for the remainder of his or her life as long as the property for which the exemption is sought under this resolution is the primary residence of the enrolled member.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the exemption granted under this resolution shall continue for the un-remarried spouse of an enrolled member of the Fire Department who is killed in the line of duty upon the following conditions:

1. The un-remarried spouse is certified by the Chief of the Fire Department as the un-remarried spouse of the volunteer firefighter killed in the line of duty; and
2. The deceased volunteer firefighter had been an enrolled member for at least five years; and
3. The deceased volunteer firefighter had been receiving the exemption prior to his or her death.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the exemption granted under this Resolution shall continue for the un-remarried spouse of a deceased member of the West Corners Fire Department under the following conditions:

1. The un-remarried spouse is certified by the Chief of the Fire Department as the un-remarried spouse of the deceased enrolled member of the West Corners Fire Department
2. The deceased volunteer firefighter has been an enrolled member for at least twenty years

West Corners Fire District  
Regular Meeting Minutes – July 19, 2023

3. The deceased volunteer firefighter has been receiving the exemption prior to his or her death.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any exemption granted under this Resolution shall be filed with the Town of Union on the forms designated by the Town; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Fire District is directed to provide the Town of Union with a copy of this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be governed by and applied in accordance with Real Property Tax Law §466-a.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THIS RESOLUTION shall be effective as of the date of its adoption.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Chairman	Charles Loveland	AYE
Commissioner	Daniel Griffith	AYE
Commissioner	Matthew Schroedel	AYE
Commissioner	John Davis	AYE
Commissioner	Michael Heide	AYE

The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Dated: July 19, 2023  
Endicott, New York