

**2021 Minutes of the CUTCHOGUE FIRE DISTRICT Page 1 of 5**  
**May 12, 2021**

The regular monthly meeting of the Cutchogue Fire District was called to order by Joseph Zuhoski, Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners, at 8pm. The Chairman stated the monthly meeting was an essential function of the Cutchogue Fire District and was being held in the Company room which allows for social distancing during the Covid19 pandemic. (note, the normal Tuesday meeting was moved to Wednesday)

The meeting is being attended by the Board of Fire Commissioners as the Fire Chiefs and other interested parties have been afforded the opportunity to send in written reports or make telephone calls during the meeting requesting any information they wish to be presented to the Board.

Roll call of the Officers taken as follows; Joseph Zuhoski Jr, present; David Blados, present; Michael Finnican, present; Christopher Talbot, present and Treasurer Peter Zwerlein, present.  
A quorum was declared. Chiefs Meringer and Brewer were present.

Motion to accept the April 2021 minutes as Emailed to commissioners.  
Motion by Comr. Blados seconded by Comr. Talbot, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Comr. Blados to approve the April/May Treasurer's report as printed and submitted to the Commissioners. Motion seconded by Comr. Finnican, carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the total of the April/May Audited Bills presented by Treasurer Zwerlein amounting to \$142,618.44. Motion by Comr. Blados seconded by Comr. Finnican, motion carried unanimously.  
A copy thereof is on the last page of these minutes as Attachment #1.

**Correspondence:**

Contract Renewal for our Elevator from Eclipse Elevator Co. LLC to furnish maintenance to Cutchogue Fire Districts (1) Elevator, for a 3-year program, commencing on January 1, 2021. Service is to include (4) visits per year with installment payments of \$656.76, payable in advance. Noted, the maximum increase per year shall not exceed 5%. A brief discussion followed concerning the mandatory requirements of this program. Motion by Comr. Blados to enter into contract with Eclipse Elevator for the 3-year service contract. Seconded by Comr. Finnican carried unanimously.

Notice from Suffolk County Water Authority advising of the Annual Backflow Testing for our (2) Water Supply devices. Testing to be by a licensed master plumber who is certified to do the testing. Comr. Zuhoski explained the process to the board. Lund Backflow is scheduled to do the testing on May 19<sup>th</sup>. Motion by Comr. Talbot to have the (2) water devices tested as soon as possible. Seconded by Comr. Blados, carried unanimously. Approximate cost \$150.00 each.

Letter from Tim Deveny announcing his candidacy for position of Sergeant of Arms for the Suffolk County Fire District Officers Association. In person meeting to be held on Thursday May 20<sup>th</sup>, at the Brentwood Fire District, substation. He would like at least one commissioner to attend. Motion by Comr. Zuhoski to attend the meeting and to support Tim Deveny for Sergeant of Arms. Seconded by Comr. Talbot, carried unanimously.

Notice of Major Economic Reopening Planned for New York State. On May 19<sup>th</sup>, most capacity restrictions will be lifted across NY businesses with 6-foot social distance still in place, except if vaccinated. The outdoor food and beverage curfew will be lifted as of May 17<sup>th</sup>. Indoor areas, the curfew will be lifted on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Seating at bars will also be allowed beginning Monday May 17<sup>th</sup> with food services guidance, state wide. Per Gov. Cuomo as of May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

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Public Service Announcement from Fire Districts of NY Mutual Insurance Co. Inc. covering the legalizing of Adult-Use of Cannabis, May 2021. The NY Workers' Compensation Law Article 2-Compensation, Sect 10- Liability for Compensation paragraph 10 to summarize; except that there shall be no liability for compensation under this chapter when the injury has been solely occasioned by intoxication from alcohol or a controlled substance of the injured employee while on duty; or by willful intention of the injured employee to bring about the injury or death of himself or another.

Note: The new bill regarding marijuana in NYS does not change NYS Workers' Compensation Law. FDMNY will continue to follow NYS Workers' Compensation Board Law. Discussion followed.

Two documents received from Sheehan & Company; Communication with those charged with Governance and the Annual Financial Report. The Annual Financial Report (without notes) was filed with NYS Comptroller on Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>. The completed report, with notes, will be filed with the state comptroller and the town clerk, as required by law.

Notice received of the passing of 50-year member Charles F. Crofts Jr. on May 8, 2021. Memorial services to be held on Tuesday evening, May 11<sup>th</sup>.

Email received from Keith Keto updating on the proposed cell tower installation. He expects an update from AT&T, tomorrow, and will advise thereafter. He is waiting a decision on the tower height and expects that tomorrows call will answer the question.

Emails received from President Harris of the Southold Town Fire District Officers Association requesting all town districts to support Tim Deveny for Sargent of Arms at there meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup> in Brentwood. In person voting is mandatory. Also, the Associations July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting is being moved to July 22<sup>nd</sup> due to the NYS Chiefs Annual Conference on the 15<sup>th</sup>. There was no objection to the meeting date change.

**Commissioner's reports:**

**Comr. Zuhoski:** Vehicle 8-5-2A has tires leaking and severe rust is noted on a body panel. Discussion on having the truck repaired and will seek a body shop as soon as possible.  
New Chief's Car remains at Pro Liner waiting equipment.  
The Fire-Rescue Boat to be in the water within a week.

**Comr. Blados:** Repairs to Boat 8-5-10 Electronics are necessary at a cost of \$1262.72. Motion by Comr. Blados to authorize the needed repairs, seconded by Comr. Finnican, carried unanimously.  
The Fire Well on corner of Oregon Rd & Alvah's Lane is not producing enough water and being reviewed. Flowers being planted around the buildings and watering system is operational.  
31 car requires Air Condition recharge and tires replaced.  
American Flag on Engine Floor has deteriorated and should be replaced. New Flag to be purchased.

**Comr. Finnican:** Discussed the condition of the utility golf carts batteries. Batteries are very expensive to purchase for a 15yr old cart. A new charger is also needed. Discussion ensued to replace the cart and to consider a small ATV for general use around the properties. Quotes to be obtained for a replacement off of the NYS Bid Policy or similar agencies.

**Comr. Talbot:** Opened discussion on the costs of maintaining our LOSAP program through VFIS Insurance. There maybe other options out there that are less expensive to maintain and have better yields. District should do further research and perhaps go out for a formal bid request to check the competition and costs. There will be a meeting with VFIS, here on June 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss our insurance plans.

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**Chief Amos Meringer's Report:**

Fire School/Training:

1. Monthly in-house training 5/20

Activities:

- 1- 5/14 drive in fund raiser
- 2- 5/19 officers mtg
- 3- 5/22 rt 48 clean up
- 4- 5/31 Memorial Day parade @ 11AM.

Motion by Comr. Blados to approve items 1-4, seconded by Comr. Finnican, carried unanimously.

Equipment/Repairs:

- 1- Air horn on 8-5-3-foot pedal not working
- 2- 31 car has no a/c
- 3- 8-5-1 has Bulb out on rear.

Requests:

- 1- 4-SCBA bottle brackets to hold spare bottles on 8-5-2
- 2- Request to book a block of rooms for vital signs

Motion by Comr. Talbot to approve the above requests, items 1 & 2. Seconded by Comr. Blados, carried unanimously.

**New Business**

Comr. Blados said it is necessary to do maintenance around our fire wells. He will have two members remove the growth around each well in the next few weeks.

Comr. Finnican discussed the plans to reconstruct the present firehouse from the North end to the new wall on the South Building. These structures are to be removed and replaced with a two-story building that meet current firehouse specifications and our needs.

A preliminary set of plans will be made available on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, at the firehouse for our firemen to review and make comments. Architect Nemschick will be present to answer questions.

He cited the condition of the present buildings noting the repairs will be costly, Truck Bays are too small and not ventilated, also additional bays are needed. Operations and Training rooms, also needed. Plus other changes to bring the building to current standards and accommodations.

Comr. Talbot stated that our 2<sup>nd</sup> assistant chief does not have the proper turn out coat and should be replaced. Discussion followed. Motion by Comr. Zuhoski to replace the coat, seconded by Comr. Finnican, carried unanimously.

Secretary Martin advised that while talking with our new EMS Narcotics Officer, Bruce Zummo, he learned that a third Medic-Safe is required and installed inside the building to store the drugs in. This would insure access and availability of the drugs should an accident occur with our ambulances. Discussion followed, motion by Comr. Blados to purchase and install a third Medic-Safe in the firehouse, as soon as possible. Seconded by Comr. Finnican, carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn at 8:56 pm by Comr. Blados, seconded by Comr. Finnican, carried unanimously.

Matthew J. Martin  
Fire District Secretary

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**Attachment #1**

Cutchogue Fire District  
 Abstract of Transactions for Approval  
 May 12, 2021  
Warrant 21-05

Pay To	Amount
ABT DESIGN & FIRE.....	\$208.00
ALL POWER PERFORMANCE.....	\$2,676.00
BIG GEYSER INC.....	\$261.50
CAPITAL ONE, N.A. CORP. CARD.....	\$505.18
COLONIAL COFFEE SERVICE.....	\$199.95
CUTCHOGUE HARDWARE.....	\$47.34
DP ELECTRIC MOTOR SERVICE INC.....	\$3,600.00
EASTERN TIRE.....	\$872.64
EMERALD DOCUMENT IMAGING.....	\$350.00
FIREMATIC SUPPLY.....	\$630.86
FLEETZOOM.....	\$290.00
GERM FREE PRO.....	\$398.00
GLOVER EVERETT (lawn maintenance).....	\$100.00
GOVCONNECTION, INC.....	\$6,206.00
HENDRICKSON FIRE RESCUE EQUIP.....	\$17,712.23
INTEGRATED WIRELESS TECHNOLOGI.....	\$5,185.86
INTEGRITY REPAIR CORP.....	\$235.00
J. ZEE'S PLUMBING & HEATING.....	\$229.20
MARTIN C. AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY.....	\$66.85
MATTITUCK ENVIRO SERVICES.....	\$448.85
MINERVA CLEANERS.....	\$38.00
NATIONAL GRID.....	\$655.59
NOFO WELLNESS CENTER.....	\$550.00
NYS EMPLOYMENT TAXES UI.....	\$928.85
OCEAN JANITORIAL SUPPLY INC.....	\$688.85
OPTIMUM.....	\$538.45
ORLOWSKI HARDWARE COMPANY.....	\$101.94
PAYCHEX.....	\$119.87
PAYROLL.....	\$16,383.66
PEOPLES BANK GENERAL CKG A/C.....	\$30.00
PETRO COMMERCIAL SERVICES.....	\$351.29
PSEG LONG ISLAND.....	\$1,777.34
REEVE AGENCY.....	\$64,789.72

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RIVERHEAD BUILDING SUPPLY.....	\$16.77
SHEEHAN & COMPANY.....	\$4,700.00
SOUTH SHORE FIRE & SAFETY.....	\$3,744.65
SOUTHOLD PHARMACY.....	\$45.00
SPEEDY SIGN FX.....	\$30.00
SPRAGUE OPERATING RESOURCES.....	\$963.51
SUFFOLK COUNTY FIRE ACADEMY.....	\$20.00
TECHNOLOGY REFLECTIONS, INC.....	\$1,384.40
UNITED STATES TREASURY EFTPS.....	\$1,253.40
VAN DUZER GAS SERVICE.....	\$560.62
VERIZON WIRELESS.....	\$223.07
ZUMMO BRUCE.....	\$2,500.00
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Total bills for approval 5/12/2021.....	\$142,618.44
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