



**Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting  
Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023  
Station 43 North Corning Fire Dept, Inc.**

**Minutes**

1. Call to Order by Commissioner Shafer at 1739.
2. Roll Call of Commissioners present: Commissioner Clarkson, Commissioner Eccleston, Commissioner Gridley, Commissioner Clarkson. Absent: Commissioner Burrell.
3. Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Shafer.
4. Motion to approve the following nominations for membership in the Fire Companies that comprise the firefighting force of the Corning Joint Fire District. None were noted by Chiefs. Will review again next month.
5. Motion by Commissioner Eccleston with a second to motion by Commissioner Clarkson to review and accept January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Organizational Meeting Minutes and January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Corning Joint Fire Commissioner Monthly meeting. Motion carried with none opposed.
6. Motion by Commissioner Clarkson with second to the motion by Commissioner Gridley to review and act on draft policy & procedure for Reimbursement of Operating Expenses for Chief/Deputy Chief Use of Personal Vehicle for Fire District Purposes. Motion carried with none opposed.
  - Motion by Commissioner Clarkson with a second to the motion by Commissioner Gridley to approve the Reimbursement of Operating Expenses for Chief/Deputy Chief Use of Personal Vehicle for Fire District Purposes. Motion carried with none opposed.
7. Motion by Commissioner Eccleston with a second to the motion by Commissioner Clarkson to receive and review the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried with none opposed.
  - 2023 tax levy of \$522,599 received from Town of Corning on 1/26/2023. Deposited by Commissioner Shafer earlier this week.
  - Reviewed Treasurer's Report with Evan Brown and Fire Commissioners. Report reviewed. Motion to approve report by Commissioner Clarkson with a second to the motion by Commissioner Gridley. Motion carried with none opposed.
  - Motion to approve transfer of \$475,000 by Commissioner Gridley with a second by Commissioner Clarkson from CJFD's General Checking account# xxxxx0297 to CJFD's ICS account# xxxxx4090..
8. Motion by Commissioner Gridley with a second to the motion by Commissioner Clarkson to review CJFD's PESH SH-900.1 Report for 2022. Motion carried with none opposed.
9. Motion by Commissioner Eccleston with a second to the motion by Commissioner Gridley to discuss status of the following CJFD initiatives: Motion carried with none opposed.
  - RFP for paving project-Sta 16 – No updates at this time per Chief Brenning.
  - Transferring ownership of Stations 16 & 43 to CJFD. Attorney Hannigan working on this. Will review again next month.
  - Feasibility of replacing Station 34- no updates at this time.
  - Rotary Grant Program
  - South Corning Auxiliary would like to be part of the Corning Joint Fire District. Commissioner Shafer discussed that Auxiliary will not be covered by VFBL or Workers' Comp benefits. They would be covered for up to \$5,000 in medical expenses under our general insurance policy. Auxiliary finances



would not be covered by theft insurance unless CJFD establishes an oversight program. Commissioner Shafer to discuss limitations/concerns with Don Karns, President of Auxiliary.

- Commissioner Shafer discussed the new NYS law allowing Taxing Districts to reduce property assessments by 10% for volunteer firefighters with Attorney Hannigan. If a fire district grants permission for fire department members to have reduction, this needs to be approved and sent to assessor by March 1, 2023 for this taxing year. This would allow reduction for primary residence in NY. Commissioner Shafer to work with Attorney Hannigan on resolution to move forward on this initiative. Commissioner Burrell present at 1800.

10. Motion by Commissioner Eccleston with a second to the motion by Commissioner Clarkson to discuss the following prospective purchases:

- Installation Banquet will be held at American Legion on February 25, 2023. Bulldog Sounds to be DJ with trivia. Awards will be given out at the banquet.
- Years of Service Recognition Pins (\$685) to be distributed for any members with service pins that are due since the formation of the district. This will also cover needs for 2024. Motion made by Commissioner Eccleston with a second to the motion by Commissioner Burrell to approve purchase of \$685 for the service pins. Motion carried with none opposed.
- Tablet for M37 (\$200); Battery expanded and broke case of tablet. Transfer service from Verizon to AT&T discussed as Verizon, per Chief Nehring, has been unhelpful with any services or assistance. Switching to AT&T would offer hotspots in the vehicles to connect too. This would allow for tablets or other devices to be connected. The cost of AT&T will be reviewed by Chief Nehring if granted permission. Motion made by Commissioner Burrell with a second to the motion by Commissioner Clarkson to purchase one tablet. Motion carried with none opposed.
- Replace 3 1-hr air cylinders for RIT packs and airpack kit (est \$5000). 15-year bottle cost is \$1,524.72 per bottle. For a 30-year bottle the cost is \$2116.05. Motion made by Commissioner Eccleston with a second to the motion by Commissioner Clarkson to purchase 3 15-year 1-hour bottles. Motion carried with none opposed.
- Water softener for Station 16 discussed. Commissioner Shafer compared Chemung Soft Water and Culligan they were comparable in cost. Motion by Commissioner Eccleston with a second to the motion by Commissioner Burrell to approve up to \$3500 for install with Culligan for water softener at East Corning – Station 16. Motion carried with none opposed.
- Commissioner Shafer obtained and reviewed quotes for stripping and waxing hall floors at East Corning- Station 16. Greenstar \$1,088 to strip and wax floors at East Corning – Station 16. Night Shift quote for \$1336. Commissioner Shafer had Greenstar complete this week at East Corning – Station 16.
- Commissioner Shafer received quotes for cleaning services for East Corning – station 16. Green Star \$6,000 annually and Night Shift \$5300. These quotes included scrubbing floors each month. Awaiting quote from Brenda Boynton. Commissioner Shafer to follow up on further quotes and ideas for cleaning services. This discussion will be further discussed next month.

11. Motion by Commissioner Gridley with a second to the motion by Commissioner Eccleston to discuss recruitment and retention initiatives for CJFD. Motion carried with none opposed.

- LOSAP Cost/Benefit Projection reviewed cost and proposal. Will present to members at next District meeting.
- Firefighter Points-based Incentive Plan DRAFT
- 2023 FF Experience Camp. No updates at this time.
- CJFD Educational Expense Reimbursement Program \$10,000 in the budget. Attorney Hannigan recommended having this conducted by our 3 member fire companies with reimbursement of their expenses by CJFD. 501C3's can accommodate this in their benefit programs more effectively per Attorney Hannigan.
- Discussion about Recruitment/Retention Coordinator, including the possibility of establishing this as a paid position. Further discussion at next meeting.

12. Motion by Commissioner Eccleston with a second to the motion by Commissioner Burrell to discuss firematic-related topics with District Chief and Deputy Chiefs. Motion carried with none opposed.

- Chief Brenning states Tom Harrington (MES rep) indicates that MES is expecting a 10-12% increase in turn out gear. Had Tom come and fit 5 sets of gear to save 10-12%. Quote for gear \$15,343.43. Motion by Commissioner Burrell with a second to the motion by Commissioner Eccleston for the 5 sets of turn out gear. Motion carried with none opposed. Used gear in inventory will be repurposed as

backup sets for firefighters who need to decontaminate their primary gear after a fire.

13. Visitor's Comments: Commissioner Clarkson is requesting permission to follow up on quotes for Engine 70 headlights. Engine 70 headlights are quite dim per Commissioner Clarkson. Chief Brenning also states requesting having JPB review this. Commissioner Clarkson to receive local quotes. Will review next month.

14. Motion to adjourn the meeting @ 1906 pm.

Respectfully Submitted;

*Jennifer L. Mullen, Secretary*

Jenniffer L. Mullen, CJFD Secretary

**Upcoming Events / Important Dates:**

Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, CJFD Fire Commissioner's Monthly Meeting at Station 43 at 5:30pm.