

COLDEN FIRE DISTRICT
Board of Fire Commissioners
Minutes – Jan 10, 2023

ATTENDEES: Chair Ronald Smith
 Vice-Chair Jeffrey Shelley
 Commissioner Gloria Marinaccio
 Commissioner George Abraham
 Commissioner Jan A. Jarecki
 Treasurer/Secretary Michael Schneider

Chairman Smith opened the Colden Fire District’s regular meeting at 7:00 PM, led the Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence for our servicemen and First Responders; thanked everyone for attending.

Roll Call and Affirmation of Quorum: Yes

Public Attendance: Douglas Hyde, Charles Hall, Brian Sudyn, James DePasquale, Gerald Pietraszek

1. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings - Approval of Minutes (Regular Meeting December 13, 2022 and the Organizational Meeting dated January 5, 2023) Commissioner Marinaccio made a motion to approve the Minutes as printed and Commissioner Jarecki seconded the motion. Smith-Yea, Marinaccio-Yea, Abraham-Yea, Shelley-Excused, Jarecki-Yea, Motion Approved

2. Approval of Financial Actions for the Month of December 2022

- a. Approval of Treasurer’s Report (Monthly Financial Report) as of Jan 1, 2023
- b. Approval to Transfer Funds:

From Account	To Account	Amount
General Savings	Checking	\$58,000.00
Emergency Repair Fund	Checking	862.84
Checking	Apparatus Reserve	23,328.15
Checking	SCBA/PPE	27,579.14

- c. Funds Received

Agency	Credit Description	Funds	Year
Erie County	Election CFD Building use 2022	\$525.00	2022

d. Approval of Bills Ratification of District Accounts Payable for the month

Year Funds Obligated	Claim Number	Date	Description of Transaction	Cost	Occustar
2022	3087	1/1/2023	NYSEG (District Office Corrected Bill)	\$11.56	A3410.412
2023	3088	1/1/2023	National Fuel (District Office & Sta 2)	\$ 560.06	A3410.413
2023	3089	1/1/2023	Charter Communication (Internet)	\$ 119.99	A3410.430
2023	3090	1/10/2023	NYSEG (District Office)	\$ 87.08	A3410.412
2022	3091	1/10/2023	Saia Communication, Inc. (LI-ION Battery)	\$ 99.60	A3410.21
2023	3092	1/10/2023	Brown and Stromecki (Cancer insurance 2023)	\$ 3,276.00	A3410.423
2022	3093	1/10/2023	Ronald Smith (Lithium Batteries)	\$ 42.90	A3410.21
2023	3094	1/10/2023	Firefly Admin, Inc. (LOSAP Admin Fee)	\$ 2,471.18	A3410.425
2022	3095	1/10/2023	FirstOut Rescue Equipment (2.5 X 25' Hose)	\$ 127.50	A3410.20
2022	3096	1/10/2023	Witmer Pulic Safety Gp. (Turn-Out Gear)	\$ 2,415.00	A3410.20
2023	3097	1/10/2023	University Emergency Med. Svc. (Medical Dir.)	\$ 750.00	A3410.426
2023	3098	1/10/2023	Zoll Medical Corp. (Defib Precision Svc Plan)	\$ 1,540.00	A3410.416
2022	3099	1/10/2023	Grainger (Safety Batons)	\$ 112.52	A3410.23
2022	3100	1/10/2023	Occustar (FF Physical)	\$ 99.00	A9060.85
2022	3101	1/10/2023	M&T Bank (SCBA/PPE Reserve))	\$ 27,579.14	2020 Money
2022	3102	1/10/2023	M&T Bank (Apparatus Reserve)	\$ 23,328.15	2019 Money
2023	3103	1/10/2023	Springville Journal (Legal Notice Organization Mtg)	\$ 42.60	A3410.410
2023	3104	1/10/2023	Verizon (iPads and tablets)	\$ 100.05	A3410.415
2022	3105	1/10/2023	Cardmember Services (Office Depot & USPS)	\$ 193.16	A3410.401
2022	3106	1/10/2023	Bertrand Chaffee Hospital (Emerg Rm Svc 1/27/22)	\$ 174.00	A9060.85
				\$63,129.49	

e. Fire District Assets: as of January 1, 2023

\$ 121.77	M&T Checking Account (1)
6,422.94	M&T Checking Account (2)
2,062.00	PayPal
152,106.35	M&T General Fund Savings
25,412.79	Capital Reserve Account –Repair Res. (Matures: 01/18/23)
631,587.56	Capital Reserve Account – Apparatus (Matures: 04/4/23)
30,422.70	Capital Reserve Account – ISO
16,620.64	Capital Reserve Account – Unrestricted
49,828.58	Capital Reserve Account –SCBA/PPE(Matures: 01/24/23)
<u>3,125.31</u>	Capital Reserve Account – Morale (Matures: 12/28/22)
\$ 917,709.64	Total Monetary Assets

Commissioner Marinaccio made a motion to approve and ordered the Treasurer to complete the above listed financial actions and Commissioner Abraham seconded the motion. Smith-Yea, Marinaccio-Yea, Abraham-Yea, Shelley-Excused, Jarecki-Yea, Motion Approved

3. Correspondence and communications received:

- a. NYSEG sent the District a note stating that last month's calculation of the bill was wrong. They sent us a new bill with a new due date of January 5, 2023.
- b. Grainger catalogue given to Colden 9-1
- c. Message from Gabriel Chen of the Board of Elections stating that someone tried to vote for Colden Fire Commissioner and found their name was in the Aurora Colden Fire District. He would like to reshape the GIS accessible data. Needs our help Commissioner Smith reached out to him.
- d. AFDSNY Fire District Affairs Dec 2022-Jan 2023 hard copy for files arrived.
- e. NYS Comptroller's request for the annual report on revenues and expenditures of Foreign Fire Insurance Premiums. Information given to Commissioner Smith.
- f. NYS Comptroller is reviewing the District's tax levy for 2023
- g. Congratulations from Region 6 Directors to the new and returning Commissioners. They also stated the different training opportunities for Commissioners.
- h. New real property tax law 466-a signed by the Governor giving volunteer firefighters and ambulance operators a 10% discount of assessed valuation for their primary property taxes. Next step is to get local governments to opt-in on the new law. The annual Tax Cap report has been filed with NYS.
- i. Firefly sent an Appreciation & Gratitude card with a Happy New Year statement.
- j. VFIS Newsletter Winter 2022/2023
- k. Localedge phone book from Colden, Arcade to Gowanda
- l. Letter from the IRS stating that we need to refile the District's 941 for Sep 30, 2020 or write them and give a phone number where they can contact someone
- m. Grainger catalogue, gave to Colden 9-1

- n. Certificate of Liability Insurance for Numarco, Inc.
- o. Letter to IRS concerning letter dated Dec 30, 2022
- p. Quarterly NYS Payroll report submitted
- q. Boston Colden fire Chief's Air Bank Log and expenses for 2022
- r. Certificate of liability insurance for The Environmental Service Group
- s. Poster on Safe Driving was received from VFIS. Gave it to Colden 9-1
- t. Another Grainger catalogue received from Grainger. Given to Colden 9-1.
- u. Legal Notice to Springville Journal was sent, subject: 2024 Schedule
- v. Uline Catalogue Fall/Winter 2022/2023

4. Committee Reports

- Personnel, Insurance, Service Award Committee – Nationwide Statement for December 2022 indicated an Employer Discretionary Withdrawal of \$6,480.00, the normal monthly benefits paid. An analysis of the District's Nationwide account:

\$ 879,116.91	Opening Value on 01/01/2022
101,939.00	Contribution to be made in April 2022
(149,732.23)	2022 Investment Losses to December 31, 2022
(78,980.00)	Pensions paid out through December 31, 2022
\$ 752,343.68	Total Account Value on 12/31/2022
Additional Program Expenses:	
\$4,207.29	Nationwide Advisory Fees to Date for 2022
\$4,551.60	Jan 1, 2022 to Dec 31, 2022 FireFly Admin Fees
- Maintenance of Buildings and Apparatus, Driver Certification, Communications Committee – With 10 days into the 2023 year the District spent \$0.00 from A3410.420 Year 2023 Funds on repairs.
 - Eng. 1 Radios not charging
 - Rescue 7 Check engine light is on, (Will always be on due to pump motor)
 - Eng. 1 iPad does not work (Commissioner Smith will look at it)
 - Sta. 2 IMR TV Monitor is not working (Colden 9-1 working on it)

- Executive Board Committee – Next meeting will be held on Jan 30, 2023
- Training Committee – Training Schedule for this coming month:
 - Jan 9, 2023 – Radio Class at Erie County and Executive Board
 - Jan 16, 2023 – CFC Business Meeting
 - Jan 23, 2023 – EMS Class in Springville, NY
 - Jan 30, 2023 – Vehicle Inventory
 - Feb 13, 2023 – OSHA
- Standard Operating Guideline (SOG) Committee – No Report
- Medical Readiness – No Report
- Privacy Officer – No Report

5. Fire Company Readiness

Personnel	Authorized	Beginning Strength	Gains for Month	Losses for Month	Ending Strength	Percent
Firefighters	37	15	1	0	16	41%
EMS	11	5	0	0	5	45%
Fire Police	10	9	0	0	9	90%
Total	58	29	1	0	30	50%

Non Deployable Status	
Medical/OSHA	1
Extended Leave	0

Medical (Physicals)		
Scheduled	Completed	Medical %
29	29	100%

Deployable Firefighters (27/28) %		96%		Average Age (28 Members)		59.43 Y O A
Equipment	Authorized	On Hand	Equipment Percentage	Mission Capable		Readiness Percentage
				FMC	NMC	
Engine 1	1	1	100%	1	0	
Engine 2	1	1	100%	1	0	
Engine 3	1	1	100%	1	0	
Tanker 5	1	1	100%	1	0	
Rescue 7	1	1	100%	1	0	
Ambulance 8	1	1	100%	1	0	
Overall	6	6	100%	6	0	100%

Training Status	Strength	Firefighter One	In-House Training	EMT	Fire Police	Percent
Firefighters	15	13	2	0	0	87%
EMS	5	0	0	5	0	100%
Fire Police	9	0	2	0	7	83%
Total	29	13	4	5	7	86%

Number of Fire Responses	9
Number of EMS Responses	25
Total for the Month of Dec 2022	34

2022 Total Responses
331

Recruitment Activities for Month: Advertised on both Fire Company Marquees, and sponsored the Boy Scout bottle return drive, and BOLO Food Distribution.

a. Fire Chief:

Call/Drill sign-in sheets for December 2022 have been received.

Support of Special Events: Super Bowl Party

Jan 23, 23 – Ambulance to Springville for Tng.

b. EMS Chief: Still studying chest compression devices. Working on Community CPR classes along with some shorter classes all to be used for recruitment. Would like to change the staging location for certain calls on Center Street to Station 2, where it would safer to wait for law enforcement.

c. Safety Officer: No report

d. President of the Auxiliary: No Report

e. Fire Police: No Report

President of the Fire Company: No Report

6. Purchase Requests (Equipment / Services):

Description of Items	Account	Cost
3 ea. CO Detectors	A3410.21	\$600.00
Total Estimated Cost		\$600.00

Resolution # 2023- 025 – Fire District Purchases

Commissioner Shelley made a motion to approve the purchases and Commissioner Marinaccio seconded the motion. Smith-Yea, Marinaccio-Yea, Abraham-Yea, Shelley-Yea, Jarecki-Yea, Motion Approved

7. Unfinished Business:

1. Equipment defects that need to be addressed:
 - Eng. 1 Missing a Spanner Wrench on the rear of Engine
 - Ambulance was weight tested for a balance study of the vehicle. Information was gathered and sent to tech support who returned with the answer that the ambulance may be too light by 4000 pounds for the liquid shocks. Still looking for a better answer.
 - Antenna needed for marquee at Station 2 (part order and replaced District will receive an invoice soon) Works intermittently, Still watching as of January Mtg.
 - Eng. 2 Missing an SCBA (one broke and Eng. 2 will be cannibalized as needed)
 - Eng. 2 Missing a Radio Charger (4 Radios and 3 Chargers) One radio went to an EMT with a charger and another charger broke
 - Eng. 1 Three (3) Flashlights are not charging properly
 - South wall on District Office needs to be weather proofed (\$150.00)
 - Station 2 "I Am Responding" monitor is not working (Colden 9-1 working on it)
 - Recommended Under Coating Engine 1 and 3 (Waiting on Town Board approval)
 - Engine 1 missing one (1) SCBA
 - Rescue 7 SCBA Holder would not latch (Very tough to do, Gorman Problem)
 - Engine 2 Driver Door does not close tight (Gorman Problem)
 - Engine 2 missing 2.5" Hose 25' (Ordered) (Colden 9-1 working on it)
 - Engine 3 Low fuel light came on while gage reading full (Gorman Problem)
 - Sta. 2 intake duct for the generator needs repair (poor design, need to cover in the Winter and leave the bay door open all the time)
 - Eng. 2 has low air in Bottles, full ones switched out with Eng. 3
 - Eng. 3 One small flashlight not working
 - Eng. 3 One hand held radio on charging
 - Eng. 3 Deck Gun is difficult to move (Gorman problem)
 - Eng. 1 Right Pass Wobble Light is still out (When Gorman Checks it is OK)

- Eng. 1 One radio missing
- Eng. 2 Compressor has been disconnected (Gorman Problem)
- Ambulance CO Detector missing (Going for calibration by Colden 9-2)
- Eng. 3 CO Detector needed to be calibrated in 2019, Batt Dead (Colden 9-2 taking them to DiVal Safety, needs to be checked in their shop)
- Eng. 1 One (1) hand Light not charging (all getting replaced this month)
- Eng. 1 Missing one spanner wrench
- Eng. 3 Shore line ejector not ejecting power line

2. Change in the Record Manager Program to include: To include wages for certain out of District meetings deemed essential by the Commissioners, on a case by case basis. Tabled for the New Board of Fire Commissioners

8. New Business:

Discussion item # 1 – Resolution # 2023-026 - New Property Tax Exemption Law of NYS: On Dec. 9, 2022, Governor Hochul signed legislation that creates an opt-in for all local governments to provide a 10% property tax exemption to volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers (L 2022, ch 670, § 1). The law took effect immediately and can be implemented by your local governments now.

Real Property Tax Law § 466-a allows for an exemption of up to 10% of the assessed valuation of the primary residence of volunteer firefighters and/or volunteer ambulance workers. The law allows each entity of local government (e.g., county legislature, city council, school board, town board, village board, board of fire commissioners) to adopt a local law opting into the exemption. Localities that currently provide the exemption under the existing law would be required to adopt a local law to conform to the new law. The Colden Town Board is working on this new Government development and the Town Attorney, Mr. Bennett, is studying the new law. In past years this was a choice between local property taxes or a Credit on the NYS Income Tax.

Commissioner Shelley made a motion to Work with the Town Board to get this proposal approved and Commissioner Marinaccio seconded the motion. Smith-Yea, Marinaccio-Yea, Abraham-Yea, Shelley-Yea, Jarecki-Yea, Motion Approved

Discussion item # 2 – Resolution # 2023-027 – Incident Commander to determine SCBA use on CO Calls: Revisit the policy of always wearing SCBA in a call for CO Detector alert when there is no reading on the detection meters.

There are just not enough interior firefighters responding to continue this policy. It should be left up to the Incident Commander keeping in mind the situations observed: eg. Any illness or any readings on the meters as the investigation progresses.

Commissioner Shelley made a motion to Leave the use of SCBA up to the Incident Commander on CO calls and Commissioner Marinaccio seconded the motion. Smith-Yea, Marinaccio-Yea, Abraham-Yea, Shelley-Yea, Jarecki-Yea, Motion Approved

Discussion item # 3 – Bertrand Chaffee Hospital mailed a bill to the Colden Fire Company for a member who received emergency room treatment and x-rays back in January 2022. The District paid BCH the x-ray portion in March 2022 only to have the check returned with a note to pay Juniper Radiology directly, which the District did in April 2022.

Discussion item # 4 – Current M&T Bank CD rates have increased to 3.00% for the Fire District. The District has three (3) CDs coming to maturity this month. The bank would like to know if we are willing to accept the new rate??? Currently the District is receiving 0.03% when money in the economy was practically free. No objections

Discussion item # 5 – Emergency Lights on the Responding Vehicles are too bright: It appears that there are a lot of complaints about when arriving on a scene that the light emergency lights are blinding the new arrivals (especially in the rain at night). Commissioners Smith and Marinaccio would like to address this safety problem. Colden 9-1 suggested that the Fire Police turn them down if the chiefs forget.

Discussion item # 6 – Resolution # 2023-028 – New Agreement with UBMD service for Medical Director: An agreement reviewed by the Michael Chelus, District's Attorney, for a Medical Director at the Basic EMT Level service. Attorney stated that the agreement was a good balanced agreement and it was for all practical purposes a 90-Day agreement. The new cost is 3,000.00 annually, which is \$2,000.00 less than when CFD was an Advance EMS Provider.

Commissioner Marinaccio made a motion to Approve the new Agreement with UBMD for a medical Director and Commissioner Jarecki seconded the motion. Smith-Yea, Marinaccio-Yea, Abraham-Yea, Shelley-Yea, Jarecki-Yea, Motion Approved

Discussion item # 7– Fire Company is looking into changing the leadership structure due to the lower numbers of the group. They are looking at lowering the number of Chiefs to one for all the Engines. Colden 9-1 is working on the

details of the idea. New suggested format submitted. Have the Company format it into their elections and then submit with the other names.

Discussion item # 8– Thermal cameras need to be added to the e-checklist for engines and paper checklists. Colden 9-1 and Douglas Hyde looking into the changes

Discussion item # 9– **The County Radio class revealed some problems:** radio class held January 9, 2023 revealed that the radio frequency reprogramming completed in 2021, seems to have erased many required County frequencies. This needs to be corrected as soon as possible. Problem also showed up at the Knapp Road fire in communication problems. Colden 9-1 is working on correcting the problem.

Discussion item # 10 – Resolution # 2023-029 – Colden LOSAP points: Colden Fire Company completed the LOSAP points chart. They are posted at Station 1 and Station 2. A message was put over the pager system for everyone to check their numbers. The list will be posted for thirty days then, corrected if needed, and forwarded to the LOSAP administrators via Dave Stromecki.

Commissioner Shelley made a motion to Approve the LOSAP points and ordered them posted for thirty (30) days and Commissioner Jarecki seconded the motion. Smith-Yea, Marinaccio-Yea, Abraham-Yea, Shelley-Yea, Jarecki-Yea, Motion Approved

Discussion item # 11 – Fire police updated inventory sheets have been turned-in for the Organizational Meeting.

Discussion item # 12 – Colden 9-2 still working on getting a resolution through the Town Council to allow Town Employees to respond to fire calls during their duty hours as long as the Fire District insurance covers them while on Fire Duty.

Discussion item # 13 – Traffic Safety Vest samples should be in this month for fitting.

9. Public Comments: None

10. Next Regular Board Meeting: Tuesday February 14, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the District Office.

11. Adjournment @ 8:44 P.M. With no further business to conduct, Commissioner Jarecki made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Marinaccio seconded the motion. Smith-Yea, Marinaccio-Yea, Abraham-Yea, Shelley-Yea, Jarecki-Yea, Motion Approved

COLDEN FIRE DISTRICT

MEETING AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings
2. Approval of Financial Transactions for the Month
 - Approval of Treasurer's Report (Monthly Financial Report)
 - Approval of Bills (Ratification of District Accounts Payable)
 - Approval of Refunds/Credits
 - Fire District Assets
3. Correspondence and communications received
4. Committee Reports
 - Personnel Committee, Insurance, Service Award Committee
 - Maintenance of Buildings and Apparatus, Driver Certification, Communications Committee
 - Executive Board Committee
 - Training Committee
 - Standard Operating Guideline (SOG) Committee
 - Medical readiness Committee
5. Fire Company Readiness
 - Fire Chief
 - EMS Chief
 - Safety Officer
 - President of the Auxiliary
 - Fire Police Captain
 - President of the Fire Company
6. Purchase Requests (Fire Company/District)
7. Unfinished Business (Open Issues):
8. New Business
9. Executive Session (Personnel Issues)
10. Public Comment
11. Next Meeting
12. Adjournment

PUBLIC MEETING RULES

Order of Agenda - Items listed on the Agenda may be taken out of order.

Accommodations – Colden Fire District Office Building is accessible to individuals with disabilities. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate persons with special needs. Please contact the Fire Board one week in advance of the meeting.

Manner of Addressing the Fire Board - In order to conduct orderly, efficient, effective and dignified meetings that promote a governmental purpose with a governmental process, public comment may address any agenda item or other public issue that the Fire Board has the authority to effectuate or exercise control over. Public comment on matters beyond the Fire District's scope of authority is not relevant, does not invoke a governmental process nor serve a governmental purpose and is contrary to the effective, efficient and orderly business conducted by the Colden Fire District. Each person addressing the Fire Board shall stand up, shall give his/her name and shall limit the time of his/her presentation to three (3) minutes. All public comment remarks shall be addressed to the Fire Board as a body, and not to any member thereof. No person, other than members of the Fire Board and the person having the floor shall be permitted to enter into any discussion. No questions shall be asked of the Board Members, except through the presiding chairman. Speakers shall avoid undue repetition of points previously presented to the Fire Board.

Disruptive Conduct - Any person who willfully disrupts a meeting to the extent that its orderly conduct is made impractical may be removed from the meeting by order of the presiding chairman. A person willfully disrupts a meeting when he/she (1) uses physical violence, threatens the use of physical violence or provides the use of physical violence or (2) continues to use loud, boisterous, unruly or provocative behavior after being asked to stop, which behavior is determined by the presiding Chairman, or a majority of the Fire Board present, to be disruptive to the orderly conduct of the meeting or (3) fails to comply with any lawful decision or order of the presiding Chairman or of a majority of the Fire Board relating to the orderly conduct of the meeting.

Use of Recording Equipment - All members of the public and all public officials are allowed to tape or video record public meetings. Recording is not allowed during executive sessions. The recording (tape/video) is permissible as long as the device is unobtrusive and will not distract from the true deliberative process of the Board.

Register of 2023 Resolutions		
Resolution Number	Date	Description of Resolution
2023-001	Jan 5, 23	Appointment of Chairperson for Calendar Year 2023
2023-002	Jan 5, 23	Appointment of Vice-Chairperson for Calendar Year 2023
2023-003	Jan 5, 23	Adoption of Agenda
2023-004	Jan 5, 22	Adoption of Robert's Rules of Order
2023-005	Jan 5, 23	Appointment of Treasurer/Secretary
202-006	Jan 5, 23	Standard Day Filing to NYS
2023-007	Jan 5, 23	Appointment of Records Managers
2023-008	Jan 5, 23	Appointment of District Custodian
2023-009	Jan 5, 23	Authorizing Appointment of Attorney for Calendar Year 2023
2023-010	Jan 5, 23	Designating Surety Bonding for the Treasurer of the Colden Fire District
2023-011	Jan 5, 23	Authorizing Regular Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2023
2023-012	Jan 5, 23	Designation of Official Newspaper for Publications for Calendar Year 2023
2023-013	Jan 5, 23	Authorizing Per Diem and Mileage Reimbursements
2023-014	Jan 5, 23	Authorizing Advance Travel Payments
2023-015	Jan 5, 23	Appointment of Fire District Purchasing Agents
2023-016	Jan 5, 23	Fire District Memberships
2023-017	Jan 5, 23	Renewals of All Fire District Lease and Recurring Contractual Agreements
2023-018	Jan 5, 23	Authorizing Approval and Payment of Claims
2023-019	Jan 5, 23	Designation of Fire District Bank
2023-020	Jan 5, 23	Review of Expenditures (Calendar Year 2022)
2023-021	Jan 5, 23	Fire District Committee Appointments
2023-022	Jan 5, 23	Appointment of Independent Auditor for Calendar Year 2022 Records
2023-023	Jan 5, 23	Open Government Resolution
2023-024	Jan 5, 23	Signature Authority
2023-025	Jan 10, 23	Fire District Purchases
2023-026	Jan 10, 23	New Property Tax Exemption Law of NYS
2023-027	Jan 10, 23	Incident Commander to determine SCBA use on CO Calls
2023-028	Jan 10, 23	New Agreement with UBMD service for Medical Director
2023-029	Jan 10, 23	Colden LOSAP points