

## 8/18/2022 Fire Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Joe Finnegan, Matt Denner, John Mitchel, Larry Denesha, Bob Kerr, Mark Bradish, Dave Taylor, Mark Bomyea, Larry Whitton, Vinney Ferry, John Lashomb, Don McCarthy, Rick Rusaw, Bob Crowe

Members Excused: Kevin Crosby, Art Howie, Chris Sherwin

1900 hrs: Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Finnegan. Secretary's report offered for discussion. Nothing further of the report M/M Rick Rusaw to accept, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry Denesha, Carried.

Floor turn over to Larry Denesha for legislative update. Larry gave update on latest Covid numbers. Larry stated the county was using 2 million dollars of ARPA funds for IDA projects related to workforce development, infrastructure, childcare, small business and not for profits. Larry stated it was budget time and it was hoped to hold taxes or possibly lower them a bit for the coming year. Sales Taxes numbers were down from last year.

Discussion on upcoming fuel cost and impact locally, use of wood burning and possible impact on fire departments. Joe Finnegan suggested a woodstove safety media campaign be launched

Floor turned over to Matt Denner for report. He introduced the newest FAB member Mark Bradish from Potsdam. Mark replacing long time member Joe Gallagher. Joe Finnegan asked if the legislature could recognize Joe Gallagher years of service with a thank you letter, resolution. M/M Larry Whitton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vinney Ferry to send letter, resolution. Carried

Review of Fire, EMS, L/E calls dispatched for July

Fire-454, EMS-2036, Local PD-367, NYSP-378, Sheriff 1,089, Information Calls- 1,267 July Total 5,591. Year to date totals 34,554

Communications project- RFP sent out, 3 bids received.

Reviews to be conducted before awarding. 5 million ARPA funds will be used for project. Need to brief legislature and hope to move forward by February 2023.

University games: Not much impact on fire departments, EMS as needed, lots of spectators in county. Potsdam State using dorms. Bloomingdale NY holding a bus rescue class. State also offering Crowd Control Management Training.

Per instructors, the Brier Hill BEFO class was not good. Having it at the station was not the best environment for learning.

Mutual Aid plan was discussed. Issues with Newton Falls not holding up their end of the county mutual aid plan. Leaving the scene of fires that are in their area of responsibility to other mutual aid departments. Newton Falls chiefs and board of fire commissioners are not willing to sit down and discuss the plan. It was suggested legal advice maybe needed or possible contact the state comptroller office for help.

If any department needs a copy of the current mutual aid plan let Matt Denner know.

Next meeting Oct 20, 2022

2050 hrs no other business.

M/M to Adjourn Bob Crowe, 2<sup>nd</sup> Larry Whitton carried