

**CALEDONIA FIRE DISTRICT**  
**October 19, 2022**

**MINUTES**

Present: Fire Commissioners Jim Dutton, Don Cook, Meg Churchill, and Ron Beach Jr.

Excused: Fire Commissioner Mike Beavers

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Sue Carson, Chief Mike Churchill, Deputy Chief John Murray, Tom Hayes, Hailey Morin, Joshua Hanbach, and Aaron Rychlycki.

The public hearing for the proposed 2023 budget was called to order by Chairman Jim Dutton at 6:30 pm. All present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CALEDONIA FIRE DISTRICT**  
**BUDGET HEARING AND PROCESS**

- A. ROLL CALL
- B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- C. PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET

**I THE CHAIRMAN READS THE FOLLOWING NOTICE:**

1. This is the public hearing regarding the 2023 proposed budget. In accordance with New York State Town Law, all Fire Districts must, prior to the adoption of their budget, hold a public hearing on their budget. Their budget hearing must be held in such a manner to maximize participation in the budget process. The purpose of this hearing is to discuss the contents of the budget. The Board of Fire Commissioners in accordance with legal requirements has adopted their proposed budget on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022.
2. The Secretary of the Fire District has filed with this District an affidavit
  - i. Stating the public notice of this public hearing was published or posted at least once at least five (5) days before the date specified for the hearing in
    1. The Official Newspaper of the Fire District.
    2. The Official signboards of the Town of Caledonia
    3. On the Fire District website
    4. On the Town of Caledonia website
3. The Notice of Public Hearing specified the time and date when and the place where this Public Hearing would be held.

4. The Fire District Secretary also made available for inspection, at least five days before the public hearing, by any interested person during the Town of Caledonia Clerk's hours copies of the proposed budget.
5. The purpose of this public hearing is to allow members of the public to make comments on the budget. Any person may be heard in favor of, or against, the preliminary budget or any item in it. Please note that this is only a proposed budget until the Board of Fire Commissioners adopts the final budget.
6. Prior to the public comment portion of this budget hearing, we will hear from the Fire District Treasurer who will make a brief presentation about the preliminary budget to the Board of Fire Commissioners and members of the public who are present. The Fire District Treasurer will be asked to submit the proposed budget to the Board of Fire Commissioners and members of the public who are here this evening.

## **ii THE TREASURER PRESENTS THE PROPOSED BUDGET**

- a. During this period the Treasurer should make a brief summary of the proposed budget.
- b. The Treasurer should not answer specific questions during this time so not to make this a question and answer session.

## **iii THE CHAIRMAN NOW STATES**

The public comment period begins. I will now ask any person(s) present wishing to be heard on this proposed budget in favor of, or against, the proposed budget or any item in it to please raise your hand. I request that if you wish to address the Board on the proposed budget. When recognized, please state your name and address for the record. Please limit your comments to five (5) minutes. Please direct all your questions to the Board or the Treasurer. This is not a question and answer session. Your question will not be answered when asked. The Board is looking for your opinion on the budget or any part of it, whether favorable or not. Please tell us what you are in favor of regarding this budget or what you are against. You may ask questions, but this Board and the treasurer will not answer any questions, until the conclusion of the public comment period.

- c. No comments were made by the guests.

## **iv CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION OF THE HEARING**

- a. The Chairman now states: "The public comments period this annual budget hearing has now concluded. The Board of Fire Commissioners is now allowed to ask questions.
  - i The members of the Board of Fire Commissioners now ask questions.
  - ii The Treasurer or the Chairman, if able to do so, address the issues raised during the public comments period.

At 6:35 pm the regular meeting was opened.

The budget hearing was held open while the regular meeting was running concurrently.

**Motion #134-2022**

Mrs. Churchill made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cook and all approved closing the budget hearing at 7:56 pm. No comments from the public were received during the hearing.

**Motion #-135-2022**

Mr. Cook made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Churchill and all approved passing the 2023 Caledonia Fire District Budget, in the amount of \$352,604 as presented.

**Motion #-136-2022**

Mr. Cook made motion, seconded by Mrs. Churchill and all approved to accept the September meeting minutes with the following correction: Page 1, bullet #5. Grain Bin training was at Howlett Farms, not Hewlett.

The District has received notice that Hailey Morin was approved for membership by the Caledonia Fire Department.

Hailey Morin introduced herself to the commissioners and was welcomed by Chairman Dutton.

**Chief Churchill's Report:**

- Chief Churchill presented the following reports:
  - August Fire Report. September is outstanding.
  - September Truck Fuel Log

**Motion #-137-2022**

- Mr. Cook made a motion, seconded by Mr. Beach and all approved the Fire Report for August.

**Motion #-138-2022**

- Mr. Cook made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Churchill and all approved repairing the torsion bar brackets on #114 at an estimated cost of \$7,000 with funds to be taken from Sea Container line of budget. Sea container will not be purchased this year.

**Motion #-139-2022**

- Mrs. Churchill made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cook and all approved the purchase of two portable bank chargers for #114 and #118 at a cost of \$451.95 each.

**Motion #-140-2022**

- Mrs. Churchill made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cook and all approved the purchase of four batteries for the AXP 4000 radios at a total cost of \$244.80.

**Motion #-141-2022**

- Mrs. Churchill made a motion, seconded by Mr. Beach and all approved the purchase of fire prevention supplies consisting of 200 open house kits (\$589.98) and 100 helmets (\$177.50) for a total cost of \$767.48.

**Motion #-142-2022**

- Mr. Cook made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Churchill and all approved the purchase of a fan for the Sparky dog costume at a cost of \$13 plus shipping of \$6.
- Tom Hayes reported Mumford has requested the Fire Police to direct traffic at their Chicken Barbeque on 10/23.
- Aaron Rychlycki noted attendance at the open house was low.
- Tom Hayes will bring pricing to the next meeting for approval of MSA hard hat purchases for the Fire Police.
- Annual mandatory workplace training is scheduled for Monday, October 24 at 7 pm at Jones Hall.
- From previous meetings the following is still outstanding, Senit meter, Sherlock gear, accountability boards, and Fire Police gear.
- John Kellen has taken the Senit meter training.
- Deputy Chief John Murray:
  - reviewed staffing numbers with the commissioners
  - shared update by Andrew Brodell from Livingston County Office of Emergency management. Noted activities of the Fire Bureau, mutual aid plan, emergency management and training.
- Tahoe has been to Bob Johnson for regular maintenance

**Motion #-143-2022**

- A motion was made by Mr. Beach and seconded by Mrs. Churchill; all approved the J.W. Jones Hall fundraiser activities as listed below with all active fire fighters eligible to participate.

October FR- Front room; BR – Backroom

15 & 16 – scrapbooking BR

21 – rehearsal dinner BR

22 – wedding FR

22 – birthday party BR

29 – vendor show FR

### November

5 – craft show FR

8 – birthday party BR

13 - youth football FR

26 – baby shower BR

### **Fire Hall Construction Update**

- Mr. Dutton noted the following:
  - The Phase I and perk tests have been completed by Bella and Passero, respectively.
  - Passero should be attending the Planning Board meeting within the next week or so for the subdivision.

### **Tank Replacement Update**

- Deputy Chief Murray reviewed latest specs for new tanker. Estimated completion of tanker is late 2024 or early 2025 if contract with Churchville/ Pierce/Freightliner is signed by the end of the year. Estimated price is \$629,895.
- Chief Churchill also sent the spec to KME for a second bid.
- Mr. Dutton inquired if there would be any incentives offered for payments made at the time the chassis etc. were completed.

### **Motion #-144-2022**

- Mr. Cook made the following motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Churchill:
  - 1) Offered a resolution to (i) Authorize the acquisition of a tanker fire truck by means of a Permissive Referendum at a maximum aggregate cost of \$650,000, which may include equipment and apparatus required in connection therewith; (ii) transfer \$650,000 from the Capital Equipment Apparatus Reserve Fund GML6G of the District and thereby authorizing the expenditure of \$650,000 (funds then on hand) for the purchase of the new tanker fire truck;
  - 2) Sell and dispose of its existing 1996 Freightliner tanker fire truck (#116) when such truck is determined by the Board of Fire Commissioners to be an unnecessary and surplus vehicle and (ii) deposit the proceeds of such sale or sales into the Fire District's Capital Equipment Apparatus Reserve Fund GML6G.

#### Commissioner Vote:

Commissioner Dutton	Yea <u>__X__</u>	Nay <u>_____</u>
Commissioner Beavers	Yea <u>_____</u>	Nay <u>_____</u>
Commissioner Beach	Yea <u>__X__</u>	Nay <u>_____</u>
Commissioner Cook	Yea <u>__X__</u>	Nay <u>_____</u>
Commissioner Churchill	Yea <u>__X__</u>	Nay <u>_____</u>

Commission Beavers was not present at the meeting due to a family event.

- Fire fighters Aaron Rychlycki, Joshua Hanbach, Hailey Morin, Tom Hayes, and Deputy Chief John Murray left the meeting at 7:40 pm to respond to a call.

#### **Fire Commissioner's Reports**

- Mr. Dutton reported the DEC grant has been submitted
- Mr. Dutton reported Spectrum has completed their updating of the equipment in the Fire Hall. Everything is working. Discussion on removing the TV programing from Spectrum and installing an antenna.
- Mr. Dutton noted the desktop computer is not working and obtained quotes from Seth Graham for replacement, During the discussion it was stated All County Gutter has offered to donate a desktop computer to the District. The District will accept the donation and not purchase a new desktop at this time.
- Mr. Cook stated he had reviewed bank statements and reconciliations for the following bank accounts and noted no discrepancies:
  - Checking account #5829 ending 9/30
  - Money Market account #7960 ending 9/29
  - Certificate of Deposit #6545 opened 2/14/22, renewed 3/9,4/13, 5/11, 6/8, 7/13,8/10 and 9/14. (Jumbo)

#### **Secretary Treasurer's Report**

##### **Motion #-145-2022**

- Mr. Dutton made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Cook and all approved the purchase of a Safco Locking Steel Box at a cost of \$75.99 from Staples and use of the District credit card for payment.

##### **Motion #-146-2022**

- Mr. Beach made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Churchill and all approved the Treasurer's Report and payment of vouchers #145-163 totaling \$17,366.85.

**Motion #-147-2022**

- Mrs. Churchill made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cook and all approved adjourning the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan J. Carson  
Secretary/ Treasurer