

**CITY OF LOCKPORT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING – OFFICIAL RECORD**

Site: M-24
Tuesday, December 13, 2022 – 3 pm

Present: Commissioners Bates, Marren, Michel, Morrello.
Absent: Commissioner Fogle

Also present: Chief Quagliano, DCC McGrath, City Clerk Lanzo, reporter Ben Joe

Pledge – led by Charles Morello.

Motion: Commissioner Morello called the meeting to order at 3:09 pm.

Approval of Minutes:

- Motion: Commissioner Marren made motion to accept the minutes of November 8, 2022. Seconded by Bates. Ayes 4.

Chief's Agenda:

Ladder Truck:

- Ladder truck – used one from Brighton – lettering update – completed
 - Ladder test- being completed (Tonawanda)
 - Switching the radios and adding the lights that we have previously purchased
 - Pump test completed. As soon as its back – its ready to go
- 80% of the platoon are getting the in-service – full time before the end of the year.
- The original plan to purchase the Brighton Truck was presented to bridge and allow for the city to have a truck that would suffice the need until there was a new one purchased. The Brighton truck has 21 years on it currently and was intended to fill the immediate need and then be able to be sold upon receipt of the new truck that was to be ordered.
- Finance Department presented various options to the Lockport City Council related to bonding. Placing a bond would have allowed for the truck to be purchased, and the actual financial arrangements (grant, funds etc) could be arranged when the truck was completed.
 - The option and cost of leasing was discussed and the rates and differential between the percentage between Bonding (3-4.5% and leasing 5% plus) were presented.
- There were concerns expressed, and the Council elected to not bond during the last meeting of November 2022, and we did not commit to the purchase of a new fire truck.

- Last Thursday (December 1, 2022) the cost of the fire truck went up \$70K
- Chief Quagliano wanted to make sure that the Fire Board Members are aware that the Lockport Fire Department employees and the community are safe.

2. Ambulance “Study Draft”

- The final report has *draft* written on it. There are potential concerns with the report. Everything had 3 options – no technical assessment was provided.
 - Chief Quagliano handed out hard copies of the FM Report
 - Mercy Flight –followed up on the options which had been presented Spring 2022.
 - Mercy was the only commercial agency that responded.
 - Option 1 – Two Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulances staffed 24/7 – dedicated to the City of Lockport. The LFD would provide their paramedics to accompany Mercy’s BLS crews for all ALS transports. \$400,000 per year.
 - Option 2 – One BLS ambulance staffed 24/7 with one BLS ambulance staffed 12 hours a day – 7 days a week dedicated to the City of Lockport. LFD would provide their paramedics to accompany Mercy’s BLS crew for all ALS transports. \$80,000 per year.
 - Option 3 – Two dedicated ALS (Advanced Life Support) level ambulances staffed 24/7. \$600,000 per year.
 - Option 4 – One dedicated ALS ambulance 24/7 and one BLS ambulance 12/7. \$225,000 per year.
 - Option 5 – One dedicated ALS level ambulance 24/7. \$225,000 per year.
 - Commissioner Morello stated that in order to have the two ambulances that the City of Lockport owns ready to be utilized and back on the road, we would need to apply for the Certificate of Need, and have the Ambulances inspected.
- City of Lockport Fire Board – would like to have a letter composed and be sent to the City of Lockport Council. Include:
 - Information about the State Law regarding City’s in New York State having municipal Fire Departments.
 - Information about the City of Lockport Charter which includes specific details regarding the Lockport Fire Department.
 - Specific information regarding the need of the Lockport Fire Department
 - Share insight regarding the Freed Maxick (FM) Report and the lack of specific details that are included in the document.
 - Urge the council to look at the study and see the errors, the lack of technical support provided
 - Would like to clarify the reasons and need for the purchase of the new fire truck.

- Within the report, it does clarify that having two ambulances in the City of Lockport the cost and the revenue would balance

Referenced. – Twin City Letter

Executive Session:

- Motion: Commissioner Morrello called meeting into executive session at 3:36 pm. Seconded by Commissioner Marren.

End of Executive Session:

- Motion: Commissioner Bates made motion to exit executive session at 5:35 pm. Seconded by Commissioner Michel. 4 Ayes.

Motion: made by Michel to forward the Candidates that will be offered positions following interview will be: 1E, 2X, 3Q, 3T. Contingent 3M. Seconded by Bates. 4 Ayes.

Motion: Commissioner Bates to close at 5:42 pm. Seconded by Commissioner Marren.

Next Meeting January 10, 2023 @ 4:00 pm.

Respectfully,
Sarah K. Lanzo
City Clerk

CC: Fire Board, Chief Quagliano, Mayor Roman, Common Council, and Corporation Counsel