

POUND RIDGE FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE MAY 13TH, 2025
REGULAR MEETING

**NB – All votes are assumed to be unanimous unless otherwise noted.*

PRESENT: Vice-Chairman Joe Roemer, Commissioner Frank Tavalacci , Commissioner Edward Trail, Commissioner Robert Sacks; Caretaker Sam Dodge, Chief Vincent Zafonte.

ALSO PRESENT: Secretary/Treasurer Justin Friedland, Ex-Commissioner and Asst. Chief Dave Ekholm

ABSENT: Chairman Peter Gallagher

CALL TO ORDER Vice-Chairman Roemer called the regular meeting of the Pound Ridge Fire District to order at 7:00 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Tavalacci's motion to accept the April minutes was seconded by Commissioner Trail and was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Commissioner Tavalacci's motion to accept the bills was seconded by Commissioner Trail and was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT:

Commissioner Trail's motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was seconded by Commissioner Sacks and was unanimously approved.

CHIEF'S REPORT: 23 calls in April. (list attached)

MEMBERSHIP NR

CHIEF'S PURCHASES: Polaris Training at Camp Smith in June at cost of \$7,000. \$5,000 from encumbered 2024 funds, \$2,000 from Chief's budget. Previously approved.

LONG TERM PLANNING UPDATE: Getting more details on what to do with Eng 113, purchase new vs. refurb. Dave Ekholm is getting details from various rig builders. Commissioner Trail is of the opinion that refurbing would be the way to go. Numbers to follow. Also, it might be possible to rent a truck during the refurb/build process. First estimation is \$45,000 for 6 months.

EXPANDED LONG TERM PLANNING AND ADDITION: Discussion regarding purchasing kitchen equipment now vs. waiting to try and beat coming price increases. Storage then becomes a problem. Generator and transfer switch are here. Asbestos removal begins Friday the 16th.

At some point soon, we will have to kill the car charger in the parking area, and feed the driveway lights out of our building.

WATER SUPPLY: Bill from New England Aquatic came in at \$1,000 more than originally voted, for a total of \$92,219 to fix both Dogwood Hills and Fox Run Road. Currently \$77,763 in hydrant account, leaving a shortfall of \$14,456.

Commissioner Trail makes motion to use the \$10,000 in the 2025 budget that was to go toward the Hydrant account, and \$4,000 from the inspection budget line, (both previously approved at March Meeting) and take another \$1,000 from the Inspection budget to make up the difference. Seconded by Commissioner Sacks and unanimously approved.

Hydrant across from Major Lockwood only flows at 200 gpm, the ground around it is a bog, and the land owner has complained about damage done during our last flow test. Commissioner Trail suggests decommissioning it and trying for a dry hydrant at the tennis club after they finish their new work.

INSURANCE: NR

COMPUTER: County is changing reporting system, which will force us to change as well. Caretaker Dodge to get details and investigate replacement and costs.

TOWN & PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS: NR.

MEDICAL: 2025 physicals will be scheduled for May 18th and May 20th.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS: Secretary Friedland asks to replace current printer which has reached its end of life, with a new printer, cost not to exceed \$550.

Motion by Commissioner Sacks to purchase new printer. Seconded by Commissioner Tivolacci and approved unanimously.

We have heard from the Commissioner of Parks. County legal is almost finished with new contract for our services, and the county is going to put the necessary storage building in the park, in consultation with the Chief. Building will have a concrete pad, lighting, insulation, etc., at a cost to the county of approx. \$18,000.

Chief Ekholm says we need a new gear washing machine.

Motion by Commissioner Sacks to purchase a gear washing machine at a cost not to exceed \$8,000. Seconded by Commissioner Tivolacci and unanimously approved.

Motion by Commissioner Tivolacci to buy lunch (wedge) for the Monday 2pm construction meetings. Seconded by Commissioner Sacks and unanimously approved.

Custodian Dodge again asks about the possibility of longevity bonus in line with that of the highway department. He is promised an answer at the June meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Trail's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Commissioner Tivolacci and unanimously agreed to by all the attending Commissioners. Accordingly, the meeting adjourned at 8:06 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Justin Friedland Secretary/Treasurer