



**East Greenbush Fire Company
November Company Meeting
November 16, 2016**

The November Company Meeting was called to order by President Michael Benson Jr. at 7:02 pm. He commented that it was historic to hold tonight's meeting at the Main Station and that it was a honor for him to sit in the same spot that his father sat in from 1985-1997.

A pledge to the flag was led by the Sergeant-at-Arms, Rich Hendrick.

A moment of silence was observed for our departed members.

President Benson, Jr. asks the membership to keep Elwin Michel in your thoughts, as he is at home, recovering from knee surgery.

Secretary Tooker called the rolls. 58 members were in attendance this evening.

President Benson Jr. stated that the October minutes were sent via e-mail.

A motion was made by Matt Sullivan, seconded by Jim Pendolino, to accept the minutes as posted. The motion carries.

Financial Secretary Chris Cargain gave his report for the month of October. 40 checks were written. Checks over \$500 were written to the Gold Star Families, Awards by Walsh, Otis Elevator, US Postal Service, Republic Service, Visa Chase Card, Mike Stafford, National Grid, Verizon, SMG Monolith, Eastern Heating and Cooling, Tri-City Fire Extinguishers, and Ultracoat Finishers, LLC.

A motion was made by Pete Lehmann, seconded by Chris Linck, to accept this report. The motion carries.

President Benson Jr. states that Paul Benson is on his way with the Treasurer's report.

In the interim, President Benson, Jr. gives the Visa Card report.

The bill was paid in full.

Charges over \$200 were made at Hannaford, Winding Brook Country Club, George L. Laplante, Empire Wine and Liquor, Dick's Sporting Goods, Walmart, Thruway Beverage, Desantis Meat, Restaurant Depot, and Big Lots.

A motion was made by Chuck Rossbach, seconded by Tracy Britt, to accept this report.

The motion carries.

Treasurer Paul Benson arrives to give his report.

Total income for the month of October was \$21,299.97, and total expenses were \$35,438.59.

A motion was made by Mike Memole, seconded by Matt Wasileski, to accept this report.

The motion carries.

Secretary Tooker reads the communications.

Elwin Michel appreciates the fruit basket that was sent – the barley and hops were delicious.

Other communications will be acted on during the Good of the Order.

Report of the Officers

Car 1 (Bob Lehmann) gives his report.

- Thanks to all of the members who participated in Pub Ed this year. Over 1300 students were participants in our program.
- There are issues with the Base Station 46.16 / 46.10 phone at the Main. It is currently taped over so that nobody can use it. Please do not use it. We are looking into hooking up a base radio.
- Engine 8 is finally fixed.
- Rescue 11 is going out next for preventative maintenance.
- The drill schedule is on IAmResponding for the rest of the year.
- There will be a mandatory BOP Update next Tuesday at 7pm at the Park. Please do not bring apparatus to the Park – drive yourselves there in your personal vehicles. The Chief's office will be providing refreshments.
- The 3rd Avenue Bridge going down the hill into Rensselaer is now closed. We can still access the lower end via Adams St. to East St., but use discretion if Rensselaer City FD is requesting mutual aid. There is no change to the response to the city – Engine 8 will still go first.
- There is an offer on the old Truck 11 and we consider it sold. Please do not touch the apparatus.
- The IAmResponding computers at the stations are for IAmResponding purposes only.
- The Chief has submitted a chief's letter for Car 1 for 2017.

Car 2 (Chris Dick) gives his report.

- Thanks to the men for all of their support.
- Chris has submitted a letter for Car 2 for 2017.

Car 3 (Jeff Tooker) gives his report.

- Those who have responded to our many mutual aid calls – the inviting departments have thanked you for your time and service to their communities.

Car 4 (Greg Forgea) gives his report.

- The Recovery Grill is up and running.
- There is now a side entrance at the Fairfield Inn.
- There is an increase in truck traffic on Route 4 due to the 3rd Avenue Bridge being closed.
- The schools (Genet and Green Meadow) sent along their thanks for Public Education.
- There is a Live Fire class in Altamont on Monday 11/21 from 6:30 pm-9:30 pm – anybody that would like to go, see Car 4.

Linda Cook, on behalf of the Ladies Auxiliary, discusses the Craft Fair on Saturday that will run from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Park Station.

She inquires with the President if the old Truck 11 can be moved to make room for another area to set up picnic tables.

President Benson, Jr. states that she will need to discuss this with Car 1 and/or the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Linda also suggests setting up a Pub Ed table.

She also asks if the key for the Pavilion is available, so that she can utilize some long tables.

George Forgea states that the North Station has tables available.

Kathy Miller thanks the Main Station personnel for making the Main Station look nice for tonight, and a special thank you to Vice President Lansing for all his hard work here.

Report of Committees

President Benson, Jr. reads the Building Use Report for October 2016.

Total profit for the month of October was \$3,670.48.

A motion was made by Jim Alcombright, seconded by Joe Winnicki, to accept the report.

The motion carries.

President Benson, Jr. discusses the Park Station / Banquet Hall with Jake Hallenbeck.

- The parking lot lights were fixed.

- There are other lights around the facility that have been fixed.

- There will be cleanings of the station twice a month. The Park Station is heavily used and needs to be kept in pristine condition.

- Jake Hallenbeck states that when the ice machine has a blinking light, it means that it needs a cleaning. Please contact Jake if this occurs.

President Benson, Jr. states that the Pavilion has been winterized and that Chuck Hellmuth will stay on in 2017 to maintain the Pavilion.

President Benson, Jr. states that the dumpster key has been returned to the Main Station.

He also states that the paving project went well and that apparatus can return to the Main within the next week. The cost, paid for by the garbage company's insurance company, was \$13,064.

Nick Field states that the pavement is swaled to keep water running away from the building.

RP Smith states that the dumpster is chock-full and will be out of service until the garbage company can return to empty it. Bring your garbage elsewhere.

RP Smith also discusses the need to have the furnace room insulated so that we do not deal with frozen pipes this winter. He makes a motion, seconded by Chris Lavin, to fund this project – not to exceed \$600. The motion carries.

Jeff Tooker discusses the purchase of the new chairs for the Main.

George Forgea discusses the leak in the ceiling of the North Station.

President Benson, Jr. states that he has been in contact with the solar company to figure out a solution.

President Benson, Jr. inquires if there has been a purchase for the shed at the North.

Greg Forgea states that Car 1 is still getting quotes.

President Benson, Jr. states that the proposed Constitution and By-Law changes were posted in the firehouses after the October meeting and were emailed out with the minutes.

He asks Tom Chesser to come forward to answer any questions.

There are no questions.

A motion was made by Matt Wasileski, seconded by Nick Field, to accept the Constitution and By-Law changes as written.

The motion carries.

Mike Benson, Sr. discusses the October 22 and November 12 Pizza Nights.

The service was very busy on November 12.

Total profit for November 12 was \$858.36.

Total profit for October 22 was \$2,100, with \$1,000 of that coming from the placemats.

Mike Benson, Sr. thanks Mike Benson, Jr., Pete Lehmann, Linda Cook, and Bob Lehmann for staying until 11pm to clean up.

A motion was made by Mike Memole, seconded by Marc Iorio, to accept this report.

The motion carries.

Greg Forgea reports out on the Convention 2017 activities.

Rooms will be \$125.00 a night.

Those with rooms last year will be contacted by Greg Forgea to ensure you want a room for 2017.

The first payment of \$125.00 is due at the January 2017 meeting.

President Benson, Jr. reports out on the Annual Dinner.

The dinner will be served around 7pm, with cocktails around 6pm on December 9.

The dinner is being catered by Dinosaur BBQ for this year.

Entertainment has been secured, and Chuck Hellmuth's famous shrimp will be served.

President Benson, Jr. is aware that this is a departure from what the menu has been in the past, and he thanks Chris Dick for his service over the years for the Annual Dinner.

He states that Jim Alcombright has offered to chair the event in 2017 with a Prime Rib dinner.

President Benson, Jr. states that the Elections Committee will consist of Pete Lehmann and Joe Lacivita.

Pete Lehmann will be the head teller, and Past Chiefs will be the tellers at the Chief's Elections.

The Chief's office will act as tellers for the Line Officers and Company Officers elections.

President Benson, Jr. states that the Kids Christmas party will be at 2:00 pm on December 17, and the adult party will be at 6:00 pm on December 17, with dinner at 7:00 pm. He states that Moscatello's will be catering the event.

Proposals for Membership

There are no proposals for membership this evening.

Election of New Members

Zach DeJoseph submitted an application last month for active membership.

A motion was made by RP Smith, seconded by Mike Lansing, to accept Zach into active membership.

The motion carries.

Six Month Probationary Review

Kyle Eschborn is up for his six-month probationary review.

President Benson, Jr. states that he comes around when he is not working for Mohawk Ambulance.

A motion was made by Greg Forgea, seconded by Matt Sullivan, to move Kyle to full-fledged membership. The motion carries.

Unfinished Business

President Benson, Jr. discusses the house for sale at 682 Columbia Turnpike.

It is listed at \$190,000.

President Benson, Jr. believes that it is a little high of an asking price.

Bob Lehmann believes that we should have a sit-down meeting with the church to discuss the house.

Mike Benson, Sr. states that the administration needs to sit-down with a bank first to organize our finances and find out if we would be able to get a mortgage on the property.

Marc Iorio states that we had pre-approval paperwork with First Niagara.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the property.

Good of the Order

Nick Field discusses the proposed demolition of the Training House.

He states that an asbestos survey would cost around \$2,350.00.

Mike Stafford states that a demolition per house would be a rough estimate of \$35,000.

Chris Dick states that the Explorer Post would like to hold a Christmas Party for their members and invite one guest per explorer.

Rick Williams states that Ed Wallace turns 64 years old today.

He states that Ed has worked for the town for over 20 years and is retiring in January.

He states that Ed will be moving out of the area to a warmer climate.

Rick Williams makes a motion, seconded by Chris Linck, to move Ed Wallace to Life Membership.

President Benson, Jr. points out that Ed is one year shy of Life Membership, but is in 100% favor of the move, even though he was frightened of Ed back in the day as a young member at the Park.

The motion carries. Ed Wallace is the newest Life Member.

President Benson, Jr. reads a letter from Mike Stafford.

Mike Stafford has submitted his resignation letter as the Banquet Manager, effective December 31, 2016.

He has proposed to remain on, for a stipend of \$270.00, until March 31, 2017 to assist the new Banquet Manager in the transition.

President Benson, Jr. reads another letter from Mike Stafford, which details the Banquet Hall income from 2005 to 2016.

A motion was made by Jim Trimmer, seconded by Todd Cullum, to accept Mike's resignation letter and to provide him with a stipend of \$270 until March 31, 2017 to assist with the transition.

The motion carries.

Mike Stafford expresses his thanks to the Company for this opportunity and especially to Tim Boel. Mike is hopeful that he can retain his honorary member status.

A motion was made by Mike Lansing, seconded by Chris Dick, to retain Mike as an honorary member. The motion carries.

President Benson, Jr. states that if anybody is interested in the position, they should submit a resume to him via his email (mbensonjr001@gmail.com) as soon as possible.

President Benson, Jr. reads the Nominating Committee reports for 2017 Officer positions.

The North Station submitted the following report:

- Treasurer: Paul Benson
- Financial Secretary: Chris Cargain
- Captain: Nick Liuzzi, Luke Palmer, Chris Cargain
- Lieutenant: Todd Cullum, Nick Liuzzi, Luke Palmer
- Foreman: Joe Winnicki, Nick Field

The Main Station submitted the following report:

- President: Mike Benson, Jr.
- Vice President: Mike Lansing
- Recording Secretary: Jeff Tooker
- Membership Secretary: Joe Lacivita
- Captain: Mike Benson, Jr., Mike Lansing, Matt Sullivan, Mark Becker
- Lieutenant: Mark Becker, Matt Sullivan, Mike Lansing, Glen Cook
- Foreman: RP Smith, Bill Sigsby
- Fire Police Captain: Tom Whittemore
- Fire Police Lieutenant: Joe Lacivita

The Park Station submitted the following report:

- Captain: Anthony Gullo
- Lieutenant: Anthony Gullo
- Foreman: Rich Hendrick, Anthony Gullo
- Fire Police Captain: Mike Memole, Tom Whittemore
- Fire Police Lieutenant: Mike Memole, Joe Lacivita, Nelson Williams

President Benson, Jr. states that the ballot box for additional nominations will be in the Radio Room at the Park Station shortly and will be open for additional nominations until December 13, 2016 at the customary time of 9:00 pm. Any additional nominations need to be in writing, signed by that member, and have a second signature from a second member.

President Benson, Jr. read a letter from the Board of Fire Commissioners.

They are requesting the Company hold a special meeting on December 8 at 7pm for Chief's Elections.

President Benson, Jr. states that the Chief's Elections will be held at the Main Station.

He also states the letter asks for use of the Banquet Hall for the election of one Fire Commissioner on December 13 from 6pm to 9pm.

President Benson, Jr. states that he is in possession of Chief's Nomination Letters for 2017. He asks three times if there are any additional letters to be forwarded. A motion was made by Matt Sullivan, seconded by Mike Memole, to close Chief's nominations. The motion carries.

President Benson, Jr. reads the Chief's Nominations Letters for 2017.

- Bob Lehmann has submitted a letter for Chief Engineer (Car 1).
- Chris Dick has submitted a letter for 1st Assistant Chief Engineer (Car 2), 2nd Assistant Chief Engineer (Car 3), and 3rd Assistant Chief Engineer (Car 4).
- Jeff Tooker has submitted a letter for 1st Assistant Chief Engineer (Car 2), 2nd Assistant Chief Engineer (Car 3), and 3rd Assistant Chief Engineer (Car 4).
- Greg Forgea has submitted a letter for 1st Assistant Chief Engineer (Car 2), 2nd Assistant Chief Engineer (Car 3), and 3rd Assistant Chief Engineer (Car 4).
- Mike Benson, Jr. has submitted a letter for 1st Assistant Chief Engineer (Car 2), 2nd Assistant Chief Engineer (Car 3), and 3rd Assistant Chief Engineer (Car 4).

Mike Benson, Sr. stated that the Fire District has cut ties with Verizon for internet access and will be going with Time Warner Cable for better internet access.

Mike Benson, Jr. states again to keep Elwin in your thoughts as he recovers from his illness.

Marc Iorio reports that the Paint-and-Sip from November 4 brought in \$609.63 for total income. He thanks the crew that came to help out. He is looking for new ideas and suggestions for the 2017 event.

President Benson, Jr. states that the Park Station crew is providing tonight's food. Next month's meeting will be here at the Main Station, and the Ladies Auxiliary and Fire Police will be on the food detail.

Tonight's 50/50 is \$72.00. Tonight's winner is Glen Cook.

A motion was made by Tracy Britt, seconded by Chuck Alger, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passes. The meeting is adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Tooker
Recording Secretary

