

**East Greenbush Fire Company
February Company Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2023**

President Tracy Cullum called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Sergeant-at-Arms Ryan Tubbs led the company in a Pledge to the flag.

A moment of silence was held for our departed members.

Chief Jeff Tooker called the roll. 66 members were present this evening.

President Cullum stated that Recording Secretary Benson, Sr. sent out the Company Meeting minutes for the January 2023 meeting.

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

President Cullum stated that Recording Secretary Benson, Sr. sent out the Executive Board and Review Board meeting minutes for two meetings that took place in January.

A motion was made by Pete Lehmann, seconded by Jim Pendolino, to accept both the Review Board meeting minutes and the Executive Board meeting minutes.

The motion carries.

Financial Secretary Chris Cargain gives his report.

32 checks totaling \$20,993 were written during the month of January.

Checks over \$500 went to Constellation, Joe Torre, Country True Value, Key Bank, National Grid, Helping Hannigan, Diagnostic Services, Spectrum Enterprise, Chris Lavin, and Upstate Sounds.

A motion was made by Ed McCabe, seconded by Mike Lansing, to accept this report.

The motion carries.

Treasurer Paul Benson gives his report.

Total income for the month of January was \$12,589.86 and total expenses for the month were \$20,981.31.

Total amount in all accounts was \$90,046.94.

A motion was made by Marcus Massaconi, seconded by Frank Jenkins, to accept this report.

The motion carries.

President Tracy Cullum gives his report.

Charges over \$200 were made to Restaurant Depot, Amazon, and CRG3.

A motion was made by Chris Linck, seconded by Todd Cullum, to accept this report.

The motion carries.

President Cullum states that Communications & Bills will be held until Good of the Order.

Car 1 (Jeff Tooker) gives his report.

1. Please make sure that you are signing in for calls and drills.
With the requirements of active membership (OSHA, 10% of calls, and 12 drills), we need to make sure everyone is accounted for.
2. For LOSAP credit (50 points) – you'll need to do more than the above.
You'll need to attend meetings, fundraisers, work details, trainings (online or in person) – remember, if you want the tax reduction, it will come down to you hitting 50 points or more.
3. A reminder to all members about drills – a drill is categorized as an organized activity. You can get training credit for classes on VFIS, but not drill credit.
If you do any type of training, it must be approved ahead of time by me (VFIS is a blanket approval) and then you need to provide me with the certificates so that I can sign off on them and then have them entered into Firehouse software for credit.
4. There is an HVVFA Training on March 4 down in Greene County.
It was sent out via IAR.
Assistant Chief Mike Benson, Jr. is going.
Any other members who wish to attend need to register and then can ride with Car 3.
5. The Hazmat First Responder Operations course that is slated to run on 3/7, 3/8, 3/14, and 3/15 is in danger of being cancelled, as only 8 people have enrolled to attend. If you are interested in taking this course, see me tonight for a Training Authorization Form and you can get registered tomorrow.
6. Columbia High School is going on a "fire watch" for most evenings beginning in March until August as they replace the Fire Alarm system.
The EGECC will be notified when it begins and when it ends each day.
7. The Rensselaer City FD is appreciative of the support that our department showed on Saturday evening at the "Helping Hannigan" fundraiser.

Car 2 (Greg Forgea) gives his report.

- Greg thanks the members for attending the 60+ calls we have had so far this year.
- FAST training will be coming for the FAST team members.

Car 3 (Mike Benson, Jr.) gives his report.

- Mike thanks Jake Hallenbeck, Tate Tibbitts, Jake Memole, and Ryan Tubbs for taking Tactical Fireground Operations
- Mike gives a speech regarding Cody Swartout's heroics on November 18, 2022 at a traffic accident in West Ghent while off-duty and returning from work. Mike presented Cody with an Award of Valor on behalf of the Chief's office.

Car 4 (Mike Lansing) gives his report.

- Mike asks members to indicate on a points sheet if they are having issues with VFIS-U.
- On Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 7:00 pm at HQ, there will be an OSHA make up session. See Mike for details if you need to make up any OSHA classes.
- Mike welcomes back Kaiden Poli from the military.

Bob Lehmann gives a report on the Property Tax Reduction.

- He states that the East Greenbush CSD is taking up this law for 2023. There will be a meeting on Monday 2/27/2023 to pass the legislation.
- Form RP-466-a-vol must be filled out, along with the letter that is being given to you tonight, and both the letter and form must be turned in to your assessor by February 28, 2023.
- Bob went over the nuances of the law (LOSAP, minimum 2 years of service, 20+ years of service) for the membership.
- Bob also explains for the members that this is only for active volunteer firefighters who accumulate 50+ points for LOSAP, and that the only governmental agency that is trying to do this for 2023 is the East Greenbush CSD.
- Bob also reports that 70% of our membership owns their home, and this is a significant benefit to our members.

President Cullum gives the Building Use Report for January 2023.

There were \$750 worth of rentals in January 2023, with \$81 bar profit as well.

There was one expense, \$20 for a bartender.

A motion was made by Rich Hendrick, seconded by Jeff Wasileski, to approve this report.

The motion carries.

VP Hallenbeck gives the Pizza Night report.

64 pizzas, 53 wings, 26 mozz sticks, and 12 salads were sold.

A net profit of \$1,012.51 was reported.

VP Hallenbeck reports that Fish Fry Fridays will take place on 3/24, 3/31, and 4/7.

The Fish Fry Committee consists of himself, Tate Tibbitts, Bob Lehmann, Jay Deyette, and Stephanie Deyette.

President Cullum reminds members that any by-law changes are due at the next meeting.

President Cullum reports that Kaiden Poli is moving from Military to Active status.

President Cullum reads a letter from Tim Dick that requests a move from Active to Social status.

A motion was made by RP Smith, seconded by Chris Dick, to approve this request.

The motion carries.

President Cullum reads a letter from Christie Cullum that requests a move from Active to Social status. A motion was made by Eric Cullum, seconded by Todd Cullum, to approve this request. The motion carries.

President Cullum reports that VFIS has paid the claim from the power surge.

President Cullum reports that the new "reach in" fridge is functional.

President Cullum reports on the Drainage Project at the Pavilion.

A motion is made by Chris Linck, seconded by Pete Lehmann, to proceed with Acute Builders quote for \$11,578.93, less \$875 for seeding/landscaping, making the cost \$10,703.93.

Bob Lehmann inquires about the standing water situation.

Marcus Kravitz states that the standing water will be mitigated.

Bob Lehmann asks about notification to the gas company

President Cullum states that all proper notifications will be made.

Bob Lehmann inquires about the budget line that this will come from.

Paul Benson states that this will come from the reserve line.

Chris Dick inquires as to whether or not the county and/or the Wyatt Circle developers have been held responsible for this.

President Cullum states that all avenues of remediation have been exhausted.

Greg Forgea reminds the members that the majority of the standing water is not on our property.

Mike Lansing reiterates that the property does not look good as it currently sits.

Marcus Kravitz discusses the collapsed pipe that needs replacement.

Rick Williams reminds the membership that the gas company may not permit the Fire Company to work on their property.

Bob Lehmann discusses the adjoining property owned by Tyler Culberson, and that Tyler is willing to work with us on the remediation of the property.

The motion carries.

President Cullum discusses the need to have a floor strip and wax at the Park Station.

The radio room, the hallways, the banquet hall, the foyer, the stairwells, and downstairs all need to be stripped and waxed.

Jim Duggan has done the work for the Fire Company before, and his quote is \$2,000.

Bob Lehmann inquires about the need to strip and wax the chair area in the hall, the company storage area, and the district storage areas.

A motion is made by Bob Lehmann, seconded by Chris Linck, to approve an amount not to exceed \$3,000 for the stripping and waxing project.

The motion carries.

President Cullum discusses the need for new chairs downstairs for the offices.

A motion is made by Rich Hendrick, seconded by Tom Chessser, to spend \$2,295.00 for 41 new chairs.

The motion carries.

President Cullum discusses the issues with Cintas.

They are currently charging the Fire Company \$780 a month, and there are issues with them losing fobs and not dropping product off.

A quote has been received from Century Linen & Uniforms for \$281.31 a month.

A motion is made by Mike Lansing, seconded by Mike Benson, Jr., to proceed with a contract with Century Linen & Uniform.

The motion carries.

Mike Lansing reports that two members, Jake Memole and Ryan Tubbs, are participating in the Cystic Fibrosis Stair Climb this Saturday.

A motion is made by Mike Lansing, seconded by Bill Lindemann, to sponsor their stair climb at the amount of \$150 per climber.

The motion carries.

Clark Roehr reports that a detective from the City of Rensselaer PD, Joe Terry, has developed cancer and there is a fundraiser on his behalf.

A motion is made by Clark Roehr, seconded by Jim Frankoski, to donate \$500 to the Joe Terry Fund.

The motion carries.

East Greenbush-Castleton Little League is soliciting donations.

A motion is made by Greg Forgea, seconded by Mike Benson, Jr., to donate \$350 for a sponsorship.

The motion carries.

A thank you card was received by Girl Scout Troop 5530.

Matt Sullivan takes the opportunity to discuss the rescue that Cody Swartout made in November.

President Cullum reports that a \$250 street donation was received from the resident at 149 Michael Road. This donation will be earmarked for the 2023 HVVFA Convention.

President Cullum reports that the weight room is a bit cluttered and messy.

She requests that those that use it pick up after themselves.

VP Hallenbeck discusses the need to have a kitchen clean up.

Paul Benson discusses the soon-to-be surplus chairs from downstairs.

Bill Lindemann requests that a few be relocated to the Main Station.

Paul Benson states that the new chairs should be here within a couple of weeks.

Greg Forgea reports that those that owe the first payment for the 2023 HVVFA Convention must pay tonight.

The second (and final) installment is due by the May Company Meeting on May 16, 2023.

The final installment is \$210.

President Cullum reports that the food tonight will be served downstairs tonight and is being provided by Engine 8. Clean up and food for next month is Engine 9.

Tonights 50/50 is \$68 and the winner is Ed McCabe.

A motion is made by Elwin Michel, seconded by Pete Lehmann, to adjourn the meeting.

The motion carries.

The meeting is adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Tooker

Recording Secretary Emeritus