



**East Greenbush Fire Company
Line Officers Meeting
February 19, 2007 (Monday)**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by District Chief David A. Cook. The Chief asks for a moment of silence for Albany Firefighter Ted Abriel. Mr. Abriel passed away fighting a fire in the city of Albany at a high-rise apartment complex. After the moment of silence the Chief passed out winter hats to Capt. Bob Lehmann, Lt. Mike Benson Jr., and Lt. Jeff Tooker. The hats were distributed to the top 20 responders in the company for the year of 2006. The Chief will pass out the remaining hats to the other members at the Fire Company meeting.

Tom Whittemore briefed the Officers on the purchase of batteries for the semi-annual battery change that is coming up. The batteries will be distributed to the Chiefs or Captains. Quartermaster/Safety Officer Whittemore advises the Officers that a small Phillips screw driver will be needed for the battery stick portion of the pack. The air packs batteries will be changed on the first single company night in March. Tom Whittemore also advises that he will be purchasing bottles of smoke fluid and a tool for Engine 8.

Chief D.A. Cook discussed with the Officers that a gear committee has been formed. The Chiefs, Past Chief Lehmann, Mike Prestipino, and Chris Lavin are on this committee. The intent of this committee is to analyze, or even re-analyze the different brands of turnout gear that is on the market. The committee is evaluating the gear to make sure they meet current chemical, biological, radioactive requirements. The district is looking to purchase 16 new sets of turnout gear. Nancy Condit discussed the various grants that are available, which can assist us in purchasing a significant amount of turnout gear. There are certain provisions in the grants that we must follow in order to receive the grant money such as the quantity of interior firefighters, exterior firefighters, etc. Nancy also mentioned there are grants available for a thermal imaging camera. Nancy thanked

the Officers for their time and cooperation. She also mentioned if there are any further questions we can email her.

Captain Bob Lehmann briefed the Officers on his Pre-Plans Committee. Capt. Lehmann is looking for a group of dedicated members to revamp, and analyze the Pre-Plans. Bob is looking to possibly mail a form to building managers of local businesses and apartment complexes. On the form the managers will have to list the essentials such as locations of gas and electric shutoffs entrances and exits of the building, occupancy in the building during normal business hours, location of panel boxes, generators, etc. Capt. Lehmann is uncertain at this time how long this process will take. Chief Cook elaborated further on the Pre-Plans for our fire department. Chief Cook advised the officers that Pre-Plans assist us in strategy for fire attack. The pre-plans should be used as a guide for the officers and members regarding truck placement, hydrant locations, electric and gas shut off. The Chief asked the Officers, *"How should we maintain these Pre-Plans?"* The pre-plans should be laid out in a basic format. Things need to be basic, not complicated. We need to use these Pre-Plans in a more efficient manner. Captain Lehmann has started the process of getting this committee under way, and it will be an extensive project.

Capt. Lehmann also discussed Sparky's Training House. The house is very extensive and will be set up at a company meeting in the next couple of months.

Assistant Chief Di'Martino and Lt. Benson Jr. commented on the drill schedule. The drill schedule is posted on the website, and on the fire department bulletin boards. There are a wide range of topics. Assistant Chief Di'Martino also discussed the OSHA make-ups. The make-ups for OSHA will be the first Tuesday in March. Assistant Chief Di'Martino also discussed the problem with Truck 11, which apparently may be an issue with the truck shifting into gear. The truck will be going out of service on Tuesday to be repaired.

Chief D.A. Cook and Safety Officer/Quartermaster Whittemore discussed the SIMS system. The equipment is here, and has been installed. The frequencies for this system have been approved. The equipment will be going in service soon. A protocol needs to be established for this system. T. Whittemore is working on this, and is doing a great job.

Chief Cook mentioned the Park Station siren should be in service soon, hopefully by the end of the week. George Martin Electric still needs to run some wire.

The SCBA's have not been sold as of this meeting. The Commissioners have extended the bidding another month.

In the large truck bay at the Park Station there is a communications vehicle that is owned by Rensselaer County. This vehicle was obtained through a grant by the county. There is no equipment on the vehicle yet. The vehicle will probably be here the next couple of months while the equipment is being installed. We were the only agency that had a large area to store this vehicle during the cold winter months. The vehicle is supposed to be unlocked. If anyone has the key, please return it. There is an extra key at the police station.

Assistant Chief Roeher is requesting that the truck inspections need to be completed in quicker manner. The inspections need to be completed by the due date, so the Chiefs have a chance to review the inspection reports prior to the Commissioners meeting. If there is a maintenance problem the Chief(s) can report on this at the meeting. Chief Cook reported on this due to Chief Roeher being ill.

Thirty members still need to complete NIMS Training, which is necessary for us to receive Homeland Security grants.

A significant amount of time was spent on critiquing the Chamberlain Hill Road Fire in West Sand Lake. Truck 11 was requested to the scene on the 3rd alarm. Our agency was requested to set up for an aerial attack. The Chief instructed the firefighters on this piece of apparatus to fully extend the ladder. The bucket was half-extended. The Chief and Assistant Chief Di'Martino discussed the concept of "short jacking." If the truck is short jacked it does not mean you can't go forward or backward. There was a short discussion about this fire and the "short jacking" concept. The Chiefs reiterate that better observations are often made from the ground rather than the radio so to speak. The tanker relay and water supply operations went well for the most part.

The Chiefs also critiqued the Michelle Drive/Cooper Avenue chimney fire. We need to do a better job with truck placement. This will always be an important concept especially in tight neighborhoods or in rural areas of our district. The officers need to listen for direction from the incident commander. Trucks may be placed at a particular

location because they may need to depart if another call comes in, or that particular truck may have specialized equipment, and it may be requested to park adjacent to the fire building for a special task.

Assistant Chief Di'Martino, the crew of Engine 7, and Engine 6 discussed the recent motor vehicle accident on Interstate 90. No injuries were reported. We need to do a better job of communicating.

Fire Police Capt. Bill Sinnott briefed the other officers that J. Lacivita has been working on Fire Police Pre-Plans for Brookview Road, Sunset Road, Phillips Road South, and Pheasant Lane.

J. Lacivita advises the Officers there will be a landing zone drill in Niverville on March 9th.

The next line officers meeting will be March 26th at 7pm at Fire Headquarters. This meeting was terminated at 8:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael J. Benson Jr.

Lieutenant