

Minutes of the Organizational Meeting, Monday, January 6, 2025

The Secretary, Secretary Nicholas Paolucci, called the Organizational Meeting to order at 8:00 P.M with a salute to the flag led by Secretary Paolucci.

PRESENT WERE: Commissioner Ralph Raymond, Commissioner Robert Schmidgall, Commissioner James Maroldo, Commissioner Sean Abrams, Commissioner Marc Timpano, Superintendent Edward Kraus, Secretary Nicholas Paolucci, Treasurer Kevin Frank. Excused was Deputy Treasurer Lisa-Lang Gross.

ALSO, PRESENT WERE: Chief Licata, Chief Timpano, Chief Archipolo, and Lieutenant Gentile. Excused was Chief Ferrante.

Secretary Nicholas Paolucci presided as the meeting was being conducted under old business, which had originated in 2024.

Secretary Nicholas Paolucci acted as temporary chairman until the board elected a new chairman.

Secretary Paolucci then announced the results of the recent fire district election held on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, He announced that Ralph Raymond was elected to the 5-year term commencing on January 1, 2025, and ending on December 31, 2029, and that Marc Timpano was elected to a 4year term commencing January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2028, the remaining term of Frank Nocerino.

Commissioner Schmidgall administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected Commissioner Ralph Raymond and Marc Timpano, who then took his seat on the board.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Abrams and seconded by Commissioner Maroldo it was:

RESOLVED that Commissioner Schmidgall be nominated for the position of Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

The motion was voted upon and carried. (Commissioner Schmidgall abstained from the vote).

Commissioner Schmidgall then assumed the duties of Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Chairman Schmidgall then congratulated Commissioner Raymond and Timpano upon their election.

Chairman Schmidgall thanked all the board members for electing him to the position of Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners. He then thanked the Board for their work in 2023 and then thanked everyone for their continued support.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Abrams and seconded by Commissioner Raymond it was:

RESOLVED that Commissioner Maroldo be nominated for the position of Vice-Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

The motion was voted upon and carried. (Commissioner Maroldo abstained from the vote).

Commissioner Maroldo then assumed the duties of Vice-Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Raymond and seconded by Commissioner Abrams it was:

RESOLVED that Nicholas T. Paolucci be appointed to the position of Secretary at an annual salary of **\$ 29,019.00**.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Raymond and seconded by Commissioner Schmidgall it was:

RESOLVED that Kevin Frank be appointed to the position of Treasurer at an annual salary of **\$27,744.00**.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Raymond and seconded by Commissioner Abrams it was:

RESOLVED that Lisa-Lang Gross be appointed to the position of Deputy Treasurer.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Commissioner Schmidgall administered the Oath of Office to all the administrative officers of the district: Secretary, Nicholas T. Paolucci, Treasurer Kevin P. Frank, and Deputy Treasurer Lisa-Lang Gross.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Abrams and seconded by Commissioner Schmidgall it was:

RESOLVED that **John Schneider** be appointed to the position of Cleaner at the rate of **\$24.69**. per hour and the workweek shall be 40 hours. **Douglas Missack** shall be appointed to the position of Senior Firehouse Maintainer at the rate of **\$41.38**. per hour and the workweek shall be 40 hours. **Nicholas Cerullo** shall be appointed to the position of Firehouse Maintainer at the rate of **\$36.32**. per hour, **Bryan Donadio** shall be appointed to the position of Firehouse Maintainer at the rate of **\$29.87**. per hour, **Heather McNeill** appointed to Firehouse Maintainer at a rate of **\$34.24**.per hour, **Joseph Bodnar** Fulltime Dispatch at a rate of **\$35.96**. per hour and **James Allen** at a rate of **\$39.90**. per hour and the workweek shall be 40 hours and approved as Lead Dispatcher. The rate for overtime shall be time and one- half (1 1/2) and such overtime shall commence at the end of the eight (8) hour day. The program adopted by the Board of Fire Commissioners will allot the Vacation Period and Personal Days.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Raymond and seconded by Commissioner Abrams it was:

RESOLVED to appoint Edward J. Kraus to the position of Superintendent of Fire District at a rate of **\$135,915.00**.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion by Commissioner Raymond and seconded by Commissioner Maroldo it was:

RESOLVED to appoint the following Ambulance Medical Technicians, part time: **David Salembier, Alex Trupiano, James McKee, Samuel Jaroslawicz, Eric Laulaitis, Robert Miller, Aaron Emmons, Ryan Hayes, Mark Chicavich, Andrew Rosenthal, and Michael Greco** at a rate of \$35.00 per hour per diem.)

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion by Commissioner Raymond and seconded by Commissioner Schmidgall it was:

RESOLVED to appoint the following Firehouse Maintainers, part time: **Steven Battafarano, Richard Gentile, Leroy McKeever, Michael Multari, Thomas Stoerger, Eric Devine, Brian Ferrucci, Brian Tomeo, James Kane, and Shawn Moran** at a rate of \$26.00 per hour per diem.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Raymond and seconded by Commissioner Maroldo it was:

RESOLVED to make Paramedic **Jonathan Billian** lead Paramedic in charge at a pay rate of \$50.00 per hour.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Maroldo and seconded by Commissioner Schmidgall it was:

RESOLVED that the district participates in the New York State Retirement System for the following named district employees: **Kevin Frank, John Schneider, Douglas Missack, Nicholas Cerullo, Alex Trupiano, David Salembier, Heather McNeill, Joseph Bodnar, Steven Battafarano, Brian Ferrucci, Bryan Donadio, Jonathan Billian, Samuel Jaroslawicz, Eric Laulaitis, James McGee, Robert Miller Jr, James Allen, Eric Devine, Richard Gentile, and Brian Tomeo.**

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Schmidgall and seconded by Commissioner Abrams it was:

RESOLVED to adopt the Resolution to set the workday for paid Elected and Officials for retirement system reporting as per the New York State Comptroller's Office.

The motion was voted upon and carried. (A full copy of the resolution is attached to these minutes).

Upon motion made by Commissioner Raymond and seconded by Commissioner Timpano it was:

RESOLVED That Sean Abrams is appointed Driver Safety Instructor of the North Massapequa Fire District, January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, and Commissioner Maroldo, and Secretary Paolucci are administrative on the driver safety program.

The motion was voted upon and carried. (Commissioner Abrams abstained from the vote).

Upon motion made by Commissioner Raymond and seconded by Commissioner Abrams it was:

RESOLVED that the district continue a \$50,000.00 Term Life Insurance policy for the following Fire District employees, John Schneider, Douglas Missack, Kevin Frank, Nicholas Paolucci, Nicholas Cerullo, Heather McNeill, Joseph Bodnar, James Allen, Bryan Donadio, and Edward Kraus Jr.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Maroldo and seconded by Commissioner Timpano it was:

RESOLVED that the district subscribed to the New York State Health Insurance Plan (NYSHIP).

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Schmidgall and seconded by Commissioner Maroldo it was:

RESOLVED that Commissioners Raymond and Abrams be appointed the Financial Officer of the North Massapequa Fire District.

The motion was voted upon and carried. (Commissioners Raymond and Abrams abstained from voting).

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Abrams and seconded by Commissioner Timpano it was:

RESOLVED that the Dime Bank, Flushing Bank, and any other bank deemed necessary are hereby designated in which the Treasurer shall deposit monies coming into his hands by virtue of his office. Be it further resolved that this resolution be entered into the minutes of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the North Massapequa Fire District.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Schmidgall and seconded by Commissioner Abrams it was:

RESOLVED that the following appointments are made:

LEGAL: The law firms of Sapienza & Frank were appointed legal counsel at the annual rate of 1% of the district budget.

NEWSPAPERS: Massapequa Post, Massapequa Observer, Farmingdale Observer, and any other agency deemed necessary.

TRUCKS, MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS: Pierce Truck, Firematic Service Co., Chief Fire & Safety, Air Weld, Sagamore Lights, Precision Art, John Pratt, Extreme Auto Body, Hendrickson Fleet Service, N & A, Gabrielli Truck Service, Nassau Fire Apparatus, and any other agency deemed necessary.

ELECTRICAL WORK: Roland Electricians, Dialto Electric, Hollborn Electric and any another agency deemed necessary.

RADIO ALERTING SYSTEM: Mayday Communications, Multimedia Communications, Hello Alert, and any other agency deemed necessary.

HEATING, VENTILATING, & AIR CONDITIONING (HVAC): Connolly & Sons, All Weather Temperature Controls, Maccarone Plumbing, Vulcan Plumbing and Heating, and Albano and any other agency deemed necessary.

PLUMBING: Seaford Avenue, Hollborn, and any other agency deemed necessary.

ALARM SYSTEM & NETWORK: New Era, Holborn, LPC, and any other agency deemed necessary.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Schmidgall and seconded by Commissioner Abrams it was:

RESOLVED that the following appointment be made **INSURANCE:** Harbor Agency, ESIP, Fire Districts Mutual Insurance Co., and any other agency deemed necessary.

The motion was voted upon and carried. (Commissioner Raymond abstained from the vote).

Upon motion made by Commissioner Abrams and seconded by Commissioner Raymond was:

RESOLVED that all committee appointments listed in these minutes be approved.

The Following Committees Were Appointed

| | |
|--|--|
| Cell Phones | Commissioners Maroldo, and Schmidgall |
| Computer IT, Telephones, Security Systems | Commissioners Raymond, and Timpano |
| Dispatch Office | Commissioners Raymond and Schmidgall |
| District Rentals | Commissioners Abrams and Schmidgall |
| Driver Training | Commissioners Abrams and Maroldo |
| EMS | Commissioners Maroldo and Raymond |
| Safety Compliance | Commissioners Timpano and Raymond |
| Fire Apparatus & Equipment | Commissioners Raymond and Maroldo |
| Fire Inspections and Preplan | Commissioners Abrams and Maroldo |
| Fire Prevention | Commissioners Maroldo and Schmidgall |
| Human Resources | All Commissioners |
| House & Grounds | Commissioners Abrams and Schmidgall |
| Inspection Dinner | All Commissioners |
| Insurance | Commissioners Maroldo, Raymond and Timpano |
| Inter-municipality Liaisons and Grants | Commissioners Raymond and Timpano |
| Office Supplies & Equipment | Commissioners Timpano and Maroldo |
| Parades | Commissioner Timpano and Abrams |
| Public Relations | Commissioners Raymond and Timpano |
| Radio & Alert | Commissioners Raymond and Maroldo |

Safety

Commissioners Raymond and Maroldo

**Training, Seminars,
Travel, and Dues**

Commissioners Abrams, Schmidgall and Maroldo

Uniforms

Commissioners Maroldo and Timpano

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Schmidgall and seconded by Commissioner Maroldo it was:

RESOLVED that the Board of Fire Commissioners continue their membership in the various Firematic organizations as listed: **International Association of Fire Chiefs, New York State Association of Fire Chiefs, National Fire Protection Association, Firemen's Association State of New York, International Society of Fire Service Instructors, Association of Fire Districts of Nassau County, Association of Fire Districts State of New York, Fire Department Safety Officers Association, National Volunteer Fire Council** and any other Firematic organization deemed necessary.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Raymond and seconded by Commissioner Timpano it was:

RESOLVED that the firm known as, Professional Innovative Programs Services, Ltd, Fire Rescue Systems and S.C.M. be appointed as computer consultants on all software for the district's computer system, Visual Information Services Corp and any other agency deemed necessary.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Raymond and seconded by Commissioner Abrams it was:

RESOLVED to appoint SJ Computers as computer consultants on all software for the district's computer system.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Abrams and seconded by Commissioner Maroldo it was:

RESOLVED that the following named members of the North Massapequa Fire Department be allowed to continue their membership since they reside outside the limits of the fire district. They are as follows: **Michael Calamia**, Bethpage, **Alex Abrams** Bethpage, **Danny**

Roberts, Farmingdale, **Scot Abrams**, Massapequa, **Walter Kowalczyk**, Massapequa, Massapequa, **Robert Goohs**, Seaford, **Christopher Martin**, Seaford, **Raymond Sanicola**,

Massapequa, **Michael Sanicola**, Seaford, **Shriya Kumar**, Seaford, and **Anthony Curran**, Seaford.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Abrams and seconded by Commissioner Raymond it was:

RESOLVED that the District Treasurer be bonded in the amount of one million dollars.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Maroldo and seconded by Commissioner Abrams it was:

RESOLVED that Dr. Robert Fogel, and Dr. Jorge Gardyn, the district's medical authority will recertify all active firefighters, and new applicants, Classes A, B and C and Fire Medic of the North Massapequa Fire Department. (As per the District Wellness Policy)

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that Dr. Oreste J. Bruni is the District EMS Medical Advisor.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Schmidgall and seconded by Commissioner Abrams it was:

RESOLVED that the North Massapequa Fire District adopt the following Policies:

1. Alcohol
2. Annual Dinner
3. Background Checks
4. Code of Ethics
5. Covid 19
6. Credit Card
7. Cell Phone
8. Cancelled Checks
9. Commercial Gym Use and Wellness Policy (amended 2019)
10. Dispatch Office Procedures
11. Driver Training
12. Drug Test
13. Employee Benefits (revised 1/3/2022)
14. Fire District elections policy
15. Fixed Asset
16. Harassment
17. Internet Communications
18. Investment
19. Longevity Awards

20. Member Residence Notification
21. New Membership
22. Procurement and Purchasing Policy in accordance with section 104-b of the General Municipal Law
23. Preferred Vendor List
24. Physical and Classification
25. Pregnant Firefighter policy
26. Paid (Non-Emergency Response) Employees responding to Fire Department Emergency Calls as Volunteer Firefighters
27. Public Employer Health Emergency Plan
28. Resolution to set workdays for paid and elected officials.
29. Records Retention
30. Travel
31. Vehicle Use
32. Whistleblower
33. Public meeting decorum policy

The motion was voted upon and carried. (Copies of these Documents are on a USB stick on the secretary's desk).

Upon motion made by Commissioner Abrams and seconded by Commissioner Schmidgall it was:

RESOLVED that the travel rate for all district officers and all district personnel is as per the IRS Miles Rate currently 70 cents per mile.

The motion was voted on and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Abrams and second by Commissioner Maroldo it was:

RESOLVED that the following named vendors be approved as consultants, in their respective fields, to the North Massapequa Fire District.

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|---------------------------------|--|
| District Architect | Frank Relf, Architect, Martin F. Sendlewski A.I.A. and H2M |
| Medical Authority | Dr. Robert Fogel and Dr. Jorge Gardyn |
| Independent Auditor | Craig, Fitzsimmons & Meyer, LLP |
| Travel consultant | Sucarba Travel, |
| International Accounting | Gentile, Brengel, Lim, LLP |

And any other agency deemed necessary.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Raymond and seconded by Commissioner Maroldo it was:

RESOLVED that **Insurance broker** Harbor Insurance Agency be approved as consultant in their respective field, to the North Massapequa Fire District.

And any other agency deemed necessary.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Raymond and seconded by Commissioner Maroldo it was:

RESOLVED to use the firm of Proclaim billing services for the ambulance cost recovery services for the North Massapequa Fire District.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Raymond and seconded by Commissioner Abrams it was:

RESOLVED that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the North Massapequa Fire District continues a Capital Reserve Account for Buildings and Grounds under section 6-G of the general municipal law to fund the acquisition, refurbishment, construction, and reconstruction of the building and grounds previously memorialized & re-established December 4, 2006.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Maroldo and second by Commissioner Schmidgall it was:

RESOLVED that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the North Massapequa Fire District continues a Capital Reserve Account for Firematic Equipment under section 6-G of the general municipal law to fund the acquisition, refurbishment, of the Firematic Equipment previously memorialized & re-established December 4, 2006.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Schmidgall and second by Commissioner Abrams it was:

RESOLVED that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the North Massapequa Fire District continues a Capital Reserve Account for Emergency Repair Reserve Funds under section 6-D of the general municipal law to fund the acquisition, Emergency repairs to apparatus, established May 2, 2016.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Abrams and second by Commissioner Schmidgall it was:

RESOLVED that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the North Massapequa Fire District continues a Capital Reserve Account for Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve Fund under section 6-P of the general municipal law to fund the acquisition, Employee Benefits, established May 2, 2016.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

The Board of Fire Commissioners discussed the district's policy regarding parades that the department will be attending in the year, 2025.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Timpano and seconded by Commissioner Schmidgall it was:

RESOLVED that the fire district will only pay the department for bands when the department attends out of town parades pending the approval of the Board and with a membership participating in marching with no less than thirty (30) members attending and Department Parade Officials Officiating.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Abrams and seconded by Commissioner Schmidgall it was:

RESOLVED that a physical exam will be given to all department members on the month of their birthday.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Abrams and seconded by Commissioner Schmidgall it was:

RESOLVED that all district officers and (1) Chief of the North Massapequa Fire Department be authorized to attend the Annual Meeting of the Association of Fire Districts State of New York on 10/02/2025 to 10/04/2025 in Saratoga Springs, New York with all actual and necessary expenses paid for by the district.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Maroldo and seconded by Commissioner Raymond it was:

RESOLVED to purchase 1 table at a cost not to exceed TBD to attend the Installation Dinner of the Association of Fire Districts Nassau County being held at the Milleridge Cottage, Jericho, NY on Friday March 7, 2025.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Abrams and seconded by Commissioner Maroldo it was:

RESOLVED to purchase 1 Gold Page in the 2025 journal of the Association of Fire Districts Nassau County at a cost not to exceed TBD.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

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Upon motion made by Commissioner Maroldo and seconded by Commissioner Abrams it was:

RESOLVED to pay the 2025 dues and directory page of the Association of Fire Districts Nassau County not to exceed \$425.00.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Raymond and seconded by Commissioner Schmidgall it was:

RESOLVED to pay the 2025 dues of the Association of Fire District State of New York not to exceed \$500.00.

The motion was voted upon and carried. (Paperwork for the above 4 motions are attached).

Upon motion made by Commissioner Abrams and seconded by Commissioner Schmidgall it was:

RESOLVED that any member over the age of 65 years of age may drive if requested by the Chief of Department to become a driver of District apparatus. The Chief must submit a letter to the Board requesting approval of the members and must specify the District Vehicle. The members must be qualified and approved.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Abrams and seconded by Commissioner Schmidgall it was:

RESOLVED that all district officers, the District Superintendent, and three chiefs pending the approval of the Board be authorized to attend the following listed seminars and meetings with all necessary and actual expenses paid for them by the district. The Deputy Treasurer and District Mechanic will be allowed to attend AFDNYS Workshops and shall request to attend any additional conventions pending the approval of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

1. FDSOA 1/13 – 1/17 2025 at St. Pet, FL
2. FDIC 4/7 – 4/12 2025 at Indianapolis, IN
3. National Hurricane Conference 4/14 – 4/17 2025 at New Orleans. LO
4. Station Design 5/20 – 5/22 at Glendale, AZ
5. New York Fire Chiefs 6/4 – 6/7 2025 at Syracuse, NY
6. NFPA 6/16 – 6/18 2025 at Las Vega, NV
7. APCO 7/27 – 7/30 2025 at Baltimore, MD
8. I.A.F.C. Fire, Rescue Int. 8/23 – 8/15 2025 at Orlando, FL
9. AFDSNY Annual Meeting 10/2 – 10/4 2025 at Saratoga, NY
10. Fire Fusion 10/13 - 10/16 2025 at Charleston, SC
11. EMS World 10/20 – 10/25 2025 at Indianapolis, IN
12. I.A.F.C. Symposium in the Sun 11/13 – 11/16 2025 at Clearwater, FL
13. F.A.S.N.Y. 8/7 – 8/9 2025 at Hyatt in Hauppauge, Long Island, NY

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The motion was voted upon and carried.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Raymond and seconded by Commissioner Abrams it was:

RESOLVED to use 2024 surplus funds for beginning operating expenses for 2025. Funds will be reimbursed with interest and placed in a Capital Reserve account to be specified in the future once we receive funds from the town.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

There being no further organizational business to come before the Board a motion was made by Commissioner Abrams and seconded by Commissioner Schmidgall, it was:

RESOLVED that the Organizational meeting be adjourned at 8:35 pm.

The motion was voted upon and carried.

Chairman Schmidgall

Vice-Chairman Maroldo

Commissioner Abrams

Commissioner Timpano

Commissioner Raymond