

**Board of Fire Commissioners
Meeting
Thursday, October 11, 2018**

The regular meeting of the City of Cortland Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 5:22p.m. By Chair Bonnie Heath.

Commission members present include, Chair Bonnie Heath, Vice Chair Paul Quinlan, Commissioner Dale Saddlemire, Commissioner Bill Starr and Commissioner Chris Hotchkiss

Present at the meeting: D/C Wayne Friedman, D/C William Knickerbocker, D/C Rich Allen, FF Greg Maxwell, FF Derek Reynolds and FF Joe O'Mara

Excused: Fire Chief Charles S. Glover

Public Hearing:

Request for a variance of Code of the City of Cortland Section 11-155 to allow a driveway expansion in the front yard for 6 Water St. Cortland, NY. The property manager, Mark Skodzinsky was present at the meeting and states that the project has been completed by 1st Choice Asphalt. The paving company received a permit for the wrong property. This is a single-family residential use.

There was no one to speak in opposition to the variance request

Commission approved the expansion with the stipulation that a barrier be placed to prevent vehicles from further expansion into the front yard. Commission indicated they would check the property for the barrier and review in 3 months.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Commissioner Hotchkiss seconded by Commissioner Quinlan to approve the September 2018 meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Saddlemire Seconded by Commissioner Starr to approve the September 2018 Paid Staff sick report. All in favor, motion carried.

D/C Friedman's Report:

- FF Reynolds presented a quick video of FF for A Day Camp with explanation of cost, attendance, workers, funds remaining. Please take note that Derek and Andrea (Youth Bureau) pushed very hard and made this camp happen this year with all the hold backs.
- Budget workshop in progress, Fire Department at this point has a 14.9% decrease in operation line of the budget. Fire Chief will meet with and discuss proposed budget at the upcoming workshop for the fire department. Chief will express concern on how the proposed cuts will leave the fire department underfunded on a few important budget lines.
- Update on the Cancer Bill for our Volunteer Fire Fighters: McNeil (ESIP) will offer the mandated coverage for the volunteers that meet the parameters for required coverage. The fire department administration is planning to provide a more in depth physical to volunteer staff because of the new mandate. This will increase our cost for physicals and we plan to address in the 2019 budget process. We are working as diligently as practicable as we are required to have coverage secured by January 1, 2019.

BOE Report:

- The dumpster for the cleanup at the armory has come gone; making progress on updating the space utilized by the volunteer staff.
- We have hired painter to do the painting needed in the room.
- We have donated the numerous old chairs to the Preble Fire Department, as we no longer have a need for them.

Volunteer Updates:

- During Open house we set up a simple recruit table, we had some of our visitors interested in serving but they lived out of district.
- Four new recruits from last year, who are college students, are attending the Fall Boot Camp. They are doing well in the camp and are nearing the end of the valuable training.
- Gavin Stage has been dismissed from the department
- FF J. Moore has been with us for 8 months, he has been attending calls and doing well with training. We will request for him to choose a Company at this time.
- New Member Isiah Oaks will be starting training very soon, has completed the department orientation
- FF. P.Androshchuk has completed orientation, as well. He will be working with Capt. Pierce to get all of his fire service related training caught up.

Old Business:

Fire Commission would like to thank everyone that assisted with Open House. Commission commented that it appeared the event was well attended by the public

New Business:

The Department will be hosting the annual "Here comes Santa - Santa Ride" in the city on December 16, 2018. More details to follow.

Motion by Commissioner Hotchkiss, seconded by Commissioner Saddlemire to adjourn the meeting at 6:18p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Heidi Brown
Administrative Assistant