

July 21, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present were: Bob Patterson, Brian Franklin, Brendan Molloy, Renee Stanford, Les Elsworth, Jackie Kreiner, Cory Sanford, Chris Strain, Desiree Strain, Ryan Schader, Josh Merritt, Ali Walker, Patty Murray, Ian Monzo. Absent: Sherri Cohen

The minutes from 06-16-25 were read and approved. Brendan motioned to accept. Seconded by Renee and was carried.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Cory was asked how much money the dept. raised from boot drives thus far this year. He stated \$1250 from two drives with expenses of \$1050, resulting in income of \$200. After discussion, Brian motioned to approve the remaining four dates on the 2025 fundraising schedule (8-10 & 9-06 boot drives, 9-27 spaghetti dinner, 11-29 chicken & biscuit dinner). Seconded by Les and was carried.

Training report: no training was held; a work night report was submitted (circulate fire pumps clean rear floors). The training schedule for July thru September 2025 was submitted. Pump operations, which was scheduled for 6-23, was cancelled due to low enrollment. EVOc scheduled for 10-07 in Norwich. Cory requested to take trucks 272 and 2751 to the Chenango Co. fair parade on 8-6, take truck 2751 to De Ruyter Field Days on 8-09, open station on 8-02 for motorcyclists' ride break and fair stand by if called upon. Renee motioned to grant permission. Seconded by Brendan and was carried. Brian motioned that **only fire dept. personnel are to be in vehicles enroute and returning and no children or anyone other than fire dept. personnel in vehicles at any time or for any reason.** Seconded by Brendan and was carried.

Desiree Strain submitted membership application for the following individual: Ian Monzo. His Code of Ethics/sexual harassment sign off, DMV report and drug test results have been completed. His physical needs to be completed. She also submitted membership withdrawals for the following individuals: Taylor Smith, Kaleigh Craford. Les motioned to approve the new member and to accept the withdrawals. Seconded by Brendan and was carried.

Cory stated that he will have to have talks with members that do not participate. He will report back with results at September's meeting.

An updated Certified Driver/Operators list was submitted.

An updated Membership Information Job Description/Responsibilities list was submitted.

Tire replacement on trucks 271, 272 and 276 is scheduled for 7-23.

Fire Advisory Council: P-Fast compliance for turnout gear, not sure regarding status in approved state budget. County has accepted taking on two more SFI (firefighter 1) positions. E-mails were sent to depts. with requirements for the position of SFI. Applications were due 6-20. CFI (instructor) positions need filling. (SFI employee of the state, CFI employee of the county). IFO course is underway. Fire Svc. Instructor I may be offered locally; dept. training officers need to have instruction on how to teach. NERIS (National Emergency Response Information System) has not heard anything from Image Trend. Radio project taking a lot of time. Radios will be counted in fire houses; goal is to put portables in every seat of apparatus, but isn't known at this time if grant will allow this. Structural analysis has to be done on each tower; RFPs will be sent out shortly. No mtg. will be held in July; next mtg., 9-10.

CALL LOG

06-02-25	ME**	06-14-25	ME**
06-07-25	ME**	06-16-25	MVA (2)
06-08-25	ME x 2**	06-19-25	ME**
06-09-25	MVA (cancelled) 4@	06-21-25	ME**
06-12-25	ME**	06-22-25	Mutual aid – No. Norwich (3)
06-13-25	Mutual aid – Norwich (cancelled) 1@	06-23-25	Mutual aid – Norwich (cancelled) 1@; service call (cancelled)

(**denotes no response)
() denotes # of personnel who responded
(@) denotes # of personnel at station

TREASURER'S REPORT

Brian motioned to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Seconded by Renee and was carried. The board reviewed the following bank statements: NBT General Fund dated 05-14 thru 06-12-25, NBT General Fund Checking dated 06-01 thru 30-25, Community Bank capital fund statement dated 06-02 thru 30-25, Community Bank maintenance fund statement dated 06-02 thru 30-25. Due to no Fire District meeting held in August, Brendan motioned to authorize the treasurer, Chairman and/or Vice Chairman pay the bills for the month of August. Seconded by Renee and was carried. Renee motioned to pay bills on Abstract #493 totaling \$2866.57. Seconded by Brendan and was carried. WEX gas card svcs. – cost \$41; VEX speaker mics – cost \$452.29; Bassett Healthcare seven physicals – cost \$622.70; signs for meeting hall & fire side parking – cost \$169.84; trucks 275, 2751 and Kubota trailer inspections – cost \$47; backyard brush hogging – cost \$100.

COMMUNICATIONS

The hall has been scheduled for use on the following dates: 7-07 (town planning board meeting cancelled-no quorum).

Jackie distributed updated yearly meeting schedule reflecting new October meeting date.

One physical issue of the June/July 2025 Fire District Affairs newsletter was received.

The updated copy of the fire dept.'s insurance certificate for their property on Co. Rte. 16 was submitted.

OLD BUSINESS

Work orders update: . status of sound proofing of the meeting hall: HOLD

- . floor repair hall side: Brendan has call in to Sal from Starkrete, has not had return call from him as yet. Need update from Lowes on tile for floor. Brendan will obtain
- . paint peeling on floor of truck bay: again, call in to Sal
- . check ceiling for a leak:
- . check leak under overhang by bottle bin:
- . check leak truck bay men's room:
- . check screen replacement of windows, weed killer around building, outside for rust:
- . four additional tables for hall use: HOLD

No change in status of above items #4, #5, #6 for this month. HOLD A floppy disk of the floor heat was located in the filing cabinet. Brendan motioned to have Tom Fahy retrieve the data from the disk at a cost of \$100. Seconded by Brian and was carried.

Grants: Renee reported that she submitted the application for the five sets of Richochet turnout gear. The closing date was 6-30 for submission. To date, no word has been received as to who or who not was awarded.

The recall notice regarding the event data recorder (EDR) has been repaired. Recall notice on the back up camera on list to have repaired when the part is received.

The project with the County Youth Bureau thru The Place regarding painting of the meeting hall, did not go well. The contact at The Place did not understand the concept of the project. After discussion as to how to complete the job, Bob will contact painters and obtain estimates to complete the project. Brendan will contact his source as well.

NEW BUSINESS

Kelvin Bush, Preston Fire District, will meet with Bob to discuss something in the fire protection contract.

Explore improving fire services for the community covered by Plymouth Fire District. Consolidation, Merger, Deactivation, Dissolution, Fire protection contracts, Hiring a fire chief, etc.: working on grant for strategic plan and consulting svcs. Bob's 6-17 conference call with CGR (Center for Governmental Research) and the city of Norwich resulted in two potential scopes of work – Focused Approach (eight interviews, three most likely options, CGR develops high-level action plan, timeline of four months for final report – cost \$27500) or Comprehensive Approach (12 interviews, five most likely options, CGR develops detailed action plan, timeline of six months for final report – cost \$49000). After discussion, Brian motioned to sign the contract for the Focused Approach study at a cost \$27500. Seconded by Brendan with four yes, one no (Les) was carried.

Patty Murray stated, that at this time, the town is not in good financial shape to split the cost of resurfacing the parking lot this year.

Leroy Maricle completed brush hogging of the back of the property on 6-13.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Patty Murray asked Cory if he had spoken with Frank Williams regarding mowing the fire dept.'s property in Plymouth; yes. Was Frank paid; Cory stated he was paid in 2022 and 2023 but not in 2024, stated there was no agreement for 2024. Chris stated he mowed it once in 2024. She asked Cory how many fires thus far this year; zero, how many EMS calls last month; eight, no response due to having no EMT to respond. Are you actively looking for volunteers; every day.

Jackie reminded everyone that September's meeting is scheduled one hour prior to regularly scheduled meeting (5:30 p.m.) for budget work session.

OTHER

Cory stated, again, Frontier internet speed is still too slow. He stated it takes 17 minutes to load a page. Patty stated the town pays \$330/mo. at .3 speed thru Spectrum for internet. With Starlink, no phone access, \$500 start-up fee.

WORK IN PROGRESS

(will move these items up for Board Action as background information/reports completed)

Bob adjourned meeting at 8:42 p.m.