

Berkshire Fire District,
July 28, 2022

Members: R. Ceurter, W. Morris, W. Simmons, and M. Simmons
Excused: D. Armstrong
Others: M. Simmons

J. Simmons called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Minutes – W. Morris made the motion to accept 6/23/22 minutes. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Absent; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons – Yes

Budget status – distributed for information.

Communications – Associations news letter

Old Business –

Railing – OSHA approved plastic holders. \$1125 estimate. **W. Morris made the motion to spend up to \$1500 on materials for the railing. R Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Absent; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons – Yes**

Apparatus – Some changes have been made, deck gun is being eliminated, piping holder for air tanks, steps, light in hose bed, aluminum to steel wheels 1 suction deleted. Need to inquire about plumbing the fitting for a deck gun, and two tone paint. Discussion on Lyons apparatus and the one Owego may have available.

Chief – 5 calls; 1 mutual aid to Richford and that call was a learning experience, everyone did work well together. Everything was cleaned up after the call. New road cones have been ordered 45 28" with 6" collar 4" collar and it was under \$1,000. Discussion was held on more valuable trainings.

EMS – No response from Maine still. Berkshire Fire District holds the CON – town

Sign grants – No news as of yet

Station Cleaning – furnace was repaired will probably be over \$2,000. Utility room is too small. Need schedule with monthly checklist. This may be something an associate member can do. Discussion on floor being stripped and waxed.

Discussion on blueberry festival/chicken bbq. Need to have fund raiser sheet turned in

501C3 – our application has been accepted. M. Russell will try and find out more information.

New – Extrication tools Freeville has a Holmatro jaws system: truck mounted electric pump, gas engine portable pump, ram cutters, all hoses, and it has been serviced by Holmatro as recommended. They have offered it to us for \$5,000. We could possibly sell our system for \$3-\$4,000. **W. Morris made the motion to purchase this system from Freeville. R. Ceuter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Absent; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons – Yes**

Town website – Jen has not been in town, so this is tabled for now.

Record retention will be a work in progress.

Youth group program – M. Russell will see if any auxiliary members would be interested in helping.

Discussion on associate member.

New members – R. Ceurter made the motion to accept Geordie Decker as a member. W. Morris seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Absent; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons – Yes

W. Morris made the motion to accept Alyssa Brown as a member. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Absent; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons – Yes

Preparing for the 2023 budget especially any new equipment (laptop etc.)

A discussion was held on fire police at Apple Festival – This cannot be done, they can only operate under emergency in our district or mutual aid or parades we participate in, and fire chief has final say. There has been some inappropriate messages on Facebook and the fire chief can reprimand individuals.

Discussion was held on the event at the town hall on Aug 6. Fire Department will be there. **W. Morris made the motion for the fire department to participate in the event on Aug. 6th. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Absent; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons– Yes**

Newark Valley Fire Department has 6" butterfly valve normally its \$1800 they will sell it for \$200. **M. Simmons made the motion to purchase the butterfly valve. W. Morris seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Absent; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons– Yes**

W. Morris made the motion to pay the bills. M. Simmons seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Absent; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons– Yes

W. Morris made the motion to adjourn. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons– Yes

Meeting adjourned 8:14 pm

July Bills Paid

	Vendor	Amount Due	Budget Line	Ck #
1	NVCS District	\$136.59	fuel	5581
2	NYSEG	\$66.24	utilities	Auto
3	Freeville Fire Department	\$5000	New	5580
4	Newark Valley Fire Department	\$200	New	5579
5	Home Central	11.97	Building	5582
6	<i>Jim</i>			
7	<i>Home Cent ?</i>			
8				
9				
10				
11				

Berkshire Fire District,
August 25, 2022

Members: D. Armstrong, R. Ceurter, W. Morris, and W. Simmons
Excused: M. Simmons
Others: M. Simmons (7:20)

J. Simmons called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Minutes – W. Morris made the motion to accept 7/28/22 minutes. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Absent; W. Simmons – Yes

Budget status – distributed for information.

Communications – Town newsletter, Pinsky workshop, Associations news letter

Old Business –

Soap – A large quantity of soap showed up, was not ordered. Have not heard back from the company as of yet.

Railing – Supplies are here need to set a date to work on it; will set at the next company meeting.

Apparatus – M. Simmons has more information on the Lyons trucks.

EMS – Another letter was sent. R. Ceurter stated he talked with Chris and he told him they are checking with the state.

Sign grants – Still pending; no news as of yet.

Station Cleaning – A quote from The Night Shift was \$1100. Ron Sharp would help if there was enough help from others. J. Simmons has another company to check with, but will hold off until company meeting to see if the department can get enough help.

501C3 – Is complete according to a letter M. Russell found on the IRS website.

AED – has arrived

Batteries – have arrived

New –

Town website - Jen Bassman will meet with us regarding the website after Labor Day. Possible meeting the 14th.

Record retention – Due dates need to be researched this will be a work in progress.

Youth group program – A few auxiliary members are interested in helping. Will discuss associate member at the company meeting.

Chief – Mutual aid to Richford for a few calls. Screen has been installed in 251 and is working. Tools from Freeville are here.

Discussion on cascade system and what is needed for it to be in service, a bleeder bottle fell out and parts have been ordered. The butterfly valve we got from Newark Valley has been painted and installed. A discussion was held on turnout gear. R. Ceurter made the motion to purchase 4 sets of turnout gear. D. Armstrong seconded it. **Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Absent; W. Simmons – Yes** Fire company received \$3,000 to be used towards equipment. Need to check with them on the donation.

A discussion was held on putting LED lights in the scene lights on 251. It would cost \$2980 for them. **D. Armstrong made the motion to get LED lights for 251. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Absent; W. Simmons – Yes**

A discussion was held on the procurement policy and the chief only being able to spend up to \$1,000 without prior approval. Would still need 3 quotes for over the \$1,000 mark.

Discuss the 2023 budget especially any new equipment (laptop etc.)

Discussion on 2% tax cap Pinsky has a good video on this.

W. Morris made the motion to pay the bills. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Absent; W. Simmons– Yes

D. Armstrong made the motion to adjourn. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Absent; W. Simmons– Yes

Meeting adjourned 7:53 pm

August Bills Paid

	Vendor	Amount Due	Budget Line	Ck #
1	NVCS District		fuel	
2	NYSEG	\$157.57	utilities	Auto
3	Home Central	\$464.95	Building Maintenance	
4	Bound Tree	\$675.91	New 2021 Funds	
5	Finger Lakes Communication	\$955.20	New 2021 Funds	
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				

Berkshire Fire District
Special Meeting
September 14, 2022

Members: D. Armstrong, R. Ceurter, W. Morris, M. Simmons, and W. Simmons
Others: Jennifer Bassman

J. Simmons called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

J. Simmons introduced Jennifer Bassman. And Jen gave us an overview of what services she provides in creating a website. Ideas were given to Jen on what we would like to have available on our website. She will work up a quote and get it to us with her fee.

Budget

Statuary spending limit we seem to be good.
2 percent/\$3119 is all the increase we can do.

Discussion was held on the ambulance \$80,000, possibly put it in the Equipment Reserve Fund.

Budget

Fuel	\$ 2,000
Insurance	\$ 16,000
Profession/Legal Fees	\$ 11,000
Equipment Maintenance Repair	\$ 12,000
New Equipment	\$ 20,000
Utilities	\$ 10,000
Office Supplies	\$ 1,000
Building Maintenance	\$ 4,000
Training	\$ 5,000
Equipment Reserve Fund	\$ 15,000
Medical	\$ 4,000
TOTAL BUDGET	<u>\$100,000</u>
Building Payment	\$ 59,108
Truck Payment	\$ 41,294
Total	<u>\$200,402</u>

W. Morris made the motion to adjourn. D. Armstrong seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons– Yes

Meeting adjourned 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda Russell, Secretary

Berkshire Fire District,
September 22, 2022

Members: D. Armstrong, R. Ceurter, W. Morris, M. Simmons (7:15), and W. Simmons

Excused:

Others: M. Simmons

J. Simmons called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Minutes – D. Armstrong made the motion to accept 8/25/22 and 9/14/22 minutes. W. Morris seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Absent; W. Simmons – Yes

Budget status – distributed for information.

Communications – Letter from Maine will discuss in old business

Chief – Five calls. 251 lights are in. Four sets of gear were ordered two district paying and the other two company paying for.

Old Business –

Railing – Is complete cost approximately \$1510 total.

Apparatus – M. Simmons has more information on the Lyons trucks.

EMS – Received a letter back from Maine.

Sign grants – no award

Station Cleaning – Need a name to put on list.

****Website – received contract from Jen. D. Armstrong made the motion to accept Jen Bassman's contract. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons – Yes**

New –

Record retention – Need to date to complete

Youth group program – Need a meeting of interested parties.

Associate members (Fire Co. approval)

2023 budget – W. Morris made the motion to approve the preliminary budget. M. Simmons seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons – Yes

D. Armstrong made the motion to override the tax cap. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons – Yes

D. Armstrong made the motion to pay the bills. W. Morris seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons – Yes

D. Armstrong made the motion to adjourn. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Absent; W. Simmons – Yes

Meeting adjourned 7:53 pm

Respectfully submitted:

M. Russell

September Bills Paid

	Vendor	Amount Due	Budget Line	Ck #
1	NVCS District	\$411.09	fuel	5595
2	NYSEG		utilities	Auto
3	Stanley Convergent Security	\$125.91	Prof/Legal	5594
4	Bonnie Vale Inc.	\$633.66	New Equipment	5593
	Federal Safety			
5		\$165.25	Build Maint	5592
	Tioga County Courier			
6		\$9.50	Prof/Legal	5591
	Municipal Emergency Svs			
7		\$1,287.81	New Equipment	5590
	BoundTree			
8		\$10.64	2021 Funds	5589
9	Jenn Bassman	\$560	Prof/Legal	5596
10	Home Central	\$407.59	Build maint (railing)	5588
11				

Berkshire Fire District
October 18, 2022
Public Hearing Budget

Members Present: R. Ceurter, W. Morris, J. Simmons, and M. Simmons
Other: Mike Simmons

Excused: D. Armstrong

J. Simmons called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

A copy of the 2023 budget was passed out to the commissioners in attendance.

The 2023 budget is as follows:

Fuel	\$ 1,500
Insurance	\$ 16,000
Professional/Legal Fees	\$ 9,000
Equipment Maintenance Repair	\$ 9,000
New Equipment	\$ 15,000
Utilities	\$ 10,000
Office Supplies	\$ 1,000
Building Maintenance	\$ 3,000
Training	\$ 2,000
Equipment Reserve Fund	\$ 12,000
Website/Public info	\$ 2,000
Medical	\$ 3,000
Contingency	\$ 16,500
TOTAL BUDGET	<u>\$100,000</u>
Building Payment	\$ 59,108
Truck Payment	\$ 52,294
Total	<u>\$200,402</u>

A discussion was held on replacing 201 with Pierce 1997, has 31,000 miles 460 horse diesel engine, and a 10 man cab. Truck is in NJ. Comes with hose, generator. Does have governor light on. Bid is due in 14 hours. Will have to pay 7% buyer fee.

R. Ceurter made the motion to bid \$20,000. W. Morris seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Absent; R. Ceurter– Yes; W. Morris – Yes; J. Simmons – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes

W. Morris made the motion to adjourn this meeting. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Absent; R. Ceurter– Yes; W. Morris – Yes; J. Simmons – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda Russell, Secretary

Berkshire Fire District,
October 27, 2022

Members: D. Armstrong, R. Ceurter, W. Morris, M. Simmons (7:15), and W. Simmons
Others: M. Simmons

J. Simmons called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Minutes – D. Armstrong made the motion to accept 9/22/22 minutes. W. Morris seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons – Yes
W. Morris made the motion to accept 10/18/22 minutes. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons – Yes

Budget status – distributed for information.

Communications – Letter to Maine.

Chief – All went good on the fire call on Blackman Hill. We were on standby for NV fire and there happened to be a MVA and we took care of that. Turn out gear is coming and it all should be here by the end of the year. The shift pump is leaking on 202 and repair is around \$500. New signs have been put up for no turn out gear beyond certain points due to the cancer bill/policy.

Old Business –

Apparatus – Everything moving along. Pumper we put a bid in on and didn't get; but Mike has been in contact with Sayreville Fire Department. A discussion was held on hose. Mike has 3 quote for a pickup truck cheapest for \$51,800. Which would be a dual purpose First responder/fire police with equipment.

D. Armstrong made the motion to do a letter of intent to purchase the pickup truck. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons – Yes

EMS – Richford and Newark Valley all signed contracts with Maine EMS. No word on Berkshire.

Youth group program – Donna Connery to head up group and it will be endorsed by the boy scouts.

Explorer group insurance through the boy scouts.

Station cleaning/maintenance – Mike working on the sheets

Website – Jen was emailed no word from her Mike to make sure she has everything she needs.

Discussion on fire reports all done to date.

Discussion on binder with minutes in district office

Discussion on training for membership.

Computer – Discussion was held. **D. Armstrong made the motion for M. Russell to spend up to \$1500 on a new laptop. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons – Yes**

New –

Radios – Fema Grants (Motorola) They will help with writing the grants. County will furnish a certain amount of radios and we need to see what we'll need. M. Simmons will get us some numbers.

Grant writer – Discussion was held and a percentage comes out of the grant. May need to do RFP to find one.

Events – Auxiliary doing Chicken N Biscuit on 11/8. W. Morris made the motion for Auxiliary to do chicken n biscuit dinner. D. Armstrong seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons – Yes

Discussion was held on November meeting. **D. Armstrong made the motion to hold the November meeting on 11/17. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons – Yes**

D. Armstrong made the motion to pay the bills. R. Ceurter seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Yes; W. Simmons– Yes

D. Armstrong made the motion to adjourn. M. Simmons seconded it. Vote: D. Armstrong – Yes; R. Ceurter – Yes; W. Morris – Yes; M. Simmons – Absent; W. Simmons– Yes

Meeting adjourned 8:09 pm

Respectfully submitted:

M. Russell

October Bills Paid

	Vendor	Amount Due	Budget Line	Ck #
1	NVCS District	\$116.09	fuel	5599
2	NYSEG	\$147.71	utilities	Auto
3	Vasco Brands	\$898.25	Building maint.	5600
4	Tioga County Courter	\$6.46	Prof/Legal	5597
5	Haun	\$612.00	Medical	5598
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11				