

## **REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS SEAFORD FIRE DISTRICT: Monday, June 30, 2025**

Present: Chairman Silvio Bellissimo  
Fire Commissioner Michael Bellissimo  
Fire Commissioner Robert Podesta  
Fire Commissioner George V. Kern  
Michael R. Foran, District Secretary / Deputy Treasurer

Chairman Silvio Bellissimo called the meeting to order at 19:00 hours.

On a motion by Chairman Silvio Bellissimo, second by Commissioner Robert Podesta and unanimously carried the Public Hearing regarding Tax Exemption To Eligible Volunteer Firefighters As Provided for By Real Property Tax Law §466-a was opened at 19:01 hours.

No public nor Fire Commissioner comments were voiced.

On a motion by Commissioner George V. Kern, second by Chairman Silvio Bellissimo and unanimously carried the Public Hearing was closed at 19:03 hours.

The Board of Fire Commissioners entered into regular session.

### Communications Received

- Operations Report for June 2025.
- Treasurer Report for June 2025.
- Seaford Hook, Ladder & Engine Co. No. 1, Inc. Re: New Company member Jose Arita-Ceballos.
- Richner Communications – Legal Notice of Public Hearing VFF Real Property Tax Exemption.
- Richner Communications – Legal Notice of June 2025 Meeting Date Change.
- Sapienza & Frank – Legal Confirmation to Craig, Fitzsimmons & Meyer, LLP.
- H2M Architects & Engineers Amendment to Proposal for Pre-Bond Feasibility Study.

### Secretary Report (Presented by District Secretary Michael R. Foran)

- Motion by Chairman Silvio Bellissimo, second by Commissioner George V. Kern to accept minutes from the June 2, 2025 Interim BOFC / Chiefs meeting as written. Unanimously carried.
- Special Election for LOSAP amendment occurred on Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>.
  - 36 total votes cast.
    - 31 in favor / 5 against.
  - Proposition to amend LOSAP program passed. Motion by Commissioner Robert Podesta, second by Commissioner Michael Bellissimo to accept results of the election. Unanimously carried.
  - All documentation sent to the Town of Hempstead Town Clerk's office.
- No Primary Election occurred in the electoral district on Tuesday, June 25, 2025. No notification was received from the Board of Election.

## **REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS SEAFORD FIRE DISTRICT: Monday, June 30, 2025**

- Discussed HIPPA requirement to have Notice of Privacy Practices posted on the Department website. Chairman Silvio Bellissimo advised to proceed with requirement. Secretary Foran to work with Counsel and District Manager to have it posted.
- Bylaw revision update; discussion regarding incorporation of District policies into the bylaw document. Each Commissioner is tasked with review of a policy which will be incorporated into the bylaws. Assignments as follows ;
  - Commissioner Michael Bellissimo – Medical & Military Leave (Draft)
  - Commissioner Robert Podesta – Suspension Orders Issued By Chiefs
  - Commissioner Stephen Feil – Physical Examination
  - Commissioner George V. Kern – Off / On Duty Conduct Injurious to Operations.

The goal is to review and mark up the above policies by July 16<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Silvio Bellissimo will serve as Chairman.

### Operations Report (Presented by District Manager Paul Lochner)

- Contract from Grant Guys with Counsel for review.
- Commissioner Robert Podesta and District Manager Paul Lochner discussed Heavy Rescue 687 and cost to maintain the apparatus.
- See new business for further matters.

### Legal Report (Not Present)

- No business.

### Treasurer Report (Presented by Deputy Treasurer Michael R. Foran)

- Total of 60 payments, subject to Board approval, in the amount of \$382,469.07.
- The Board review the Treasurer's report which was prepared by Treasurer Patrick Cunningham prior to the meeting.
- Motion by Commissioner Michael Bellissimo, second by Chairman Silvio Bellissimo to accept the Treasurer Report as written. Unanimously carried.

### Old Business

- Commissioner George V. Kern advised waiting on meeting with Dr. Pecora, Superintendent of Schools, Seaford School District, regarding the Partial Real Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters / Fire Medics.
- Chairman Silvio Bellissimo reports a resolution must be passed by the Board in order for insurance to cover volunteer firefighter / fire medic rendering services within another District when there is no jurisdictional officer in command. On a motion by Commissioner Robert Podesta, second by Commissioner Michael Bellissimo and unanimously carried the Board adopted Resolution No. 1 (attached) General Municipal Law Section 209-il-b.

## **REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

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- Commissioner George V. Kern advised he is working with the Chiefs' Office and the Company on the modification to the Member Application form.
- Discussion regarding attendance at Southern Most Hazmat Conference, Key West, FL - February 3, 2026 to February 5, 2026. On a motion by Commissioner Robert Podesta, second by Commissioner George V. Kern for Chairman Silvio Bellissimo, Commissioner Michael Bellissimo, Chief Brian Beehler and 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief Peter J. Lochner to attend Southern Most Hazmat Conference, Key West, FL - February 3, 2026 to February 5, 2026. Unanimously carried. See Resolution No. 2.

#### Commissioner Reports

- **Chairman Silvio Bellissimo**
  - Insurance
    - Discussed claim for Waverly Ave. property.
  - Travel
    - APCO – Baltimore, MD – July 27, 2025 – July 30, 2025.
      - No interest.
    - FASNY – Hauppauge, NY – August 7, 2025 – August 9, 2025.
    - I.A.F.C. – Orlando, FL – August 13, 2025 – August 16, 2025.
    - EMS World Expo – Indianapolis, IN – October 20, 2025 – October 24, 2025.
    - AFDSNY – Saratoga, NY – October 2, 2025 – October 4, 2025.
    - Fire Fusion – Charleston, SC – October 13, 2025 – October 16, 2025.
    - VCOS Symposium in the Sun – Clearwater Beach, FL – November 13, 2025 – November 16, 2025.
  - Inspection / Installation
    - April 18, 2026 at the Milleridge Inn.
  - Cell Phones
    - Renewal / additions in progress.
  - 3 Towns Training Center
    - No report.
- **Commissioner Michael Bellissimo**
  - Uniforms / PPE
    - See Operation Report.
  - Building Security
    - No matters.
  - Fire Alarms
    - No pending issues.
  - Financial Statements / Audit
    - See Treasurer's report.
  - Bylaws / Policies
    - See Secretary's Report.
  - Drill Team
    - Attempting to see if the Team can reassemble for the 2026 season.
- **Commissioner Robert Podesta**
  - Communication / Radio / Information Technology
    - See Operations Report. No further matters.

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- Vehicle Maintenance / Portable Equipment
  - See Operation Report. No further matters.
- **Commissioner Stephen Feil (Not Present)**
  - Medicals / Medical Director
    - No report.
  - EMS
    - No report.
  - District Employees
    - No report.
  - Legal
    - No report.
  - LOSAP
    - No report.
- **Commissioner George V. Kern**
  - Grants
    - See Operation report. Nothing further.
  - Physical Fitness
    - Nothing further.
  - Building Maintenance
    - See Operations Report.
  - Public Relations / Member Retention
    - Working with Chiefs on recruitment and retention events.

New Business

- Motion by Chairman Silvio Bellissimo, second by Commissioner Robert Podesta to replace broken ID Card Printer and configure to SCM in the amount of \$2,680.00. Unanimously carried.
- Motion by Commissioner Robert Podesta, second by Commissioner Michael Bellissimo to clean all tile and carpeting within the firehouse; performed by Golden Chem-Dry in the amount of \$3,300.00. Unanimously carried.
- Motion by Commissioner Robert Podesta, second by Commissioner Michael Bellissimo and unanimously carried for yearly preventative maintenance of the emergency back-up generator in the amount of \$1,571.25.
- Motion by Commissioner George V. Kern, second by Commissioner Michael Bellissimo and unanimously carried to proceed with Task #2 & 3 as defined in H2M Architects & Engineers Amendment to Proposal for Pre-Bond Feasibility Study, dated March 24, 2025, in the amount of \$25,000.00.
- Motion by Commissioner George V. Kern, second by Chairman Silvio Bellissimo to grant a tax exemption to eligible volunteer firefighters as provided for by Real Property Tax Law §466-a. Unanimously carried. See Resolution No. 3. Secretary Foran to provide a copy of the Resolution to the Town of Hempstead Town Clerk.

Chiefs' Report

- Open items.

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- Chiefs for review and update all Department SOPs.
- Training records for applicant.
- Labeling and entry into Target Solutions of water rescue equipment.
- Junior post dues.
- Drone Program. Discussion ensued with Counsel regarding liabilities.
- Cadet program.
- Driver Training Committee status.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Commissioner George V. Kern, second by Commissioner Robert Podesta to close the meeting at 19:53 hours, June 30, 2025. Unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael R. Foran  
Secretary  
Seaford Fire District

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
SEAFORD FIRE DISTRICT: Monday, June 30, 2025**

**SEAFORD FIRE DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION No.1: ADOPTION OF GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW SECTION 209-IL-B**

Whenever a volunteer firefighter / fire medic of the Seaford Fire District provides services under General Municipal Law Section 209i when there is no jurisdictional officer in command present, such volunteer firefighter / fire medic shall be entitled to coverage under the VFBL coverage provided by the Seaford Fire District for the provision of such services. Upon arrival of a jurisdictional officer in command, such volunteer firefighter / fire medic shall report to such officer and offer his / her services to assist such fire company or fire department. If such offer of assistance is not accepted, then the volunteer firefighter / fire medic of the Seaford Fire District must immediately cease providing any additional service at the scene of the emergency.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Chairman Silvio Bellissimo	) Aye
Vice Chairman Michael Bellissimo	) Aye
Commissioner Robert Podesta	) Aye
Commissioner Stephen Feil	) Not Present
Commissioner George V. Kern	) Aye

The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Dated: Seaford, New York  
June 30, 2025

ATTEST:MICHAEL R. FORAN  
Secretary

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
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**SEAFORD FIRE DISTRICT**

**RESOLUTION NO.2: RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ATTENDANCE BY DISTRICT OFFICERS,  
EMPLOYEES AND CHIEFS AT CONFERENCES AND CONVENTIONS (SPECIFIC PERSONNEL AT A SPECIFIC  
CONFERENCE OR CONVENTION) (Section 77-b of the General Municipal Law)**

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Fire Commissioners, in accordance with Section 77-b of the General Municipal Law, has considered the needs of the fire district and has approved attendance by the following Fire Commissioners, District Officers, District Employees or Chiefs at the following conventions and conferences:

Approved personnel list:

Fire Commissioner Silvio Bellissimo  
Fire Commissioner Michael Bellissimo  
Chief of Department Brian Beehler  
Second Assistant Chief Peter J. Lochner

Approved conference or convention:

Southern Most Hazmat Conference, Key West, FL - February 3, 2026 to February 5, 2026.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Fire Commissioners finds such attendance of the listed personnel to relate to official business and be in the public interest and directs that such travel be undertaken by such personnel at district expense in accordance with the travel expense policy of the district, and that district staff is directed to make arrangements for travel and lodging utilizing a cost-effective and reasonable method of travel, and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that such personnel furnish proof to the Board of Fire Commissioners of attendance at such conference or convention in accordance with such proofs as provided by the organization sponsoring and conducting the conference or convention.

The adoption of the foregoing policy in the form of a resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Chairman Silvio Bellissimo	) Aye
Commissioner Michael Bellissimo	) Aye
Commissioner Robert Podesta	) Aye
Commissioner Stephen Feil	) Not Present
Commissioner George V. Kern	) Aye

The resolution was thereupon duly adopted.

Dated: Seaford, New York  
June 30, 2025

ATTEST: Michael R. Foran, District Secretary

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
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**SEAFORD FIRE DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION No. 3: TO GRANT A TAX EXEMPTION TO ELIGIBLE VOLUNTEER  
FIREFIGHTERS AS PROVIDED FOR BY REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW §466-a**

WHEREAS, § 466-a of the Real Property Tax Law authorizes the Fire District after a public hearing to grant a partial real property tax exemption to enrolled volunteer members of the Seaford Fire Department

WHEREAS the Fire District has conducted the public hearing required by the statute and elicited public comment on said topic

WHEREAS the Board of Fire Commissions has determined that the granting of the tax exemption will enhance recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters in the Fire Department

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that an exemption be granted at ten (10 %) percent of the assessed value of the real property owned by an enrolled volunteer firefighter who meets the eligibility requirements established in this resolution;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the enrolled member of the Seaford Fire Department must meet the following requirements to be eligible for the tax exemption:

1. The enrolled member must reside in the territory served by the Fire District
2. The property must be the primary residence of the enrolled member
3. The property is used exclusively for residential purposes, provided however, that in the event any portion of such property is not used exclusively for the applicant's residence but is used for other purposes, such portion shall be subject to taxation and the remaining portion only shall be entitled to the exemption provided by this section
4. The enrolled member has been certified by the Chief of the Fire Department to have served at least two (2) years of active service and such certification has been approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an enrolled member of the Seaford Fire Department who accrues more than twenty (20) years of active service as certified by the Chief of the Fire Department shall be granted the ten (10%) percent exemption as authorized by this resolution for the remainder of his or her life as long as the property for which the exemption is sought under this resolution is the primary residence of the enrolled member.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the exemption granted under this resolution shall continue for the un-remarried spouse of an enrolled member of the Fire Department who is killed in the line of duty upon the following conditions:

1. The un-remarried spouse is certified by the Chief of the Fire Department as the un-remarried spouse of the volunteer firefighter killed in the line of duty;
2. The deceased volunteer firefighter had been an enrolled member for at least five years;
3. The deceased volunteer firefighter had been receiving the exemption prior to his or her death.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the exemption granted under this Resolution shall continue for the un-remarried spouse of a deceased member of the Seaford Fire Department under the following conditions:

1. The un-remarried spouse is certified by the Chief of the Fire Department as the un-remarried spouse of the deceased enrolled member of the Seaford Fire Department
2. The deceased volunteer firefighter has been an enrolled member for at least twenty (20) years
3. The deceased volunteer firefighter has been receiving the exemption prior to his or her death.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any exemption granted under this Resolution shall be filed with the Town of Hempstead on the forms designated by the Town; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Fire District is directed to provide the Town of Hempstead with a copy of this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THIS RESOLUTION shall be effective as of the date of its adoption.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Chairman Silvio Bellissimo	) Aye
Commissioner Michael Bellissimo	) Aye
Commissioner Robert Podesta	) Aye
Commissioner Stephen Feil	) Not Present
Commissioner George V. Kern	) Aye

The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Dated: Seaford, New York  
June 30, 2025

ATTEST: Michael R. Foran  
District Secretary