



Technology Officer <techoff@kentfire.org>

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## January membership meeting minutes

1 message

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**Kent Secretary** <secretary@kentfire.org>

Sun, Jan 17, 2021 at 10:13 AM

To: All Emergency Members <members@kentfire.org>, Veterans <veterans@kentfire.org>, Auxiliary <auxiliary@kentfire.org>

### Kent Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

#### Regular Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes

January 4, 2021 1900 hours

Hybrid Meeting

Chair: Caralee Rochovansky, President

Secretary: John Russell/Cathe Mazza

#### In Attendance

**Members:** John Christen, Bonnie Donzella, Eric Epstein, Alan Gawel, Ed Matson, Audra Petrone, Mike Petrone, Caralee Rochovansky, John Russell, Wendell Soule, Jean Speck, Matt Starr, MaryAnn VanValkenburg, Tim Limbos, Jeremy Matson, Sean Dingee, Pete Bernard, Gary Hock, [Jill Scholsohn](#), Kerri Cullip, Jordan Donzella, and Cathe Mazza.

**Auxiliary:** no one

**General Public:** no one

Meeting called to order with quorum at 1905 hours.

Minutes: Motion to approve December 7th minutes by MaryAnn VanValkenburg/**2nd** Alan Gawel.

Discussion.

Voting yays: M. Petrone, S. Dingee, B. Donzella, W. Soule, M. VanValkenburg, M. Starr, E. Matson, J. Donzella, T. Limbos, J. Speck, A. Gawel, J. Matson, J. Russell, C. Rochovansky. Nays: none

Abstentions: none

**Motion Carried** unanimously.

Public Comment: none

#### Treasurer's Report :

Treasurer read unpaid bills, recurring bills and bills paid since the last meeting. M. Petrone /2nd S. Dingee, **motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills as read, with addition of reimbursement for fund letter expense to Caralee up to \$345.** Discussion:

Voting Yea: M. Starr, W. Soule, S. Dingee, J. Donzella, C. Rochovansky, E. Matson, B. Donzella, J. Christen, J. Speck, G. Hock, M. Petrone, J. Matson, J. Russell, A. Gawel, M VanValkenburg, T. Limbos, A. Petrone. Voting Nay: none Abstentions: none **Motion Carried.**

M. Petrone made a **motion to continue to pay the existing/current list of recurring bills monthly for 2021.** A. Gawel 2nd. Voting Yea: M. Petrone, E. Matson, A. Gawel, T. Limbos, J. Russell, J. Christen, M. Starr, B. Donzella, C. Rochovansky, M. VanValkenburg, J. Donzella, S. Dingee, A. Petrone, W. Soule, G. Hock. Voting Nay: none Abstentions: J. Speck. **Motion Carried.**

Correspondence: the secretary received a phone call from Paula Niman of [15 Macedonia Brook Rd.](#) who reports her husband is doing much better after being assisted by Mike Petrone, Bonnie and Jordan

Donzella. She said she and her husband are both grateful and will remember the efficiency and professionalism of the three responders. Ms. Niman subsequently made a \$100 donation at our website.

Membership: B. Donzella made a **motion to accept John Cirino as a full member.** 2nd by S. Dingee. Voting Yea: M. Petrone, J. Christen, J. Donzella, S. Dingee, J. Scholsohn, J. Matson, A. Petrone, J. Speck, B. Donzella, W. Soule, T. Limbos, J. Russell, C. Rochovansky, M. VanValkenburg. Voting Nay: M. Starr. Abstentions: E. Matson, P. Bernard, A. Gawel, G. Hock. **Motion Carried.**

B. Donzella made a **motion to communicate the department's position in favor of the Town increasing our tax abatement to the maximum allowable by State statute.** 2nd T. Limbos. Voting Yea: S. Dingee, J. Donzella, A. Gawel, T. Limbos, B. Donzella, M. VanValkenburg, J. Matson, G. Hock, E. Matson, C. Rochovansky, W. Soule, M. Petrone, M. Starr, A. Petrone, J. Christen, J. Russell, J. Scholsohn, W. Soule. Voting Nay: none. Abstentions: P. Bernard. **Motion Carried.**

E. Matson made an annual reminder that if a member loses their driver's license they cannot drive any apparatus.

Old Business: M. Petrone made a **motion to accept the 2021 budget.** 2nd: B. Donzella. A. Gawel made a **motion to remove the ball budget and add the ball budget to the town grant request, then approve our budget as presented.** 2nd E. Matson. Voting Yea: M. Petrone, S. Dingee, B. Donzella, E. Matson, T. Limbos, M. VanValkenburg, J. Scholsohn, A. Petrone, C. Rochovansky, J. Russell, A. Gawel, M. Starr, W. Soule, J. Matson, G. Hock, J. Christen. Voting Nay: none. Abstentions: J. Speck, P. Bernard. **Motion carried.**

New Business: A) Fundraising Committee: none.

B) Investment Policy: J. Russell **made a motion to accept policy change to Investment Fund; Section V. A of Investment Policy "During each fall budget season, the Treasurer may budget a portion of the Investment Fund as revenue for the following year. This amount shall be determined by taking 3.5% of the average of the Investment Fund balance on the last day of the last six months of the previous year (see example below). The Investment Committee Chair (ICC) will work with the treasurer and Investment Advisor to facilitate the transfer of these funds anytime on or after the first business day of January each year."** 2nd by T. Limbos. Voting Yea: M. Petrone, A. Gawel, E. Matson, W. Soule, J. Russell, T. Limbos, C. Rochovansky, J. Matson, S. Dingee, J. Christen, A. Petrone, J. Donzella, G. Hock, M. VanValkenburg, B. Donzella, M. Starr, M. Petrone, J. Scholsohn. Voting Nay: none. Abstentions: P. Bernard, J. Speck. **Motion Carried.**

C) Election of Officers: (20 members present and able to vote)

Chief: Alan Gawel 17-0-3

President: John Russell 16-0-4

Assistant Chief: Gary Hock 15-0-5

Assistant Chief: Wendall Soule 20-0-0

Ambulance Chief: Bonnie Donzella 15-0-5

Assistant Ambulance Chief: Jill Scholsohn 16-0-3

Captain: John Russell 17-0-3

Captain: Audra Petrone 15-0-5

Lieutenant: Ed Matson 15-0-5

Lieutenant: Sean Dingee 16-0-4

Secretary: Cathe Mazza 20-0-0

Treasurer: Mike Petrone 16-0-4

Engineer: John Christen 12-0-8

Chief's Report: a summary report of fires and alarms was shared. 15 calls in December. Generator work postponed. Tower ladder test failed and then passed on re-test.

Line Officers: no report

Ambulance Chief - Mary Ann, V. reported there were 35 ambulance calls in December. 344 for 2020. The new rig is close to being in service. Discussion and review about staffing.

E. Epstein made a **motion to approve the EMS outside staff hiring policy.** 2nd B. Donzella. Discussion. T. Limbos made a motion to table the motion in order to clean up the language. 2nd J. Russell. Discussion and a point of order was made concerning motions being made and seconded. The President did not acknowledge the motion to table and instructed membership to disregard. Voting Yea: M. Petrone, J. Russell, A. Gawel, M. VanValkenburg, J. Scholsohn, E. Epstein, W. Soule, B. Donzella, C. Rochovansky. Voting Nay: J. Speck Abstentions: A. Petrone, G. Hock. **Motion carried.**

Appointed Position Reports: no report

#### Committee Reports

There was a report by the ambulance fund.

Juniors: no report

Expenditure Warnings; A) The President said the boat is in the works-we have purchased it and it's being assembled. B) The technology officer warned for tech purchases. C) Gary Hock warned for costs associated with Tower 1.

Meeting adjourned at 22:02 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Catherine Mazza  
Secretary  
Kent Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

NEXT MEETING:

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE:

Chair:

Members:

*These are draft minutes and corrections may be made by the Kent Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. membership at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for possible corrections and approval of these minutes.*

**CATHE MAZZA**

SECRETARY

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