

## EAST BLOOMFFIELD-HOLCOMB FIRE DISTRICT

### MINUTES HIGHLIGHTS

#### District History for 1986-2008

In the year 1986 the commissioners and the officers of the board remained the same. The budget for this year was set at \$74,660. The big issue that affected the firefighters was the restrictions placed on them with the restrictions not washing the cars and repairing their vehicles in the firehouse. These were instituted because the truck bays were being left dirty, lights left on, doors unlocked and individuals were working on their vehicles alone. This was a concern of the commissioners. The commissioners were continuing to renovate the building and add new doors to the truck bay. Updating and maintaining of fire equipment was also a continued priority. A continuing concern was the operation of the phone system. Dry hydrant systems were installed in 4 locations throughout the fire district. In reading the minutes for 1986 indicated that the commissioners spend a lot of time and money working to maintain the equipment and firehouse. There also was some friction between the operation of the fire commissioners and the chief's staff. John Newvine term as commissioner expired and he was thanked by the board for his dedicated service to the district.

The new commissioner elected for 1987 was Arthur Kelly. Also, a new fire chief, Robert Henderson, was approved by the board. Chief Henderson brought more structure to the department and written reports were presented to the board. The proposed budget of \$79,267.50 was a substantial increase due to the cost of insurance. The ending balance for 1986 was \$18,622.84. The equipment reserve had a balance of \$26,704.80. The commissioners were concerned about the maintenance of the fire truck and were looking into entering into a contract with a professional maintenance company. Har-Rob was hired to do the mechanical maintenance of the fire trucks. Commissioner Bennett lead a study to include the entire town of East Bloomfield in the fire district. The board decided to pursue this concept. Agreed on a one-year East Bloomfield fire protection district contract of \$28,000. The year ended with an operating fund balance of \$9862.50 and a reserve fund balance of \$43,144.72. The term of Brad Bennet concluded with the board members were very grateful for all the Brad did in the interest of the fire district, the fire department and the community.

William "Bill" Saar was the newest commissioner in 1988. The board also established a budget of \$83,050. Judy Kwarta was again appointed clerk-treasurer for the district. OSHA came in for an inspection of the facilities. The report stated that there were a number of minor corrections that needed to be addresses. The commissioners hired Brad Bennett to make the needed corrections to comply with OSHA and to do additional work for the district. The major concern with the building this year was the siren. It is getting old and needs some work. Also, the siren tower was causing the roof to leak into the building. The commissioners established a committee to investigate the purchase of a

new tanker-pumper. The front of the firehouse was planned to be refaced with brick. A budget of \$84,100 was set for 1989. The fire chief-staff was directed to conduct an inventory of all the fire equipment on the trucks and in the firehouse.

The commissioners again spent much of the year working to refurbish the firehouse, repair the trucks and purchase equipment. Approved a 3-year agreement with the Town of Canandaigua Fire Protection District. Also, a new contract with the East Bloomfield fire Protection District was approved. The district and the chief staff decided to install a "quick-dump" on T-741, the yellow tanker. In December, Mike MacMillan was re-elected to the board and Andy Ventura resigned from the board.

This year 1989 started out with a vacancy on the Board of Fire Commissioners that was filled with the appointment of Rick Rayburn and a new fire chief, Mike Slusser. The building maintenance issue for this year was the gas heating system that is used in the truck bays. They are in need of major repair or replacement. The cost to repair and replace was \$12,000. The siren tower was finally repaired, flashed and painted. A budget of \$96,700 was approved for 1990 and agreed to service the East Bloomfield fire protection district for \$34,300. Installed a flagpole in front of the firehouse. In September, Art Kelley resigned from the board due to health reasons. Clerk-treasurer, Judy Kwarta resigned from the position.

The decade of the '90's started of with the Board of Fire Commissioners consisting of Steve Murnan, who was selected Chair, Mike MacMillan, Rick Rayburn, Bill Saar and Richard Waters. Marlene Murnan was appointed clerk-treasurer and Judy Kwarta was appointed deputy clerk. Mike Slusser was the fire chief. The district was still waiting on the state legislature to approve the enlargement of the fire district but eventually found out that it was on the desk for the town's lawyer waiting to be sent to Albany. In February of 1990 the commissioners voted to establish a committee to purchase a new truck. The board showed interest in purchasing some additional land to the north and west of the existing building. The Hawkins brothers were contacted, and were willing to sell and the commissioners started the process. The budget for 1991 was set at \$121,150. During the year the board spent much time working of minor repairs of the building, the purchase of land, working with the chief to establish standard operating procedures (SOP'S) for the improved structure of the department and the district.

The administration of the District did not change for 1991. The district voted to purchase a computer for \$2400 to move into the computer age. In late summer the commissioners were informed that the Emergency squad purchased a new ambulance. In the fall the commissioners decided to purchase the Hawkins property next to the firehouse. Set the 1992 budget at \$121,150. Decided to send out bids for the purchase a new fire truck. The board decided to purchase the new fire truck from Pierce Fire Apparatus for \$180,359. As in previous years the commissioners were very busy this year working to provide proper equipment for the fire personnel, maintaining the equipment and providing gear for the volunteers.

Steve Murnan was again elected chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners in 1992 with Marlene Murnan appointed clerk-treasurer. The district was also informed about the re-construction of Main Street and expressed their concerns of the project. The district

received a check from FEMA for the 1990 ice storm for \$13,067. A rescue tool, the jaws, was approved by the board to be used primarily for extrication at a cost of \$6200. The board was involved in renovation of the fireman's lounge for \$11,500 and the installation of a flag pole for \$400. The board also voted to have the new truck called E-712 and that the name on the truck have the work district on the truck. There was much objection to this proposal and after a reconsideration vote, the board change the name to the East Bloomfield-Holcomb Fire Department. With the purchase of the new diesel fueled truck the commissioners requested from the town permission to purchase fuel from the town barns. The town approved. The board also adopted a procurement policy as requested by the state. With the purchase of the new truck the board asked the fire chiefs their opinion on which truck should be sold. The chiefs reported that they would like to sell 2 trucks, a tanker-pumper 711 and the tanker 741. They also suggested that a new tanker be purchased. At this time the board voted to sell E-711 the tanker-pumper for \$40,000. The new fire truck was received in late November and put into service in at the end of December. The budget for 1993 was set at \$129,550.

The year 1993 started with the Steve Murnan elected and chairman and Marlene Murnan appointed as clerk-treasurer. Mike Woodruff was elected commissioner replacing Bill Saar. Jim Burgess was the elected as fire chief by the department and approved by the commissioners. A committee was created to look into the purchase of a new tanker with a price of \$8000 for the existing tanker. The board voted to purchase the land from the Hawkins brothers for a price of \$65,000. A quick dump was installed on the tanker-pumper, E-711. The tanker-pumper and the tanker were sold to Panama City Fire Apparatus for a total of \$35,000. The truck committee has requested bid on a 2,000-gallon tanker. The Churchville Fire Equipment Company was awarded the bid for the new tanker at the price of \$117,390. Offered a one-year contract to the Town of Canandaigua to cover the fire protection district for \$12,287. Voted to keep the same budget as in the previous year of \$129,550. The fire department and the fire commissioners were in a disagreement over insurance on the ambulance. The commissioners wanted for the department to pay 50% of the cost of the insurance on the ambulances. The department requested that the commissioners pay the department \$3500 a year to cover the district and fire protection district. The final agreement was to keep the status quo on this topic.

Mike MacMillan was re-elected to the board of fire commissioners for a 5-year term starting in 1994. Along with commissioners Steve Murnan, Rick Rayburn, Mike Woodruff, and Richard Watters. The board appointed Lisa Lawson as clerk/treasurer for this year with a salary of \$1750. In May, Lisa Lawson resigned and Linda Reynolds was appointed to the position. Lisa Lawson was appointed deputy clerk/treasurer. Jim Burgess was the chief for this year. The chief's squad was questioning the use of our phone system since the county was installing a 9-1-1 system. The board said that they would investigate the new system. After much discussion and research of the law, it is up to the chief's discretion, as long as the board has been informed for a fireman can participate in fire department activities. With the reconstruction of Main Street, the board was involved in the proposed plans for the road and right of way in front of the firehouse. The new tanker, was delivered in March of this year. The reconstruction of Main St. motivated the district to renovate the front of the building and to refurbish the inside of the meeting room. The commissioners finally agreed to purchase the land to the west of the firehouse from the

Hawkins' brothers for \$65,000. A special election to purchase the property passed with a vote of 22 yes and 6 no votes. The district took over the building on July 1, 1995. We in discussion with the Town of Canandaigua the ambulance contract with the town. Set the contract with Canandaigua at \$12,558. Adopted a budget for 1995 at \$132,400. The commissioners were involved with the Main St. project, new equipment, truck repairs and building upgrades as well as personnel issues.

After a year of many changes in the village, town and fire district there was hope that things would settle down. Jerry Whitney was elected to the board after Rick Rayburn decided not to run for re-election and Brad Bennett was the chief of the department. Steve Murnan remained chairperson and Linda Reynolds was re-appointed clerk/treasurer. The county was moving toward the installation of a 9-1-1 system which brought much discussion among the district personnel about abandoning the phone system and moving to this new system. In June the commissioners voted to move to the 9-1-1 system operated by the county. All dispatching of fire and ambulance calls will be sent out over the pager system. In 1990 the towns of Victor, East Bloomfield and West Bloomfield purchased what is now called Boughton Park. Since it is located in the town of East Bloomfield it was the responsibility of the fire district to provide emergency services. Equipment was stored in a secure building on the property. The building was broken into and the department and district requested the Boughton Park Commission to purchase a trailer that would be stored at the fire house to preserve the equipment. The district proposed to pay for half of the cost with the commission. The commission voted to purchase the trailer. A new siren and control panel discussed. This topic was put on hold due to the cost. The final decision was to keep the siren and to repair the roof where the siren is presently located. Approved a budget of \$136,350 for 1996.

Barbara Thorpe was elected to the Board of Fire Commissioners starting her term in 1996. She is the first female elected as a fire commissioner. Mike Woodruff was elected chairperson of the board. Returning to the board were commissioners Jerry Whitney, Dick Watters, and Mike MacMillan who was appointed Vice-chairman. Bill Saar was returned to the position as fire chief elected by the membership and approved by the commissioners. Steve Murnan decided not to run for another term on the board. Linda Reynolds was once again appointed clerk/treasurer at a salary of \$2145. Chairman Woodruff formed a committee to study the future of a new fire truck. An OSHA inspection was once again completed with the district passing with flying colors. The only concern was that a washing machine was needed to wash gear. In April Jerry Whitney resigned his position as commissioner. Brad Bennett was appointed to fill the vacancy. The major items for the board this year was the repair of the siren for a second time, repair of the asphalt in the parking lot and the grading of the new lot the help of the workers from the Department of corrections of Ontario County. The approved budget for 1997 was set at \$140,200. The truck committee recommended the purchase of a 1997 class A pumper that is able to pump 1250 gallons per minute. The commissions voted spend up to \$245,000 on the new truck.

In 1997, Robert Henderson was elected a fire commissioner replacing Richard Watters. Mike Woodruff was again elected as chairperson and Linda Reynolds was appointed clerk/treasurer. She resigned in February and April Wade was appointed for that position. In February, Chief Bill Saar became seriously ill and Assistant Chief Rick Rayburn will be taking of the duties until Bill is able to resume his duties. Churchville Fire Equipment was awarded the bid for the new Pierce fire truck replacing E-731. The district was requesting \$5,000 for the old truck. Unable to sell the 1968 fire truck, the commissioners decided to sell the truck to the Potter Fire Department for \$1.00. The commissioners worked to establish a 5 and a 10-year plan discussing building and ground and fire equipment. The commissioners were approached by West Bloomfield officials requesting that the East Bloomfield ambulance cover that town when their ambulance is unable to do so. Our department is also having a difficult time cover East Bloomfield due to the lack of volunteer especially during the day time hours. Established that the budget for 1998 will be \$124,527. After a number of years of discussion and planning a washing machine was installed in the firehouse to was the gear. This year was very challenging for the commissioners due to the fact that the fire trucks needed much repair. The Canandaigua fire department offered to loan the district is needed. Working with Churchville Fire Equipment the commissioners were able to schedule the needed repairs to keep our fleet well equipped.

Barb Thorpe, Bill Saar, Bob Henderson, Mike MacMillan and Brad Bennett were the members of the Board of Fire Commissioners for the year 1998. Brad Bennett was elected chairman and April Wade was appointed clerk-treasurer. Brain Rayburn was the chief of the fire department. It was reported that BR-751, the brush truck, made 3 trips to S t. Lawrence County to assist them during the time of **the ice storm**. The commissioners put a "lock-box" on one truck and were considering putting them on the remaining trucks. The commissioners had constructed a "community sign" in front of the firehouse to be used by the district and department. In the spring the commissioner lost a Bill Saar. A long-time member of the fire department, chief and commissioner. This position was filled by Martin Neenan . The majority of the year was spent on insurance, truck maintenance, equipment purchases, computers and building and grounds maintenance. The board concentrated in updating and upgrading the districts equipment and facilities.

The Board of Fire Commissioners remained the same as the previous year for the year 1999. The board voted to investigate the purchase of a mini-pumper. A new gas-powered generator was purchased for the building and the mini-pumper, a 1979 dodge, was purchased from the Richmond Fire District for \$12,500. They also voted to sell the Van, truck 771. It was sold for \$3625 to Hibbs Contracting.

Chief Brian Rayburn worked during the year to have dry-hydrants installed in strategic sites throughout the district. Bids for snow plowing the firehouse and town hall were awarded to Bob McCombs excavating at a bid of \$100 per trip.

In the year 2000, the board remained the same as the previous years. This year was similar to the past. A lot of truck and building maintenance. The town requested to purchase dome land in back of the building to construct a handicapped ramp. The commissions worked with the town and sold them the land requested. A Hurst tool was also purchased

for \$9346. With complaints from neighbors the siren was turned off from 10 P. M. to 6 A. M. The board also landscaped and paved the land in back of the firehouse that was acquired a few year ago. The minutes indicate that there was discussion about the establishment of a 5- and 10-year plan for all district property. No indication that such a plan was developed. The work for the year Brian Rayburn was chief revolved around the chief's report. Much was done to maintain the firetrucks, prove proper equipment for the firefighters. The commissioners also sent time improving the interior and exterior of the building.

The official start of the 21<sup>st</sup> century began like the 20<sup>th</sup> century ended. The Board of fire commissions officials were the same. The change was occurred with Brian Bernard being elected fire chief. Mike MacMillan resigned his position as a commissioner. He was replaced by Kyle Marianacci. In the April the minutes, Bill Compton attended the meeting to discuss the possibility of revamping the existing or constructing a new firehouse. This is the first indication that individuals were looking at a new firehouse. A committee was established study the possibility or renovating the existing firehouse. As in the past, maintenance of the fire trucks and the building was the main order of business during 2001.

Martin VanBuren was elected chief of the department for 2002 with the fire commissioners being Brad Bennett, Barb Thorpe, Bob Henderson, Marty Neenan and Kyle Marianacci. The chief's staff and t commissioners started a conversation as to which truck, the brush or the mini, they would like to replace. Also, discussion was held on construction of a new building. The district supported the fire department emergency squad in the investigation of forming a fire district. The contract with the Town of Canandaigua was altered by the fire district to remove the emergency squad from covering the Canandaigua Fire Protection District in 2003. The district will still cover the fire protection district. The fire department through the assistance of Tim Wixom received a \$17982 grant for the purchase of six MSA packs and a thermal imaging camera. The district voted to contribute 10% matching funds required by the grant. The proposed budget for 2003 was set at \$17,954. Bill Compton and Kyle Marianacci made a presentation on a proposal for a new firehouse. The board tabled the new building idea until they were able to figure out how much money they can afford for a new building.

The East Bloomfield-Holcomb Fire District started the year 2003 With Brian Bernard replacing Marty Neenan on the board and Tim Wixom as the elected fire chief for the fire department. Brad Bennett was elected chairperson and April Wade was appointed clerk with a salary of \$2769. The commissioners entered in discussion and established a committee to replace the mini-pumper, 752. Their main concern was the possible change in the ISO rating. The commissioners started discussion with a financial advisor and the search for an architect regarding the financing and building of a new firehouse. The budget for 2004 was increased by 3% to be set at \$ 176,083. The board continued to provide equipment for the fire department and maintenance on the building. This year the board emphasized training for the fire personnel on the equipment that is owned by the district.

The officials of the fire district remained the same in 2004 as they were in 2003. Approved the

Town of Canandaigua Fire protection District contract for \$28,000 for 2005. The board established a budget for the next year at \$181,365. The year 2004 appeared to be a very quiet year. The district did do due diligence in maintaining the building and equipment. They spend much of the year planning for the purchase of a new fire truck and planning for the construction of a new fire house. The term of Robert "Dobber" Henderson ended in December and he decided not to run for re-election.

Mike Woodruff was elected to the position of fire commissioner for a 5-year term. Richard Watters was elected as chief of the Fire Department for the year 2005. Brad Bennett remained chairman of the board and April Wade was appointed clerk-treasurer. The commissioners received a report from the building committee stating that renovations to the fire house would cost about \$300,000. Another possibility was that the district, town and village could possibly build a complex together at the north east corner in the downtown. The board signed a contract with Rosenbauer Firefighting Technology for the new mini-pumper. A 5-year and a 10-year plan for the purchase of fire trucks was prepared up to the year 2012. Had to deal with complaints from district residents that the fire siren was working again. The mini-pumper, was sold at bid for \$2500. The 2006 budget was set at \$186,086, a 3 % increase. The board also halted and dissolved the committee that was studying the new firehouse. Barbara Thorpe, the first female fire commissioner, finished her term and decided not to run for a new term. Michelle MacMillan was elected to a 5-year term.

Once again, for the year 2006, Brad Bennett was elected chairman of the board and April Wade was appointed secretary-treasurer at a salary of \$3100. Brian Bernard, Kyle Marianacci, Mike Woodruff and Michelle MacMillan were the commissioners. Richard "Dickie" Watters was the chief of the fire department. In January, a discussion of using the existing building and the construction of a new building on the existing site surfaced. Commissioner Marianacci was asked to obtain some ideas and prices for this idea. The idea of construction of a Morton building was presented. It was suggested that the building be a pre-engineered building linked to the existing firehouse structure. The board was also looking at replacing the tanker-pumper, TP-712. The bid for a new truck was awarded to Churchville Fire Equipment at a cost of \$366,867. The department was also looking at replacing the brush truck, BR-751 up to \$26,000. The commissioners ordered a F350 truck from Van Bortel Ford at a cost of \$24,847.46. The commissioners will buy the truck and the department will reimburse the district. The district bought a skid tank for the new brush truck. The old brush truck was sold for \$3,400. The budget for 2007 was set at \$194,278, an increase of 4 %. The year 2006 was a very busy year for the board as they were worked on purchasing 2 trucks and were planning on the construction of a new building. At the end of the year Commissioner Bennett's term ended and was replaced by Patrick Thorpe.

Mike Woodruff was elected as chairperson of the Board of Fire Commissioners for 2007 with April Wade appointed as secretary-treasurer with a salary of \$3193. The other commissioners were Brian Bernard, Kyle Marianacci, Michelle MacMillan and Patrick Thorpe. Willian "Bill" Smith was elected fire chief by the fire department. The proposed fire house additions met opposition from a number of organizations within the community.

The board decided to put the project on hold and study its options. The construction of this building was a concern of the residents of the community. The board worked with the community to address their concerns. This project turned out to be more complex and more difficult than originally thought. In August, Commissioner Woodruff resigned from the position because it was ruled by the state that his position of code enforcement officer and fire commissioner was a conflict of interest and he could not hold the 2 positions at the same time. Kyle Marianacci was elected chairperson of the board. The board appointed Dennis Herrington as the new commissioner. The new fire truck was commissioned in the spring of 2007. It took almost 6 months to sell the old firetruck. The estimated value of the 1992 Pierce Dash fire truck was \$75,000. It was finally sold after numerous bids, counter-bids and negotiations for \$45,000 to Gillis LeBlanc of Canada. For years the district was providing insurance on the ambulances. The District attorney, Jared Lusk, brought to the attention of the board that this was illegal. This raised another issue to be resolved by the board. The board was also paying the chiefs for some expenses relating to use of their own vehicles for fire calls. This also was determined to be illegal. Both issues ended the year unresolved. This was a very tumultuous year for the district. Buying and selling trucks, planning for a new firehouse, hiring consultants, concerns from the community, resignations, new regulations from the state relating to budgets and public hearings. Let alone keeping up with the maintenance of the building and the equipment.

The year 2008 was hoped to have the topic of the new firehouse would settle down with community concerns. Jeremy James and Jack Herrington were elected to the board of fire commissioners. April Wade was appointed secretary-treasurer and Kyle Marianacci was re-elected chairperson. The other officials were Michelle MacMillan, and Patrick Thorpe. The elected fire chief was Derrick Legters. In March April Wade resigned as the district secretary-treasurer. After a search the board appointed Becky Wilkins to that position. The board's building committee continued to work on plans for a new building. They solicited input from the department membership and the community. A proposal of ideas relating to the information gathered was proposed. The board decided to hire an architect to advance the ideas presented. The records indicate that the fire chief and the mayor met to discuss pandemic issues in relationship to H1N1 flu pandemic. Once again, the ownership, insurance and maintenance of the ambulances was discussed. The board appeared to be sympathetic to taking over the ambulances. The issue was to do it legally. This kept the cost of insurance would have to be paid for by the fire department emergency squad. Jeremy James resigned his position on the board in November. Bill Compton was appointed to fill this position. Besides maintenance of equipment and the building additional items were a concern. The siren stopped working, the selling of the old firetruck, the Diamond-T, insurance, audits, budgets, personnel items and the plans for a new building kept this a very busy year.