

TAGHKANIC FIRE DISTRICT
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Annual Organizational Meeting

Date: Tuesday, January 7, 2025

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Taghkanic Fire House, 631 Old Route 82, Taghkanic, NY

Organizational Meeting

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:31 by Abbie Hodgson, commissioner and temporary chair.

- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

- III. **Roll Call:** A quorum of three or more members was present.
 - Jeff Browne – present (via video conferencing)
 - Abbie Hodgson – present
 - Vinnie Kobos – present
 - Scott Marinoff – present
 - Andrew Soltano – present

Carmen Nero, treasurer, Bill Hilscher, chief, and Art Griffith, company director, were also in attendance.

IV. Elections and Appointments

- a. **Election of Chair:** Scott nominated Andrew Soltano as chair of the commission. The motion was seconded by Vinnie. Passed unanimously.

- b. **Appointment of Secretary:** Jeff nominated Abbie Hodgson as acting secretary. The motion was seconded by Scott. Passed unanimously.

- c. **Appointment of Treasurer:** Jeff nominated Carmen Nero as treasurer. The motion was seconded by Vinnie.

- d. **Approve Treasurer's Undertaking:** Abbie moved the item be tabled until the next meeting to allow district to obtain necessary insurance and for attorney to review. The motion was seconded by Scott. Motion tabled.

- e. **Appointment of Attorney:** Abbie nominated Terrance Hannigan, Hannigan Law Firm, at rate of \$355/hour partner and \$125/hour paralegal (est. \$5,000-\$7,000 in fees for year one). The motion was seconded by Scott. Passed unanimously.

TAGHKANIC FIRE DISTRICT
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Annual Organizational Meeting

- f. **Appointment of Accountant:** Abbie nominated Mike Bucci of UHY. The motion was seconded by Scott. Passed unanimously.
 - i. Abbie will follow up and get letter of engagement from Mike.

- g. **Approve Appointment of Firematic Officers and Company Membership:** Jeff moved the approval of firematic officers and company membership (see Attachment A). The motion was seconded by Scott. Passed unanimously.

V. Other Organizational Actions

- a. **Designate a newspaper for notices:** Abbie moved the adoption of the Register Star as newspaper of record. The motion was seconded by Scott. Passed unanimously.
- b. **Set 2025 Meeting Schedule:** Abbie moved the adoption of the 2025 meeting schedule (see Attachment B). The motion was seconded by Scott. Passed unanimously.
- c. **Designate fire district depositories and authorized signatories:** Abbie made a motion to designate the Bank of Greene County as district depository and the authorization of Andrew Soltano, Chair, and Carmen Nero, Treasurer, as signatories. The motion was seconded by Scott. Passed unanimously.
- d. **Approve Voucher Form:** Abbie made a motion to approve the adoption of a voucher form (see Attachment C). The motion was seconded by Scott. Passed unanimously.
- e. **Authorize Travel Rates**
 - i. Abbie made a motion to adopt travel rates equal to State of New York, which are \$59-79/day for per diem (based on location) and mileage at \$0.70/mile. The motion was seconded by Scott. Passed unanimously.
- f. **Establish Petty Cash Fund:** Abbie made a motion establish of a petty cash fund, with a maximum limit of \$250, to be maintained by the treasurer, who will submit a report at each monthly meeting. After a discussion, the motion was withdrawn.
- g. **Establish Lease with Fire Company:** Abbie made a motion to table the item until next meeting to allow attorney to draft lease. The motion was seconded by Vinnie. Motion tabled.

TAGHKANIC FIRE DISTRICT
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Annual Organizational Meeting

- h. Salary of Secretary and Treasurer:** Scott moved to pay the secretary and treasurer each a retainer \$500/month (\$6,000/year). The motion was seconded by Vinnie. Passed unanimously.
 - i. Abbie to follow up with attorney: employee (payroll) or independent contractor (1099)?

- i. Adopt policies and rules, and regulations:** Abbie moved the adoption of policies (see Attachment C) with the following policies Procurement (200.3), Investment (200.6), and Leave of Absence (200.8) to be tabled until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Scott. Passed unanimously.

Regular Meeting

I. Reports

a. Treasurer's Report

- i. Approval of Current Month's Invoices – None
- ii. FEIN obtained. To setup bank account and transfer funds from company.
 - 1. Abbie to follow up with attorney about drafting loan document.

b. Secretary's Report

- i. Scott filed annual claims report and annual interior roster (ESOB 210.8c/210.8r) with the NYS Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services on Dec. 6, 2024.
- ii. Abbie filed annual proof of benefits form (ESOB Form 201.5) for enhance cancer coverage with OFPC on January 6, 2025.
- iii. Need to file a summary of previous year's injury log (PESH Form SH900.1) by Feb. 1 and post until April 30.
 - 1. None
- iv. Treasurer must submit 2% report to OSC by Feb. 28.
- v. Feb. 28 is also the last day for AHJ to review Partial Tax Exemption rolls and notify assessor of any changes in eligible enrolled members (per Real Property Tax Law 466-a).
 - 1. Need to add Scott/Vinnie (Churchtown).
- vi. 2025 Calendar (Attachment E)

c. Chief's Report

- i. Drills: will drill 12x/year with Ancram.
- ii. OSHA Training: need to schedule with Melissa.

TAGHKANIC FIRE DISTRICT
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Annual Organizational Meeting

- iii. Cancer coverage: currently 20 ff covered with basic; company voted previously to move to enhanced (\$50/person). Was not implemented.
- iv. LOSAP: processing to continue as is for 2025.
- v. Met with a surveyor at station 2 to discuss bay addition. Potential grant money available from state.

II. Old Business: none

III. New Business

- a. **Insurance:** Stacy will attend February meeting (policy renews in March).
- b. **Cancer Coverage:** Scott moved to extended cancer coverage through the county from basic to enhanced at a cost of \$50/person. Abbie seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.
 - i. Chief to follow up with county.
- c. **Website:** Scott will determine what domains are available. Abbie will help with content.

IV. Public Comment

- a. **Art Griffin:** Previously used Finger Insurance before transition to Marshal Sterling. Short-term rentals will negatively affect town funding.

V. Executive Session: The board entered an executive session to address a medical issue.

VI. Adjourn

- a. Vinnie made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Scott. Passed unanimously.
 - i. Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 5 at 7:30

TAGHKANIC FIRE DISTRICT
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Annual Organizational Meeting

Attachment A: Company Appointments

I. Firematic Officers

- a. Chief: Bill Hilscher
- b. Car 2: Donald Coons, Jr.
- c. Car 3: Dennis Callahan

II. Membership

- 1. Carmine Aufiero
- 2. Salvatore Aufiero
- 3. Salvatore Aufiero Jr
- 4. Jeffrey Browne
- 5. Michael Burgazoli
- 6. Nick Burgazoli
- 7. Dennis Callahan
- 8. Riley Clark
- 9. Donald Coons Jr.
- 10. Donald Coons Sr.
- 11. Jake Corcoran
- 12. Russell Corcoran
- 13. Art Griffin
- 14. CorDel Hall
- 15. William Hilscher
- 16. Abbie Hodgson
- 17. Larry Kadish
- 18. Vincent Kobos
- 19. David Koehler
- 20. Tony LaSalvia
- 21. Scott Marinoff
- 22. Arthur McGuire
- 23. Dwight Morss
- 24. Carmen Nero
- 25. Paul Nostrand
- 26. Andrew Soltano
- 27. Erin Soltano
- 28. Kali Soltano
- 29. Sue Soltano
- 30. Steve Seufrow
- 31. Preston Stoner

TAGHKANIC FIRE DISTRICT
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Annual Organizational Meeting

Attachment B: 2025 Meeting Dates

Location: Taghkanic Fire House, 631 Old Route 82

Time: 7:30 PM

Organizational Meeting:

- Tuesday, January 7

Regular Meetings:

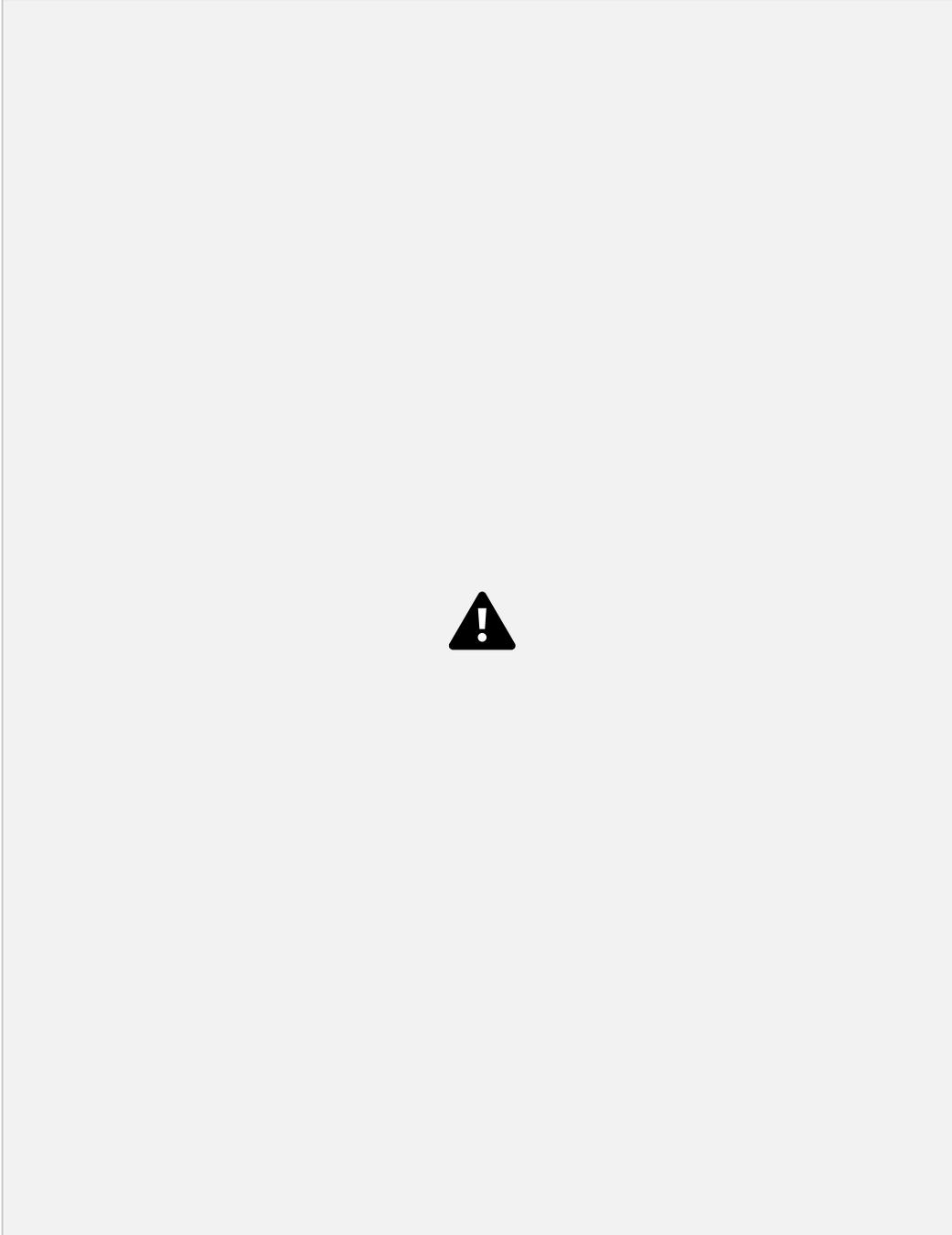
- Wednesday, February 5
- Wednesday, March 5
- Wednesday, April 2
- Wednesday, May 7
- Tuesday, June 3
- Tuesday, July 1
- Tuesday, August 5
- Tuesday, September 2
- Tuesday, October 7
- Tuesday, November 4
- Tuesday, December 2

Special Meetings:

- Tuesday, October 21 – Budget Hearing
- Tuesday, December 9 – Annual Election of Commissioners

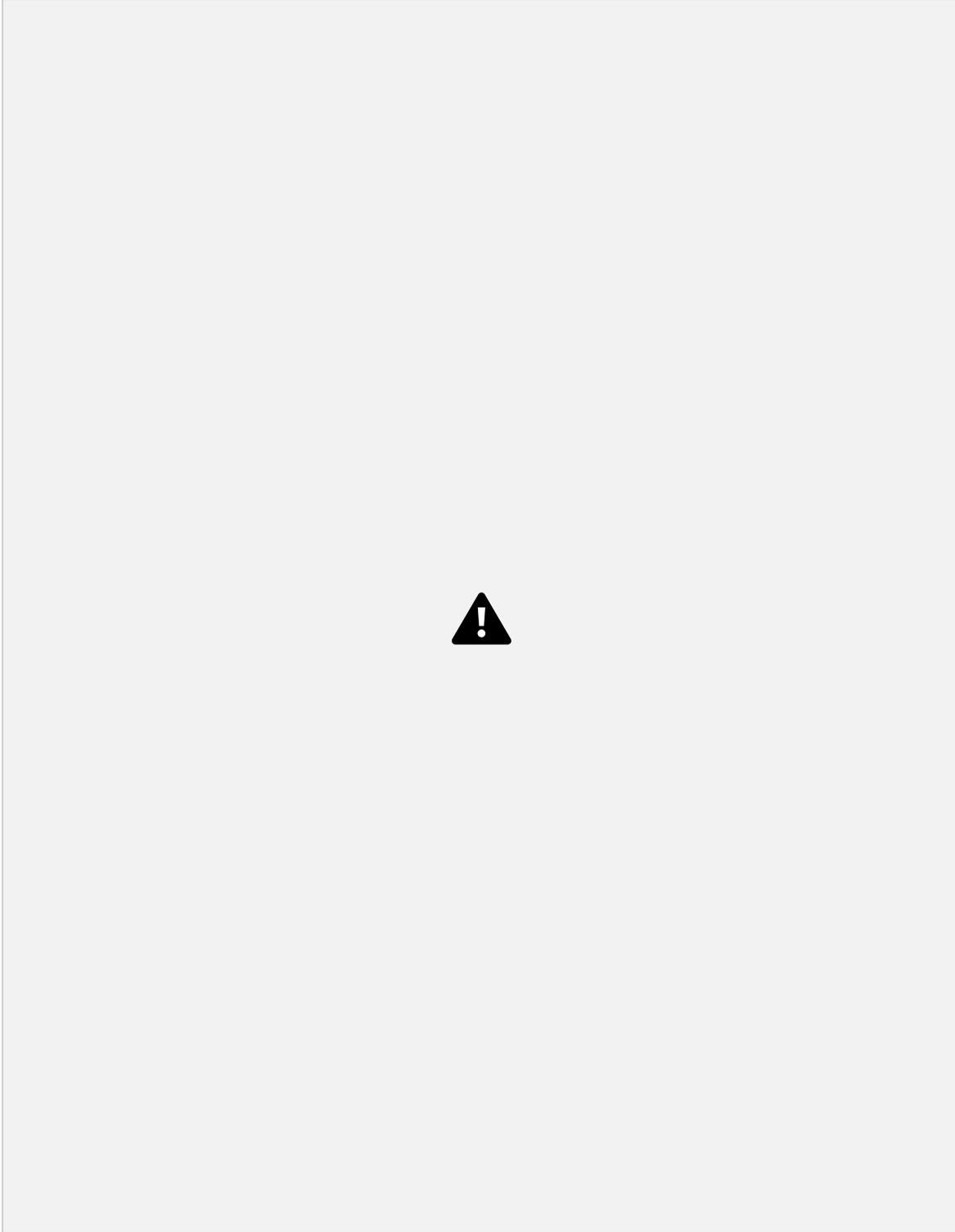
TAGHKANIC FIRE DISTRICT
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Annual Organizational Meeting

Attachment C: Voucher Form



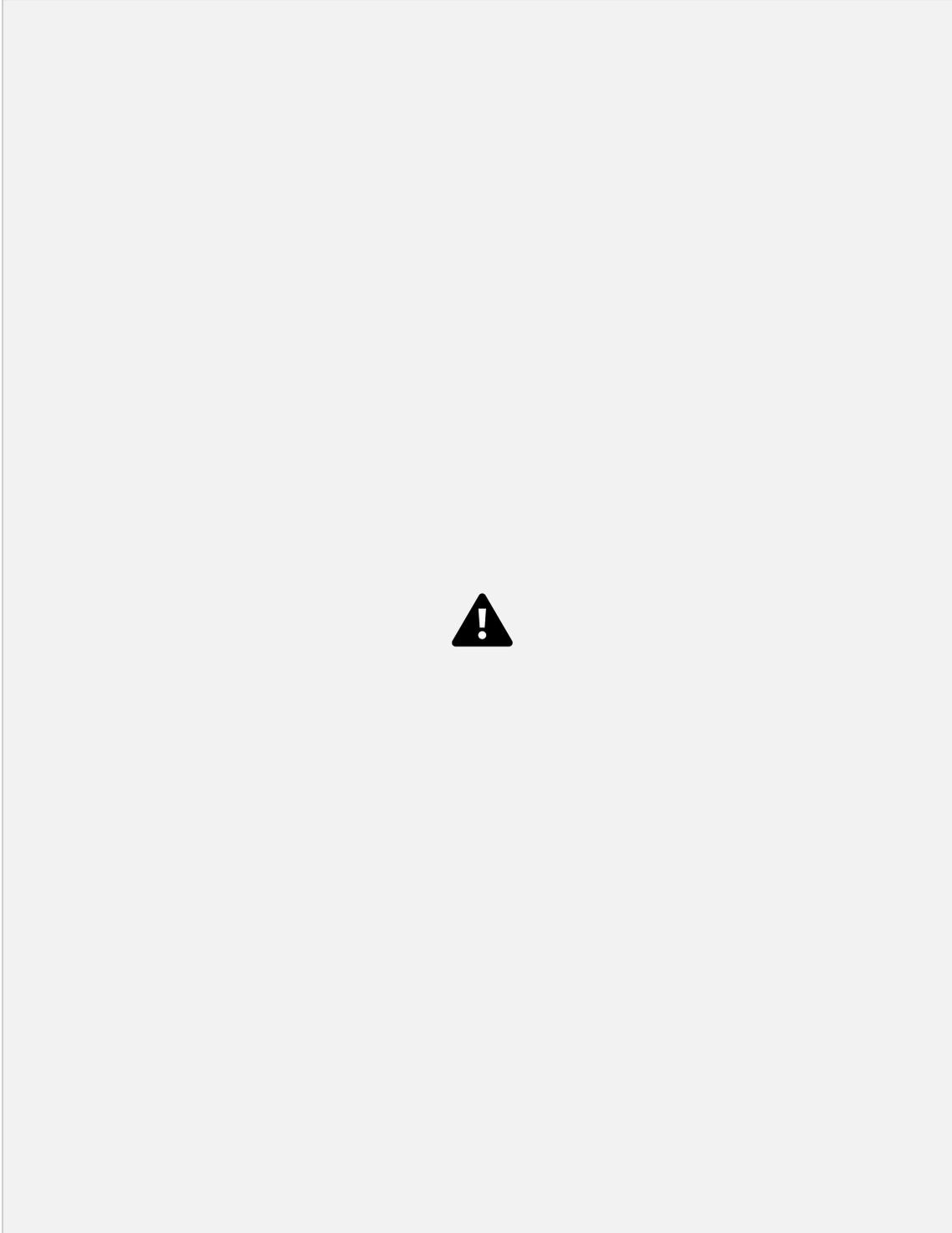
TAGHKANIC FIRE DISTRICT
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Annual Organizational Meeting

Attachment D: Policies and Rules and Regulations



TAGHKANIC FIRE DISTRICT
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Annual Organizational Meeting

Attachment E: 2025 Calendar



TAGHKANIC FIRE DISTRICT
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Annual Organizational Meeting

