



Ester Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

Annual General Membership Meeting

Oct. 6, 2024

- I. Call to Order: 1600 hours
- II. Roll Call/Quorum – Quorum met. People present:
 - A. Chief Jeffery Conner and Office Manager Mimi Hill
 - B. Board Members: President Syrilyn Tong, VP Karyn Holder, Treasurer Carol Meyer, Directors Katrina Lehse, Sarah Albers and Barb O'Donnell. Secretary Dan Weatherly excused.
 - C. Ester Fire Service District Commissioners: Charlie Gallagher
 - D. Public: Bob Groves, Jenny Brown, Kay Sisson, Mike Musick, Ritchie Musick, Kathy Nava, Eli Sonafrank, Jeremiah George, Hunter Goff, Shaylee Schooler, Diana Lingle and Aditr Shenay.
- III. Approval of Agenda: Charlie Gallagher wanted to add a few comments. Approved by unanimous consent thereafter.
- IV. Reports
 - A. Office Manager Hill gave a status of the current accounts
 - B. Chief Conner gave a synopsis of last year's highlights. Mike Musick asked if the fire fighters are trained in electric vehicle fires. Conner stated that we do need more in that regard.
 - C. Board President Tong introduced the Board of Directors and the role that the Board has over the Fire Chief and EVFD
 - D. Commissioner Charlie Gallagher spoke briefly about the large turnover of personnel on the commission
 - E. Solar Committee – Tong summed up the year's issues with trying to get solar at EVFD – the main issue is that the Borough owns the building and will want to engineer the project to their specs. RES (the solar contractor) has estimated cost of the panels to be \$100,000. Will the roof support the weight? The site at Deraco Street is too remote and prone to vandalism. The RES sun estimate was for Peger and Airport, not at EVFD, and the amount of sun is probably less.
 - F. Fund raising Committee – Tong summed up the year's activities. We looked into a mailing for the plaque project, but the cost was prohibitive. Possibly post cards in

the future. For now, the plaque project's costs are detailed in a pamphlet. We also looked into joining Lotto Alaska, with a possible payout of \$50,000.

V. Old Business –

- A. Annexation – Tong outlined the Park's Highway annexation issue – EVFD currently responds as a mutual aid, but we wanted to annex the properties adjacent the Highway, however the Borough wanted the Board to do all the legwork and then the Borough would take all of the revenue. The Board voted this down and the Chief stated that no one at the Borough appears to want to support this, thus the proposal is done.
- B. Expansion of Chief's evaluation criteria – Tong stated that the only other item of note was expanding the Fire Chief's evaluation criteria from 3 to 5 categories.

VI New Business – 3 Board members wished to resign (O'Donnell, Lehse and Weatherly), and 2 Board Members needed to be re-voted back in (Tong and Albers). O'Donnell thanked Conner, Hill and others for jobs well done. Ritchie Musick and Eli Sonafrank both gave short biographies and Tong read a short biography on Bill "Rocky" Rockwell, then explained the voting process, then the voting ensued. Tong and Albers were re-voted in, while Musick, Sonafrank and Rockwell were voted in as new directors.

VII Conclusion: The meeting concluded at 1722 hours.