

18 Eagle Lane
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
October 20, 2008

John Anspach, Chairman
Board of Fire Commissioners
Fairview Fire District
258 Violet Avenue
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Re: Public Budget Hearing on October 21, 2008

Dear Mr. Anspach:

I will not be able to attend the public budget hearing on October 21st, but I do have two comments on the budget. I would appreciate it if the following comments could be read by the Secretary or whomever you designate during the period of public comment.

1) The 2009 proposed budget increases payment for the Treasurer from \$27,600 to \$30,000, an increase of 8.7 %. If it is the Commissioners intent to continue to contract with Mr. Passikoff as Treasurer, I do not believe his work warrants an increase. Mr. Passikoff has made serious errors in the apportionment of taxes between the Hyde Park and Poughkeepsie sectors of the fire district, causing the Hyde Park taxpayers to pay more than their share during 5 of the last 8 years.

2) In 2008, the fire district budgeted \$20,000 for legal and accounting fees, but these items are eliminated in the 2009 proposed budget. My understanding is that this line item supports an annual audit of the fire district. I believe it is not prudent to remove this oversight of the district's fiscal activity and recommend reinstatement of funds for this purpose. I believe it is in the taxpayer's interest to fund this watchdog activity.

Sincerely,

Beverly Allyn