

**-MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
HOPEWELL BOROUGH DISTRICT NO. 1**

November 12, 2014

PRESENT: Cmsr. Morehouse
Cmsr. Anderson
Cmsr. Evans (arrived late)
Cmsr. Myers
ABSENT: Cmsr. Bovenizer

Minutes: (October 8, 2014)

On a motion made by Cmsr. Myers and seconded by Cmsr. Anderson, the minutes of October 8, 2014 were approved as presented.

Public Comment: None.

Fire Department Administration: No report.

Ladies' Auxiliary:

1. The auxiliary contributed treats and prizes to the fire department's Halloween festivities and will participate in the holiday tree lighting on December 6th and help as needed with Operation Santa.
2. Blanket sales are going well – about 130 remain.
3. Elections will at the meeting on held Dec. 4th – along with the holiday celebration.

EMU Report:

1. 22 calls in October: 15 Township, 6 Borough, 1 Pennington Borough. A number of calls were for emergency medical conditions and motor vehicle accidents. Year-to-date is 249 calls.
2. Ebola preparedness kits and equipment are arriving – a county-wide procedure for suspected cases is underway. Capital Health will transport, so local contact should be minimal.
3. EMS Charts is no longer under NJ State Contract. Local chiefs would like to stay with them, but our cost would be roughly \$1200 per year. Image Trend provides comparable software and portability. Further reports and recommendations will follow.
4. Elections will take place next month. Heather Varrasse is not seeking re-election as Chief.

Fire Chief Report

1. 24 calls in October: 13 Township, 5 Borough, 3 Pennington Borough, 2 East Amwell Twp., 1 Montgomery Twp. 14 of the calls were alarm activations.
2. Hamilton and Robbinsville switched to the trunk system as of November 1st. So far all seems to be going well. The proposed new date for implementation county-wide is December 1st.
3. The special services vehicle sustained damage while backing into the firehouse. If repair quotes warrant, a claim will be filed with the insurance company.
4. Truck maintenance and repair: 1) brush truck brakes; 2) Quint foam manifold on CAFS; 3) Rescue 52 shock absorber and fluid service.
5. A live-burn drill at the Somerset County Training Academy was well attended and informative.

Commissioner Evans arrived.

Treasurer's Report:

A copy of the treasurer's report was made available to each commissioner with a list and description of the bills to be paid. The Chief Financial Officer certified that there were sufficient unencumbered funds in the 2014 budget to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged.

1. Bills were submitted to be paid from the 2014 budget in the amount of \$33,623.05. The most significant payment is to Liberty Mutual Insurance for workers' comp. There is a question as to the amount of the invoice - Cmsr. Myers will research.
2. A quarterly tax check from the Borough was received and deposited (\$120,000.00).
3. On a motion made by Cmsr. Evans and seconded by Cmsr. Anderson, the treasurer's report was accepted and the bills proposed for payment; however, payment to Liberty Mutual will not be sent until Cmsr. Myers confirms the amount and approves release of the check. Payment of the bills passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Fire Official Report: On file

Attorney Report: None

Committee Reports: None

Other Business:

Insurance – The deposit on the 2015 workers' comp policy will be in the range of \$16,000 to \$17,000. Rates won't be known until issued by the state closer to the end of the year. VFIS anticipates a 2% premium increase for 2015, bringing the cost to roughly \$23,000. The accident and sickness policy premium will be \$6,600.

2015 Budget – Will be presented for approval at the December meeting.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the board, on a motion by Cmsr. Morehouse, seconded by Cmsr. Myers and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on December 10, 2014.