

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

June 8, 2016

PRESENT: Cmsr. Morehouse
Cmsr. Bovenizer
Cmsr. Davies
Cmsr. Evans
Cmsr. Myers

ABSENT:

Call to Order: The scheduled meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chairman Morehouse following proof of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of the meeting was given through the Annual Meeting Notice and was filed with the municipal clerk, posted at the municipal building, the board's office, and advertised in the official newspapers of the district as required by law.

Minutes:

Changes to the minutes: On the bottom of the first page, change the wording of the rent payment to rent for the firehouse, also change the part about the pagers to the total amount for the Motorola quote was \$4500 and the total amount for the G1 quote was \$5200.

On a motion by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Myers, the May 11 , 2016 open session meeting minutes were approved as corrected.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

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 previously certified that there were sufficient unencumbered funds in the 2016 budget to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged.

1. Bills were submitted to be paid from the 2016 budget of \$50,696.64 including a payment to Liberty Mutual for \$4093.50 on 5/22/16. Motioned by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Myers to pay the bills as submitted with a roll call vote.

Attorney Griswald pointed out that no contract exists between the fire company and the Board that she is aware of and Chief Novak stated he would look into the matter with the treasurer of the fire company. It could be a simple contract outlining what is paid for or reimbursed by the fire commissioners. It could be a year to year contract starting in February and going through March of the next year.

Hopewell Fire Department Administration:

The fund drive is going well. Reminders about the fund drive were sent out. Clean up of the building is in progress and the kitchen remodel will be starting later in the month. During Cruise Night, the boot drive brought in \$1010.00 in 2 hours. The fire company hired Sage Wagner to cut the lawn for a price of \$35 per month. The fire company decided that the 3rd Thursday of every month would be set aside for construction projects. There was a small electrical fire in the cooler which was stopped and extinguished by Chief Novak. It was decided that the fire company would work with Commissioner Myers to come up with a valuation for the building.

Ladies Auxiliary-

The Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting the Mercer County Ladies Auxiliary meeting on June 15, 2016 at the firehouse.

EMU Chief Report:--There were 25 calls for the month of May with 1 mutual aid call to East Amwell which turned out to be a result of miscommunication with dispatch. 3 members passed their EMT test. The refurbishment to A1522 has been delayed by the vendor. The EMU will be hosting PHTLS June 11th and 12th. This is a 2 day course provided attendees with a deeper understanding of how to treat trauma patients. So far there are 10 students signed up costing \$250 per person. Chief Morehouse is ordering new shirts for the EMU. Mark Peters and Cardiac Science donated 3 older style AED's to the fire department. One will go in the Rescue, one will go in the Quint and one will go in the Command Vehicle. There will be an article in the Hopewell Valley News regarding the donation. The ambulances are in good shape. One of the ambulances will be following the runners participating in the annual Special Olympics torch run.

Fire Chief Report:—There were 19 calls in May. Operation Head On was a success. Captain Peck and Specialist Bailey were honored at the 200 Club Luncheon for their efforts in rescuing a citizen from the fire on 21 Elm Street. Pennington Fire Company is celebrating their 125th anniversary this October and Chief Novak wants the fire department to have an excellent turn out from the Hopewell Fire Department in the parade. He is thinking of having a competition among the members to get the trucks clean in preparation. Rosenbauer came to the fire station to show a demo rescue truck to the members which is almost identical to the truck the fire company wants to purchase. There is a Firehouse Expo in Nashville, Tennessee which Chief Novak would like some members to attend. The

Expo is from October 18-22 and Chief Novak asked permission to use some training money so he could send a few members. Details would be worked out in the future regarding transportation, hotel accommodations and stipends for food. The brush truck was discussed. It is unknown if the truck is on the replacement plan. Chief Novak is looking to possibly refurbish or replace the truck as it is getting harder and harder to find parts for it for repairing. The cost to refurbish it is between \$ 70,000-\$80,000 and a replacement truck could cost as much as \$200,000. Chief Novak had the thought to not put as much down for the rescue truck and use the money for a brush truck. Chairman Morehouse asked Treasurer Evans and Commissioner Bovenizer to prepare a report to see if this is a feasible financially.

Fire Official Report: On file and a copy was provided to the Commissioners.

Committee Reports

The Local Financial Board was discussed. The commissioners do not want to miss another cycle. It was discussed that when the budget was submitted to be put on that agenda for the LFB. It was suggested to accelerate the budget process so the budget could be submitted early and therefore be on an earlier agenda. It was also suggested to reapply now and plead the case in front of the LFB. Attorney Griswald will work on this with Treasurer Evans and Commissioner Bovenizer.

There will be a representative from Lincoln Financial at the firehouse on June 14th to discuss the LOSAP program to the members of the fire company. Commissioner Davies will be at the meeting and will discuss how to recoup funds that are not vested and the process involved.

The contract with Hopewell Township Board of Fire Commissioners was discussed. The contract has to be renewed and Chairman Morehouse will be appearing in front of the Township Commissioners to discuss it on June 9th. Discussion was had about the first right of refusal for apparatus and how there is little verbiage on that in the current contract. Chairman Morehouse will bring the subject to the Township Commissioners.

The Mid Year Convention for the NJ State First Aid Council went very well. On Wednesday June 15, Hopewell will be hosting the 9th District for their monthly meeting.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the board, on a motion by Cmsr. Bovenizer and seconded by Cmsr. Davies approved the meeting adjourned at 9:02. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on July 13, 2016.

