

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

March 9, 2016

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

ABSENT: None.

Call to Order: The scheduled meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:30 pm by Commissioner 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.

Oath of Office- Attorney Griswold swore in Commissioner Morehouse and Commissioner Davies to their respective terms of office.

Assignments of Commissioners- Motioned by Commissioner Evans and seconded by Commissioner Bovenizer to have the commissioners remain in the positions they previously held. Commissioner Morehouse is the Chairman, Commissioner Myers the Vice Chairman, Commissioner Davies the Secretary, Commissioner Evans the Treasurer and Commissioner Bovenizer the Public Agency Compliance Officer. Motion was passed unanimously.

Minutes:

On a motion by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Myers, the February 10 , 2016 open session meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

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 encumbered funds in the 2015 budget and unencumbered funds in the 2016 temporary budget to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged.

1. Bills were submitted to be paid from the 2015 budget in the amount of \$920.45 and the 2016 budget of \$18638.40 including a payment to Liberty Mutual for \$4093.50 on 2/20/16 for a total of \$19,558.85. Motioned by Commissioner Myers and seconded by Commissioner Bovenizer to pay the bills as submitted with a roll call vote.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Hopewell Fire Department Administration:

No one was present to give the report.

Ladies Auxiliary-

The Ladies Auxiliary will be selling flowers on March 20th at the Annual Pancake Breakfast. They have decided not to sell hot dogs at the Memorial Day parade. There are only blue and black blankets left for sale. The Ladies will take part in the Mercer County State Auxiliary meeting in April held in Hamilton. Membership is down and it was suggested to publish a notice with the churches or make a banner to explain the services the Ladies provide in order to entice more people to join.

EMU Chief Report:--There were 23 calls in February. A brake issue needed to be repaired on Ambulance 152-2. Chief Morehouse is working on getting updated quotes for the refurbishment of the ambulance and hopes to have the work done by Memorial Day. During clinical time at the hospital, a member in EMT school got a CPR save. The Junior Program is still going well.

Fire Chief Report:—There were 27 calls in February. There were 4 chimney fires but other than that nothing that stands out. There were zero calls in East Amwell. The Brush truck is out of service due to an issue with the fuel pump for the water pump. The Command vehicle is also out of service due to a brake caliber lock up. The morale for the department is improving. The dinner dance was well attended and people seemed to have a good time. The department is cleaning up the firehouse to get ready for the Annual Pancake Breakfast to take place on March 20th. A couple new people have joined the department and there was a recruitment training held in Titusville. Chairman Morehouse suggested having more open houses to show people around the firehouse and impress upon the citizen that the fire department made all the improvements internally without having to use taxpayer money. It was suggested to make the fire company part of the house tour or to get involved in some way for the 125th anniversary celebration of the town. Commissioner Bovenizer has been talking to the mayor and other council people to maybe get the fire department involved in the big celebration on June 18th. The kitchen is the next project to be tackled by the fire department. There have been discussions of having a 50's dance on Cruise Night.

The department is a part of the NJ State First Aid Council 9th District and this year the mid- year convention is going to be in Hamilton at Nottingham Fire House on May 15th. The preparation is going

well and any volunteers willing to help out would be appreciated. At the last meeting, at the suggestion of Glenn Gabai, the 9th district scholarship was renamed for Jessie Bailey. The annual inspection for 152 is delinquent but it is being worked on.

Insurance

No report.

Long Range Plan: No report.

LOSAP- Commissioner Davies received the list of eligible members for LOSAP. In order to get full credit 60 points must be earned and 30 points earned for half credit. Several different issues were discussed such as some people being only a point or two away from receiving credit. It was determined that if members have issues they have a month to contest the list and any corrections could be made after the month. There is a potential to get back money from unvested non active members and efforts will be made to get those funds. Attorney Griswold will work on the process to transfer administration rights from past Commissioner Anderson to Commissioner Davies.

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

Committee Reports: None

Resolution 16-17 Motioned by Commissioner Davies and seconded by Commissioner Myers to pass the approve the resolution regarding the receipt and posting of the certified list of LOSAP. Motion unanimously passed.

Resolution 16-20 Motioned by Commissioner Evans and seconded by Commissioner Evans to approve the resolution regarding assignment of a Public Agency Compliance Officer. Motion passed with one abstention.

Local Finance Board—Rob Inverso has been working on the issue regarding the Local Finance Board. He has contacted several bond attorneys asking what legal standing does the Local Finance Board have in denying the application submitted by the Board for the purchase of the Rescue truck. It was suggested to see what happens in the next few months and not to draw more attention to the Fire Commissioners. The quote will still be good for 3 more months and if there is any increase between this year and next year it should not be any more than 2%.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the board, on a motion by Cmsr. Bovenizer and seconded by Cmsr. Evans unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 8:25. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on April 13, 2016.

