

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

December 12, 2018

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 7:30pm 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, the fire district website, and advertised in the official newspapers of the district as required by law and provided to anyone requesting same prior to the meeting.

Minutes:

Motioned by Commissioner Evans and seconded by Commissioner Myers to approve the meeting minutes of November 14, 2018. Motion passed with no absences.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Treasurer's Report: Resolution 18-36

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 funds in the 2018 budget to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged.

1. Bills were submitted to be paid from the 2018 budget of \$81,291.86 for a total of \$81,291.86. Motioned by Commissioner Davies and seconded by Commissioner Evans to pay the bills as submitted with a roll call vote.
2. The list of encumbrances from the 2018 budget was given to the Board for review.

The 2018 budget was discussed. Before the end of the year there will be more funds encumbered and the budget will be mostly expended.

Hopewell Fire Department Administration:

The tree lighting took place on December 1, 2018 and due to the weather the attendance was down. Project Santa has concluded. 130 houses received visits from Santa and 289 children received gifts. The fire department grossed over \$4500.00.

Ladies Auxiliary-

No report given.

EMU Chief Report:--There were 29 calls for the month of November with 4 scratches. The new chief's car is done being repaired and will be going for inspection. There was a minor accident with A1521 which is being repaired by Budmans for approximately \$800. It was decided not to make an insurance claim due to the high deductible. The power stretcher discussion has been put on hold for now.

Fire Chief Report:— There were 46 calls for the month of November. The majority of the calls were CO alarms and fire alarms with one residential structure fire in Pennington's jurisdiction. There was a rain storm which resulted in a water rescue and a tractor fire.

The old Rescue truck was discussed. It had been put up on govdeals.com auction site on October 1st for two weeks with a price of \$25,000 with no formal bids. It was then put up for a second time with a price of \$10,000-\$25,000 still with no formal bids. One fire department did show interest but did not have the funds to purchase the truck. Several options were discussed and it was decided to revisit the issue in the January meeting.

Engine 52 needs motor work. 4 out of the 6 injectors are not functioning and it needs to be repaired. There were 3 quotes solicited and Four Lanes was the lowest quote.

Resolution 18-37

Motioned by Commissioner Evans and seconded by Commissioner Bovenizer approving the resolution to transfer funds between line items in the 2018 budget. Motion passed with no absences.

Resolution 18-38

Motioned by Commissioner Myers and seconded by Commissioner Davies to pass the resolution appointing a Public Agency Compliance Officer. Motion passed with no absences.

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

Committee Reports—Commissioner Myers reported due to experience factors with injuries the cost of workers compensation insurance was going up by a large amount. Instead of going into 2019 already at a deficit it was decided to increase the budget to accommodate for the increase.

Resolution 18-39

Motioned by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Myers to pass the resolution approving the budget with the updated amounts. The total budget with the increase will be \$587,700.00 and the money raised from taxation will be \$208,409.00. Motion passed with no absences.

LOSAP—There was no LOSAP report.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the board, on a motion by Cmsr. Evans and seconded by Cmsr. Davies approved the meeting adjourned at 9:17. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on January 9, 2019.