

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

**May 12, 2021**

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

**ABSENT:** Cmsr. Evans

Commissioner Bovenizer was sworn into office prior to the meeting.

**Call to Order:** : The regularly scheduled meeting was conducted remotely by means of a web-based conference call through Google and was called to order by Chairman Morehouse at 7:00, following adequate notice under the Open Public Meetings Law (annual notice published and revised meeting notice published in the Times of Trenton and transmitted to the Hopewell Valley News provided to the Borough Clerk for posting, posted at the Board offices and on the fire district's web site providing information on how the public could access and join the meeting, as well as provided to any person requesting same in advance of the meeting.)

**Election Results:** The budget was approved by voters (59 yes and 6 no) at the April 20th election and Mark Bovenizer and Paul Evans were re-elected to a three-year term on the Board of Fire Commissioners.

**Reorganization of Commissioners**

Commissioner Morehouse—Chairman

Motioned by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Davies to keep Chairman Morehouse as the chairman. Unanimously passed with one absence.

Commissioner Myers—Vice Chairman and Insurance Liaison

Motioned by Chairman Morehouse and seconded by Commissioner Davies to keep Commissioner Myers as the Vice Chairman. Motion unanimously passed with one absence.

Commissioner Davies—Secretary, LOSAP Officer, and Public Records Custodian

Motioned by Chairman Morehouse and seconded by Chairman Commissioner Bovenizer to keep Commissioner Davies as the Secretary. Motion unanimously passed with one absence.

Commissioner Evans—Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Motioned by Commissioner Myers and seconded by Commissioner Bovenizer to keep Commissioner Evans as the Treasurer. Motion unanimously passed with one absence.

Commissioner Bovenizer-PACO officer, Fire & EMU Liaison and Assistant Treasurer

Motioned by Commissioner Davies and seconded by Commissioner Myers to keep Commissioner Bovenizer as the PACO officer, Liaison and Assistant Treasurer. Motion unanimously passed with one absence.

**Minutes:**

On a motion by Commissioner Davies and seconded by Commissioner Myers the April 14, 2021 minutes were approved with one abstention and one absence.

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

**Resolution 21-24**

Chief Mullen solicited 3 quotes for preventative maintenance for the trucks. 2 quotes were returned and it was decided to go with Four Lanes End Fire Apparatus Service.

Motioned by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Myers to approve the resolution authorizing a truck preventative maintenance company. Motion passed with one absence.

**Resolution 21-25**

After last months meeting, adjustments had to be made to LOSAP so the total payment will be \$58,288.93 with the Borough paying \$17,486.74 and the township paying \$40,802.19. This change is mostly due to attrition of people. The drop in LOSAP contributions was discussed.

Motioned by Commissioner Davies and seconded by Commissioner Bovenizer to pass the resolution. Commissioner Bovenizer and Commissioner Myers abstained from voting for the contributions for themselves. Motion passed with one absence.

**Treasurer's Report: 21-26**

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 encumbered funds in the 2020 budget and the 2021 budget to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged.

1. Bills were submitted to be paid from the encumbered 2020 budget in the amount of \$20,726.91 and in the 2021 budget of \$30,200.93 for a total of \$50,927.84.

Motioned by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Myers to pay the bills as submitted with a roll call vote.

2. The list of encumbrances from the 2020 encumbered budget and the 2021 budget was given to the Board for review.

### **Resolution 21-27**

Motioned by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Davies to approve the resolution authorizing the Board of Fire Commissioners to move its annual election to November beginning in 2022.

Motion passed with one absence and one abstention.

With the passing of this resolution the elections will for the most part now be governed by Title 19 rules. The time table for the budget will not change.

### **Hopewell Fire Department Administration:**

The May meeting was a hybrid meeting with 15 members at the firehouse and the rest on Google Meet. Members at the firehouse were socially distanced and wore masks. The parade is now scheduled to take place on Sunday May 30<sup>th</sup>. The parade route will be extended and will be socially distanced. Hopewell Fire Department will be the only unit marching the remaining parade participants will be driving. Following the parade there will be a department picnic. On June 5<sup>th</sup> there will be a recruitment event.

### **Ladies Auxiliary-**

There was no one present to give a report.

**EMU Chief Report:**--There were 20 calls for the month of April with 5 scratches. Daytime responders are limited. The trucks are in good shape. Chief Brown is working on the SOP's and will have to go through the state certification orientation class again. In house training is beginning again.

**Fire Chief Report:**—There were 17 calls for the month of April with only 8 being int the primary response area. The department will be participating in the Pennington Memorial Day parade. The department will help fill the pool at the new Mercer County Golf club and make it into a drafting drill. There are some communication issues being worked on. Complaints have been filed about the siren. It is programmed to not be activated from 10p to 6a but technology is not always effective. New batteries had to be purchased because the siren control did not work properly for a time.

### **Insurance-**

No report.

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

**Committee Reports**

**LOSAP** No report.

It was decided to have an in-person hybrid meeting for June. Chairman Morehouse met with Chairman Malkiewicz and Chairman Blackwell of the other two boards to discuss the new development within Hopewell Valley and upcoming regional purchases. Attorney Griswold reported she would be retiring at the end of the year.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the board, on a motion by Cmsr. Myers and seconded by Cmsr. Bovenizer and approved the meeting adjourned at 8:30. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on June 9, 2021.