

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

July 10, 2024

PRESENT: Cmsr. Morehouse
Cmsr. Myers
Cmsr. Blasi
Cmsr. Evans (Arrived 19:05)
Cmsr. Davies

Call to Order: The scheduled meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:03 pm by Chairman Morehouse following proof of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice 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.

Minutes:

Commissioners reviewed June minutes and with a motion by Commissioner Blasi and 2nd by Commissioner Davies the motion passes 4-0 with all in favor.

Public Comment: Councilwoman Hook spoke of the redevelopment plan the Borough is passing, inquired about what would the addition of 130 units to the town reflect for the Department.

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 funds in the 2024 budget to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged.

Bills were submitted to be paid from the 2024 budget for a total of \$86,507.66. Motioned by Commissioner Davies and seconded by Commissioner Myers to pay the bills as submitted with a roll call vote all in the affirmative passing via majority. Resolution 2024-33 passed 5-0.

Fire Department Administration: No one present

Ladies Aux: No one present

EMU Report:

Chief Read advised 41 calls for June; one new EMT certified, collecting final paperwork for EMS certifications for the State. Waiting on lettering to be done on 152-3. CPR save in 48 Rescue's area. Dinner training meeting with Dr. Vetrano (our medical director provided by HTFD) who did a medicine overview and what was expected of the EMTs within their scope of practice.

Discussion had by the Board to authorize the Board Secretary to move forward with obtaining an NPI in order to register for Medicare billing.

Fire Chief Report:

Chief Galatro reports 35 calls for June. Several rekindles after house fire. Multiple building materials involved which made it difficult to extinguish. 2 fire fighters graduated from fire school. Tanker and Quint fixed and back in service. Boat motor was damaged during training. Will need to submit to insurance company for repair. Looking to replace a generator that is no longer repairable for \$1200. Will be participating in National Night Out on 8/6 at Stony Brook ES.

Fire Official Report: on file

Attorney Report:

Committee Reports:

Chairman would like to convene a Valley wide commissioner meeting in September or October.

Petitions must be turned in by July 29th for the November election. Commissioners Evans and Blasi are up for election this year.

Final budget discussion about 2025 budget and the 2% budget cap. Went into great detail on which lines needed to be raised and advertised for the referendum. New total would be \$57,558.00 a 11.024% increase. However as noted in the referendum, the cost to the Borough taxpayers would only be 30% of this amount which is \$17,267.40. Resolution 2024-35 motioned by Csm. Davies and 2nd by Csm. Blasi, passed 4-1.

Discussion of Resolution 2024-36 to award hose, pump and ladder testing to Waterway, lowest of 3 quotes obtained, motioned by Csm. Evans and 2nd by Csm. Evans, motion passes 5-0.

Public Comment (non-agenda): None

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the board, on a motion by Cmsr. Davies and seconded by Cmsr. Morehouse unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on August 28, 2024.