

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
FIRE DISTRICT NO 1  
FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP, NJ**

**Regular Meeting**

**June 25, 2013**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:31pm by Chairman Thomas Caruso.

Notice was read and the flag salute was lead by Captain Reifer. Roll call was taken, and Mr. Story, Mr. R. Buscaglia, Mr. Joshi, Mr. C. Buscaglia, Mr. Caruso were all present. Also in attendance was Board Attorney Joseph Youssouf, Chief Wayne Prochnow, Donna Pujat and other members of the Fire Company.

Chairman Caruso announced that all phones must be put on vibrate, he further asked that the audience hold on all comments or conversation until the audience portion of the meeting, unless addressed by the Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Story and seconded by Mr. Joshi to approve the minutes from the June meeting as prepared. Mr. Caruso commented that there were a couple grammatical errors. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Story, Mr. Joshi and Mr. Caruso all voted in the affirmative. Mr. R. Buscaglia and Mr. C. Buscaglia abstained since they were unable to get their minutes via email when sent. Later in the meeting, Mr. C. Buscaglia changed his vote to approved after reviewing the minutes.

**Correspondence::** It was reported that a letter was received from the “claims manager” at Holmes & McDowell regarding the delayed manner in which injury claims are being reported. Another letter was received from the President of Homes & McDowell – Peter Jeffery indicating same, and that he was concerned with the possibility of penalties. Discussion followed regarding the status of claims and the timely manner which they must be reported.

**Treasurers Report:** The report was read into record by Mr. C. Buscaglia. A motion was made by Mr. R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Story to approve the report as presented. A roll call vote was taken, all present voted in the affirmative. A motion was made by Mr. C. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Joshi to pay the bills in the total of \$110,153.86, which includes the quarterly payment to the Fire Company, and to transfer \$110,000 from Money Market into checking. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative except Mr. Joshi who questioned a voucher from Jack Purvis. Discussion followed. It was decided to hold Mr. Purvis’ invoice for \$4,617.72 until someone speak with him.

Mr. C. Buscaglia reported that the 2012 audit was done the previous week, and he believes it went well.

**Insurance:** Again it was mentioned that letters were received regarding injury/accident reports.

Discussion was held regarding the alarm system and computer at District. During a recent MVA in which a pole was hit in front of the firehouse, appears that the surge caused damaged to the alarm system, and just recently discovered damages to the computer. This will be further checked into and discussion was noted on possible submission under the insurance.

**Building:** There was recent damage to the overhead door at District. Prices were received for repairs. The price to replace two panels, was ½ the price of an entire new door, so a new door was ordered. Discussion followed regarding the proper maintenance of the doors. Larry Story volunteered to do a monthly maintenance on the doors at all firehouses.

Electric cord for 85 was installed.

A new plug for the I-AM Responding System was installed.

Contractors were requested to re-quote the painting at Smithburg so that the Board would know specifically what was being done, and that all contractors were quoting the same work. Result of that was: 1 contractor stated that the job was too big for him, two were no response, one had not been received yet, and one quote was provided. Discussion followed. Mr. Youssouf stated that the Board did not have to wait for the last quote. A motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to award the job to Chip Polo & Sons at \$9,800. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative except Mr. C. Buscaglia who abstained.

The phone line at Smithburg is still a problem with the line. Verizon and CSS will be scheduled together to come out, meet and discuss the issue.

Was as discussed the issues with the key-fab system. This may be with the computer as well, and to be addressed.

**Legal:** Mr. Youssouf provided a copy of a resolution awarding the purchase of 13 AED Units to VE Ralph & Sons in the amount of \$20,527 Copies are to be sent the vendor.

A copy of a resolution was entered into record, designating the addition of a official newspaper, that being Newark Star Ledger.

Mr. Youssouf also reported that Trenton legislators are proposing to move the Board Elections be moved to November. Discussion followed.

**Chiefs Report:** Chief Prochnow read into record, the Chiefs report from May.

Chief Prochnow reported that Paul Nicolosi was back in the Fire Company and to be added to insurance, and Dan Hurry was out of the company.

77 is out of service at Atlantic Detroit Diesel. Chief had not received word yet on how long for repairs.

90 has a problem with the seals. The cost will be in the area of \$8,212 for parts only. A motion was made by Mr. R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Joshi to send the unit out for the repairs. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

Chief Prochnow thanked Dan Petersen for all of his work keeping up on the maintenance while Ralph was out sick.

Traffic cones and Hi Rise packs were received.

The Chief requested permission to purchase a saw bracket in the amount of \$249. A motion was made by R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Story to approve the purchase. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

The Chief requested permission to purchase safety harness belts for 90. Price as follows: Safety harness belt \$185 per belt x 6 belts = \$1,110, Lanyards for the bucket - \$89 per lanyard x 5 = \$445 A motion was made by Mr. R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Story to approve the purchase. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

The Chief requested to purchase new wildfire equipment. He reported that the existing yellow suits were outdated; rakes and brooms hadn't been replaced in many years. Discussion followed. Prices received were as follows: Rakes - \$37ea, Brooms - \$25ea, coats - \$167ea, shirts - \$116ea. Mr. Story asked about fire tents. Discussion followed. It was decided that all existing equipment will be gone through, rakes, shovels, coats, shirts, tents, etc will all be purchased at one time. A motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. C Buscaglia to approve the purchase of equipment all at one time. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

The Chief asked to purchase a refrigerator for the Chiefs office, and a power washer for the bay area. Mr. Caruso stated that he sees no problem and asked that the Chief provided prices.

The Chief asked about the plagues for 87 & 78. Discussion followed.

Requests for use of clothing & equipment not issued by the Board were submitted to the Board for review.

**President's Report:** Kevin Keane was reporting on behalf of John Marcondes & Mike Fogarty who asked him to report that the budget for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is being worked on, and they will have something ready for next month.

**Old Business:** Discussion was held on the bids for the generator. There was a question on the surety. Discussion followed. It was decided to re-bid the project and to have them received July 23<sup>rd</sup>. A motion was made by Mr. C. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Story to re-bid the generator as noted. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

Discussion was held on the pre-emption system. Equipment was replaced at Smithburg intersection and the Gravel Hill intersection.

Mr. Caruso reported that the company did an excellent job on Memorial Day and won 2<sup>nd</sup> Place. He added that he was very proud of the company and to be a part of it.

Mr. Joshi stated that he attended the Public Purchasing Class and passed. He got a great deal of information from the class and would like to take the next level. That will be \$972 at Ocean County Fire Academy. Some discussion followed. A motion was made by Mr. Joshi, seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to have Mr. Joshi attend. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

**New Business:** Dan Petersen stated that he thought the pre-emption at Stillwells & Route 524 was not functioning. Discussion followed. It was thought that perhaps it was because of the cross-walk and the timing. Dan will further test that intersection.

Kevin Legravinis stated to the Board, that some time ago he had asked for something in writing as to what insurance coverages the members had. Mr. Caruso stated that he had obtained that from Peter Jeffreys of Holmes & McDowell and had given it to Mike Fogarty. Mr. Legravinis stated that if so, it had never been passed on. Discussion followed regarding to coverages. Mr. Caruso will again reach out to Peter and ask for a listing of coverages and benefits. Mr. Legravinis submitted an Open Public Records request in writing to the Board.

Mr. C. Buscaglia stated that as per the Traffic Safety Division of the Police Department, it is requested that extreme caution be used with sirens when entering an intersection since this causes confusion to the drivers.

Chief Prochnow reported that a former member of the Fire Company - Joseph Nero recently passed away. Wayne noted that he will be attending the wake if anyone else was interested in attending, since he was a past member.

Bryan Zuccarelli requested a executive session with the Board for the purpose of discussing personnel.

***Audience:*** None

A motion was made by Mr. R. Buscaglia, and seconded by Mr. Joshi to enter into Executive Session at 8:54pm. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

The regular session was re-convened at 9:51pm

Being no further business, at 9:52 pm a motion was made by Mr. Story and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted:

Larry Story, Secy of the Board

/dlp

