

Board of Fire Commissioners  
Fire District No 1  
PO Box 6903  
Freehold, NJ 07728

July 22, 2014

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No 1 was called to order at 7:30pm by Chairman Thomas Caruso.

The flag salute was lead by Ex-Chief Wayne Prochnow. Roll call was taken as follows: John Toutouchi, Robert Buscaglia, Shaymal Joshi, Charles Buscaglia and Thomas Caruso were all present. Also in attendance was Joseph Youssouf, Donna Pujat, Chief Spicuzza, President Marcondes and other members of the fire company.

Mr. Caruso stated that the regular order of business would be suspended at this time. There would be a presentation by the Prochnow and Story families. A presentation of a firefighters statue was made by Susan Story to the fire company in honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Susan read a dedication for the statue regarding the history of fire service by both families. President Marcondes thanked the family for the gift. Chairman Caruso noted that the statue and landscaping renovations were being performed by the Story and Prochnow Families, he added that the donation is very appreciated. Mr. R. Buscaglia thanked the family.

Legal: The report of the annual audit review was read into record. Mr. Youssouf reported that the completion of the survey should not take long. Once completed, it will be made part of the application packet and submitted to the township. Mr. Caruso reported that he had received a letter from Dorothy Gallagher and signed a copy of the engagement letter.

A motion was made by R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Toutouchi to enter into Executive Session at 7:41pm for discussion of personnel items. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

At 8:03pm the Board returned to regular session of the meeting  
Mr. Caruso stated that at some point, the Board would need to enter into another Executive Session.

A motion was made by Mr. C. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to approve the minutes of the June meeting as prepared. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Mr. Toutouchi, R. Buscaglia, C. Buscaglia, and Toutouchi voted in the affirmative . Mr. Joshi abstained.

A motion was made by Mr. Caruso and seconded by Mr. Joshi to approve the May minutes. A roll call vote was taken. All votes in the affirmative and Mr. Caruso abstained.

Correspondence: A letter was received from Dorothy Gallagher regarding the audit, which was addressed under earlier business.

An email was also received from VFIS outlining some safety items.

Treasurers Report: The report was read into record by Mr. Buscaglia. A motion was made by Mr. R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Joshi to approve the report as presented. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative. Mr. Caruso noted that he had been questioned about line balances by the line officers. Discussion followed. Mr. C. Buscaglia noted that he would work on something.

A motion was made by Mr. C. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to pay the bills in the total of \$57,434.46 and to transfer \$57,000 from money market into checking. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative. Discussion was held regarding the payments for the new insurance policy. It was also noted that invoices were received from Pinebelt Chevy and Emergency Equipment Sales without vouchers.

Insurance: Mr. Caruso noted that immediately after changing insurances, the first claim was submitted. That being for a broken windshield. He reported that it was handled within 24hours.

Building: It was reported that the Chiefs Office and Dispatch Office were painted. There is a problem with the well pump at Georgia Road Station. Mr. R. Buscaglia will contact McCurdy Well to have it checked.

All other items for buildings, will be tabled until next month.

Chief's Report: Chief Spicuzza read the June report into record.

77 has a broken windshield and scheduled for repair.

90 had boom servicing and was good

The new computer is ordered for the air trailer

A new refrigerator was purchased for 87

Prices were received for new halogen lights on 78 & 90 Discussion was held on the prices and there were some questions, so this will be tabled until the next meeting.

Mr. Joshi asked how the Engineers were working The Chief reported that they are working out fine so far.

The Chief thanked the Board for the trip to Baltimore trip. He added that all went well

The Chief asked if a CDL is required to drive 96. The Board indicated that it is. Discussion was held regarding whether it is a state law or something that was adopted by the Board.

Discussion followed. The Chief reported that there are limited drivers, so if anyone wanted to get their CDL, he asked if the Board would reimburse them. Mr. Caruso stated that he felt that shouldn't be a problem. Mr. Joshi will check into the State Law. Mr. Caruso stated that for now, they must adhere to the rules as set now and Mr. Caruso will check with Joe Youssouf.

President's Report: Vice President Mike Fogarty reported that he had the opportunity to speak with Kirk from the new insurance company. Mike reported that he was very responsive. Mike extended an invitation to the Board to march with the Ex-Chiefs who are serving as Grand Marshals. Mr. Caruso thanked Mike for the opportunity.

Old Business: Mr. Joshi requested to approve the 3<sup>rd</sup> year subscription of IAM Responding at \$650 All agreed to renew. Chief Zuccarelli noted that he wished it would work better in the building. Mr. Joshi suggested getting a battery backup. He noted that when there are power failures, the system goes out.

Discussion was held regarding background checks with the Police Department. It was noted that the background checks should be done upon membership prior to gear being issued. Members need to contact Jerry Kiwit at PD Monday through Friday between 8:30am and 3:00pm The Board will establish lists and protocol.

Audience: Asst Chief Zuccarelli thanked the Board for the Baltimore trip. He said there were no problems. He added that the classes were taken, were very informative. Mr. Caruso also commented that the classes he took were excellent.

A motion was made by Mr. R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Joshi to enter into executive session at 8:37pm

The Board returned to regular session at 9:44pm

Mr. Caruso stated the those in attendance that this evening the Board needed to do something they didn't want to do. The Board has placed Chief Spicuzza on administrative suspension from the District until further notice. He may not answer fire calls, or drive district vehicles or equipment,. He may participate in the parade and activities, but not permitted in District Headquarters. Mr. Caruso asked if Asst Chief Zuccarelli could assume the lead responsibilities and all firematic duties. He asked that he also see that all reports are submitted to the state. He asked that all call sheets be put under the Boards door due to insurance requests. Mr. Caruso asked that Vice President to advise the President of what is going on. He asked that all members present, do not put any of the officers on the spot as they were requested not to discuss the matter.

Vice President Fogarty said that this will spread, perhaps even to the papers. Mr. Caruso stated that if that is the case, everyone should respond with no comment.

Being no further a motion was made by Mr. R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Toutouchi to adjourn the meeting at 9:52pm

Respectfully submitted:

John Toutouchi, Secretary

Jt/DLP