

**Board of Fire Commissioners
Fire District No. 1
P.O. Box 6903
Freehold, NJ 07728**

Regular Meeting

January 24, 2017

Chairman Robert Buscaglia called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners to order at 7:30 pm. The notice was read and 1st Assistant Chief Ralph Reifer led the flag salute. Roll call was taken, present were Joseph Colón, John Toutouchi, Shyamal Joshi, Thomas Caruso and Robert Buscaglia. Also in attendance were Board Attorney-Mr. Joseph Youssouf and Rachel Davis.

Motion made by Mr. Caruso to approve the regular meeting minutes from December 20, 2016.

Second: Mr. Toutouchi

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

Executive minutes will be tabled until next month.

Correspondence:

- E-mail from Rick Pumphrey (Fire Fighter One) requesting to meet with the Board;
- Letter from Freehold First Aid requesting permission to temporarily use bay at Siloam Road for two ambulances. Board will discuss in new business;
- Letter from insurance company OPRA, requesting any report on 5 Tower Road— notified E. Freehold;
- Report Gravel Hill Road, W. Main St.;
- Reply from insurance company for medical benefits to be increased to \$250,000, and it will cost \$8,375 more.

Treasurer's report

Read into record by Mr. Joshi (attached).

Motion made by Mr. Joshi to pay the accounts payable for 2016 in the amount of \$55,794.84.

Second: Mr. Colón

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

Motion made by Mr. Joshi to pay the accounts payable for 2017 in the amount of \$29,995.08.

Second: Mr. Colón

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

Insurance:

One claim is out, pending response from claimant, who will be sending adjuster more information. All reports are in from Chief's side. Mr. Joshi reminded everyone if you hit a deer, etc., report it to an officer and file claim. All policies have been renewed—increased the accident sickness policy to \$250,000 from \$100,000. Final paperwork is done for water repair. Officers were also reminded that if there are any new forms to be filled out, Mr. Joshi will advise. Mr. Joshi thanked everyone for perfect paperwork.

Computer:

Website—up to date.

MDT's set up, complete. We're in the process of having county to come out to train.

Legal:

Getting ready for the election and budget referendum on February 18th, 2017; polls open 2:00-9pm. Already have nominations for Andrew AJ Story, John Toutouchi and Robert Buscaglia. Four more were received: Michael Fogarty, 16 Langeveld Drive, Freehold; Kevin LaGravenis, 5301Grassmere Court, Freehold; Paul Nicolosi, 65 Woodstock Place, Freehold; James Taylor, 14-2 Sacramento Court, Freehold, NJ. Everything is set for the election. 300 absentee ballots will be ordered.

Buildings:

Last of furniture is in for Georgia Road; IAmResponding computers back up and running. Compressors should be in within a week or two—Mr. Buscaglia will call them again to confirm. Mr. Caruso asked if we can get a tree service over to Georgia Road to take care of dead trees/branches hanging over. Mr. Buscaglia will make some calls.

Chief's Report:

Read into record by 1st Asst. Chief Ralph Reifer (attached).

Maintenance—Lieutenant Dan Petersen:

85, 87 and 86 are due for 6 month service in February; still waiting for 90 to go to Hamilton to get the last of the decals. Gas detectors problem was bad bottle; credited, getting new bottle for free. 87—part on order to fix door; 98 is done. 78—probably the front heater or maybe window gasket; still investigating.

2nd Assistant Chief's Report read into record by 2nd Asst. Chief Ken Lucas (attached).

Also, new company for gear cleaning might cost more.

Chairman Buscaglia reminded everyone of last month's incident and told everyone to make sure building doors secured and vehicles are locked at all times.

Captain Craig Haas:

Additional radio charger for extra Chief's vehicle; we're in the process of doing annual gear checks determining equipment needed or repaired. Board reminded that nothing gets thrown away until we surplus it.

President's Report:

President Neil Timo said nothing to report; asked what the status was on phone system for Smithburg—Mr. Joshi said it was ordered. Mr. Caruso asked about recruiting. President Timo said status quo.

Old Business:

Mr. Joshi met with Chief Prochnow and went over initial LOSAP paperwork to certify the list for 2016. President Timo is going to get the list of the attendance for the meeting to certify the points.

After reviewing with auditor, Board would like to amend their answer to an audience question in November as to who is on payroll. All others listed are all outside vendors, professional services and not on payroll.

Motion made by Mr. Joshi to amend the November 22, 2016 minutes in the "Audience" section, where it states who is on the Board's payroll to: 5 board members and 2 secretaries.

Second: Mr. Toutouchi

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

Next month we will have some line item transfers to close out.

New Business:

First Aid letter requesting to store rigs at Smithburg while construction is being done on their garage. Board discussed matter. Cannot be used for response; must have proper documentation.

Motion made by Mr. Joshi to let Freehold EMS store two ambulances, not for response, at the Siloam Firehouse bay for a maximum of three months, where it can be revisited by the Board.

Second: Mr. Toutouchi

Roll call vote: 4-0 (Mr. Caruso abstained)

Audience:

(none)

Chairman Buscaglia reminded everyone to vote on the 18th.

Being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Toutouchi to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm.

Second: Mr. Colón

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

Respectfully submitted,

John Toutouchi, Secretary
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