

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

Regular Meeting

July 24, 2012

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:30pm by Chairman Robert Buscaglia.

Notice was read and the flag salute was lead by Chief Prochnow. Roll call was taken; Mr. Story, Mr. Caruso, Mr. Joshi, Mr. C. Buscaglia and Mr. R. Buscaglia, were all present. Also in attendance was Chief Prochnow, Donna Pujat and other members of the Fire Company. Mr. Youssef was not in attendance.

A motion was made by Mr. Story and seconded by Mr. Caruso to approve the June minutes as presented. A roll call vote was taken, Mr. Story, Mr. Caruso, Mr. Joshi, and R. Buscaglia voted in the affirmative. Mr. C Buscaglia abstained since he had not reviewed the minutes.

Correspondence: A letter was received from the Monmouth County Engineering Department giving the district permission to install the traffic light device on the equipment on the intersection at Gravel Hill & Route #537.

A letter was received from Kevin Keane requesting use of the firehouse for a fundraiser car wash in benefit of his daughter Sara Keane. This will be held until new business.

Treasurers Report: Mr. C. Buscaglia read the report into record A motion was made by Mr. Caruso and seconded by Mr. Story, to approve the report as presented. A roll call vote was taken, all present voted in the affirmative, Mr. Joshi abstained. A motion was made by Mr. C. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Story to pay the bills in the total of \$38,679.62 and to transfer \$40,000 from Money Market into checking. A roll call vote was taken, all present voted in the affirmative.

Insurance: Mr. C. Buscaglia congratulated the Chief and his "men", for a good workmans comp audit, which resulted in a rebate for a claims free year. Mr. C. Buscaglia reported that he submitted a claim for the lightening strike which occurred during a storm on June 28th or 29th. He had received a call from an adjuster, and was unable to contact him, but will try again.

Building: Mr. R. Buscaglia reported that the charger for the generator malfunctioned and blew the battery. Parts are ordered, but meanwhile, the unit is running on ½ hour intervals to keep the battery charged. The parts are in for the door at District and Avon Doors are scheduled.

Mr. Joshi reported that the A/C in the Chiers office is not working again.

It was reported that there are numerous bugs in the building. Mr. R. Buscaglia will contact the exterminator.

Mr. R. Buscaglia asked Chief Prochnow how the I AM Responding system was working. The Chief reported it was excellent, and a big help.

Mr. R. Buscaglia reported that the kitchen cabinets at District are falling off the wall, and will be repairs. He further asked that the Chief request that the men do not use the oven at District until it has been repaired, or a new one has been installed.

The President asked if anyone was responsible for window cleaning. Mr. R. Buscaglia stated that in the past, someone was hired to come in and do that.

Mr. Caruso brought up the problems with the alarms at Smithburg. Anytime it rains, the monitoring company receives "trouble alarms". Mr. C. Buscaglia met with a Verizon rep who thought he had repaired the line. Discussion followed. The President will discuss this with the Trustees and look into one of them receiving the calls. It was also discussed having a new line run.

Chiefs Report: Chief Prochnow read into record, Chiefs reports from June. The lighting upgrade for 90 was completed, and various other repairs made. 76 had numerous leaks repaired.

76 & 77 had new tired installed.

78 had several leaks and the new cameras installed.

Andrew DeMarco is now out of the Fire Company.

A new member was taken in - Michael Barbieri, he is a Junior member.

The new cutters have been installed on 87

Air packs have been serviced.

The Chief asked about the possible upgrades on the cellphones. Discussed was held and getting all new ones will be looked into.

The Chief reported that he and officers are very satisfied with I AM Responding.

The Chief commented that his computer is very slow. Mr. Story reported the same for the Board's computer.

The Chief thanked the Board for the E-Z Passes. He reported that there was one invalid tag and the Board may receive a bill.

Discussion followed regarding deeming the Bauer Air System surplus. The Chief will get a letter together for the Board.

Purchasing: Progress

Maintenance: Ralph Reifer reported that he received quotes for covers, those being: 1st Priority = \$1,525, Fire & Safety = \$1,864.29 No one else quoted. Discussion was held, the Board advised the Officers to go with 1st Priority.

Chief Spicuzza reported that 87 is going out for it's annual maintenance next month. It was reported that the thermal imaging camera was not working of 87 and P&L is checking into it.

76 had A/C unit repaired

88 is being serviced, and the lock buttons were not working.

Chief Prochnow reported that the starter needs to be done on 67. He spoke with Auto Image and GM, but knows of no other company that does the work. The Board advised the Chief to have the work done, but not to exceed \$350.00

Legal: Mr. Youssouf was not present.

President's Report: President Marcondes reported that he is working on the 2013 budget.

The President commented that two months ago, it was discussed that there may be funds for new Class B' uniforms. Mr. R. Buscaglia replied that it had been discussed, but the President was asked to collect as existing Class B's and that had not been done. Discussion followed. Discussion followed regarding NFPA regulations and requirements. Mr. R. Buscaglia noted that he was upset that the President had not made the members aware of the issue. He added that if those uniforms are "unsafe" he wants them pull by the next Board meeting.

Mr. Caruso commented that he had something that he should have brought up during Insurance, but, he stated that the Fire Company bonds the Executive Officers, and the Board bonds Commissioners, but does the Board bond the Line Officers. Mr. C.

Buscaglia stated that they do not. The President will look into it from the Fire Companies end.

Mr. R. Buscaglia indicated that the Board leases the bays at Smithburg. He added that the paint is peeling, and asked if the Fire Company intends to paint. The President stated he was unaware of the situation, but will check into it.

Mr. R. Buscaglia noted that a project was performed at Smithburg, and he asked what the plans are for that room. President Marcondes stated just for classes and instruction. Mr. R. Buscaglia stated that the Vice President advised him it would also be used for Hall rentals. Mr. R. Buscaglia stated that if that is so, the Board should be refunded for the work.

Old Business: Mr. Story is looking into the standards and what is being done in other Fire Districts regarding the Class B's.

Mr. Joshi reported that the ID Tags are being worked on. Discussion followed.

The 90 day trial for I AM Responding is expiring. The Chief recommends to continue with the system. Discussion followed as to the timing of the 90 day trial. A motion was made by R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Caruso to contract I Am Responding, and continue at District Hdgs. It will be budgeted to set up the system at the two remaining firehouses. Price will be: \$650 per year, 5 year contract, 2.8cents per call, capping at \$300. A motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. Story to continue with the contract. All votes in the affirmative.

It was reported that the Officers can get new phones at this time and keep the existing numbers. Price will be; \$149.99 for 7 Smart Phones, \$37.49 each for the extreme outer casings, \$22.49 each for 6 car chargers.

Discussion was held regarding holding a Special Workshop with the Architect regarding room in bays, more storage. The plan would be to hold this meeting prior to the next Board meeting.

New Business: Mr. R. Buscaglia reported on the generators.

Audience: Bryan Zucarelli brought up a letter which was written by Paul Nicolosi, a former members. Bryan indicated that Mr. Nicolosi's letter was highly defamatory regarding the Fire Company and specific members/officers. Bryan indicated that he answered the letter personally and would like to enter both into record of the Board. (Letters were both read)

Discussion followed. Copies of these letters will be given to Mr. Youssouf for opinion at the next meeting. Discussion also followed on how the letters were received, etc. The President indicated that Mr. Nicolosi voiced his opinion on having "a problem with the officers". He was told to come to a Fire Company meeting and he would be heard, he never attended but instead wrote this letter. He has threatened going to the Mayor, etc. Mr. Story commented that he is concerning about discussing these letters without Council present. Discussion followed.

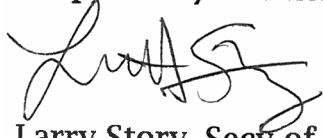
The letter from Mr. Keane was discussed. It was noted that the letter did not request a specific date and that there was a policy indicating that car washes would not be permitted. It was further noted that Kevin's daughter is a cancer patient, and this was a benefit for cancer research in her name. Mr. R. Buscaglia noted that he feels more specific information would be needed prior to decision. It would be stressed that no children will be permitted working the event. The specifics will be worked out and brought to the Board next meeting, who will then make a decision.

At 9:33pm a motion was made by Mr. Caruso and seconded by Mr. Joshi to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of personnel discussion. The Chief and President were asked to attend. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

At 10:39 a motion was made by Mr. Caruso and seconded by Mr. C. Buscaglia to enter back into the regular session of the meeting.

Being no further business, at 10:40pm a motion was made by Mr. Caruso and seconded by Mr. C. Buscaglia to close the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry Story". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Larry Story, Secy of the Board

/dlp