

Board of Fire Commissioners
Fire District No 1
Freehold Township, NJ

Sept 23, 2014 @7:30pm

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chairman Thomas Caruso. The notice was read.

Roll call was taken, present were John Toutouchi, Robert Buscaglia, Shayamal Joshi, Charles Buscaglia and Thomas Caruso. Flag salute lead by Asst Chief Zuccarelli.

A motion was made by Mr. C. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to approve the minutes of the August meeting as prepared. Roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

Treasurers Report: Read into record by CB 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.

A motion was made by Mr. C. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to pay the bills in the total of \$92, 320.55 and to transfer \$70,000 from money market to checking. Roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

Correspondence: Email was received requesting payments, which were

forwarded to CB for processing

Jack Purvis regarding permits

VFIS sent risk mgt and training information Board did order some training materials Will give the list to the line officers to review, possibility of ordering additional information.

Insurance: A risk management inspection was performed and the District did very well. One comment was that the Board should add hold harmless clauses in the fire company/board contract. Adjuster was impressed with training, and records.

Building: Heater came down, re-installed correctly. HVAC will be serviced within the next couple of days.

The emergency lights not working are to be checked A lot of work done to boiler, may have to look into replacing.

Caruso - running slow with internet due to use of phones and computers. Mr. Joshi looked into upgrading – Upgrading the system to be brought up under new business

R. Buscaglia reported that salt was delivered to Ga Rd Station. Heat tape is to be plugged in, with the cold weather approaching.

Caruso - construction on building. C. Buscaglia - spoke to architect, one item to be addressed which he should have taken care of next day. Caruso said contractor does not feel comfortable with starting with the prediction of the weather we have for this fall/winter. He would rather start in the spring. Discussion followed. Mr. Youssouf stated that if the builder agrees and he will hold the contract price, there is no problem doing that. Discussion was held regarding the purchasing of materials and storage. A motion was made

by Mr. Caruso and seconded by Mr. Joshi to contact the builder, and ask him to hold off construction until spring. A roll call vote was taken, all in favor Mr. Youssouf will contact builder.

Legal: Rec'd copy of resolution from FT Planning Board for the firehouse expansion. Read into record.

Rec'd special payment voucher from FT for capital review project. Discussion followed. Mr. Youssouf advised the board to pay.

2015 budget rec'd. Substantial changes, so Mr. Youssouf will review with the Board. Discussion and explanation followed of budget questions & certifications.

Budget schedule outlined. Intro 60 days prior to annual election 12/22 Suggest changing meeting date to 12/10 at 7pm to meet deadline. Public hearing 28 days after approval of budget 1/26/15

Suggest changing Jan meeting

Resolution to move Dec mtg to 12/10 Motion made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by R. Buscaglia to move December meeting all in favor

Resolution to move Jan mtg to 1/20 at 5:30pm Motion made by Mr. R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Joshi. All in favor

Election still 3rd Saturday of February

Originally there was a scheduled public meeting regarding Mr. Spicuzza. Mr. Youssouf spoke with attorney. His attorney requested continue matter at the regular scheduled meeting of the board in November. Mr. Youssouf read letter into record of request, and stated that conditions continue as same until November 25th meeting.

Set up budget workshop meeting Oct 15th at 6pm Motion made by Mr. Joshi

and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia Sham Roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

Mr. Caruso requested that the line officers put together budget items for the October meeting

Chiefs Report - Read August report into record by Asst Chief Z.

Dan Petersen reported that - 87 & 85 chassis service were done. There are minor issues with 87

Vault meter replaced on 76

Pedestal valve was replaced on 90

Ladder testing was done and passed, minor labeling issues

Scene lights on 90 in won't be installed until November

78 scene lights on order

Service of chassis of pumpers and tankers scheduled

Pump & ladder testing scheduled mid October

86 computer upgrade - not going as planned. Having issues with start up.

Plyovent - still waiting, parts from district not in yet. Spoke to them in Wildwood, trying to move things along.

Couple lights were replaced, tires replaced on the Expedition. There is some paint corrosion- waiting for answer from Ford.

Estimate was received for 87 mounting auto cribs from First Priority at \$920 Dan requested permission to proceed. A motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to proceed. A roll call vote was taken, all yes

It was noted that the Board had been discussing new truck for several years. Mr. Caruso noted that the Board has voter approval from over year

ago. Dan Petersen noted that the price is most likely now around \$625,000 and the prices going up quarterly Budgeted \$650,000 Caruso requested that the Chief get the truck committee together. Discussion followed. Oct 2nd at 7:00pm Motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to proceed with meeting and plans for the truck. A roll call vote was taken all votes in the affirmative.

ERS system – Mr. Joshi asked how it is working. Chief working great. Mr. Joshi asked if at any time, any board members ever interfered with operational items? Officers Zuccarelli, Petersen and Haas reported they had not.

Chief Z thinks tht may have been a misunderstanding of a txt.

Presidents Report – None

Old Business: Mr. Caruso reported that a Junior firefighter was asking about reimbursement of gym fees Discussion followed. It was noted that the gym reimbursement is for regular members only. A motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. Toutouchi that the reimbursement of gym fees would be for regular members only and non probationary members.

It was reported that the stoves, oven and microwave need replacement at district headquarters. A motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to replace them but not to exceed \$1,500 All in favor.

Mr. Joshi Sham called Verizon. Because there are more than two computers, service is slow and the Boards plan is outdated. Will bring up under new business.

Phones in Chief's office discussed, also due to be upgraded.

Sham - looking at old minutes, special election results never read into minutes. Sham to provide for Donna

Mailboxes on Board office and Chief office. Sham will get done.

New Business – A motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. R. Buscaglia to upgrade the copier/printer/scanner with a Model 626 in the amount of \$3,255

Service contract, \$261 per quarter for both machines Roll call vote was taken all votes in the affirmative.

Door openers have been ordered. Avon should have them in 90 & 77

Mr. Joshi reported that he contacted Verizon for an upgrade to 75 megabite plan. Should be sufficient. Fax line in Board office Hope to upgrade to government package Motion made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by Mr. Robert Buscaglia All yes

Dan - purchase leaf blower for district Discussion followed. A motion was made by Mr. Joshi and seconded by C. Buscaglia to authorize the purchase, not to exceed \$400. A roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

Audience - Howard Clessmere asked why don't have POW flags any longer. Mr. Joshi reported that it was tattered, taken down. Will get a new one.

Flag in meeting room dragging the floor, can it be fixed. Caruso will be taken care of.

Andy Prochnow stated that he was gone last three months, and all he is hearing is rumors, on the Spicuzza matter. Mr. Caruso reported that the letter in question regarding the matter, is not attached to minutes, but can be read

into record again. Mr. Youssouf stated that he is willing to answer any specific questions. Andrew stated that he just wants to know the facts, he added that the letter didn't have to be read, he would take a copy. Board denied copy and requested that the letter be read again.

Mr. Youssouf reported that Mr. Spicuzza was suspended pending a hearing with the Board of Fire Commissioners. Dan engaged attorney. Contacted Mr. Youssouf stating that his client was suspended with no knowledge of his wrong doing.

Further reported that as per Mr. Spicuzza's attorney wrote a letter regarding adjournment is until November.

Mr. Youssouf asked if there were any other questions, and there were none. Mr. Prochnow stated that the only other concern was insurance..... JDY covered a misunderstanding of coverage's.

JDY any other questions. Mr. Caruso noted his disappointment not moving on issue tonight. Everyone is looking for closure.

A motion was made by Mr. R. Buscaglia and seconded by Mr. Joshi to enter into executive session at 9:01pm Roll call vote was taken, all votes in the affirmative.

Request President & Acting Chief to remain for executive session.

Regular session resumed at 9:34pm

Being no other business, the meeting was closed at 9:35

Respectfully submitted,

John Toutouchni, Secretary

jt/DLP