

**Board of Fire Commissioners
Fire District No. 1
330 Stillwells Corner Road
Freehold, NJ 07728**

Regular Meeting

October 27, 2020

Chairman John Toutouchi called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners to order at 7:32pm. Chief Dan Spicuzza led the flag salute, and the notice was read. Roll call was taken, and the Commissioners present at the meeting were John Toutouchi, Andrew Story, Michael Fogarty and Stephen Lengyel. Also in attendance were Board Attorney-Joseph Youssef and Board Secretary-Rachel Davis.

A moment of silence was held for the passing of Ex-Chief and Ex-Commissioner Jack Scherer.

Motion was made by Mr. Lengyel to approve the minutes from the 9/8, 9/22 10/6, 10/13 special workshop meetings and the 9/22 regular meeting.

Second: Mr. Fogarty

Roll call vote: 3-0 (Mr. Story abstained.)

Treasurer's Report: Commissioner Fogarty read the October 27, 2020 Treasurer's Report into record.

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to transfer \$23,000 from Ocean First money market to Ocean First checking and to pay the bills in the amount of \$22,271.51.

Second: Mr. Lengyel

Roll call vote: 4-0 all in favor

Insurance: Commissioner Toutouchi mentioned having two possible property damage claims as well as life insurance for Jack Scherer's family to give them the benefits that they are entitled to.

Buildings: Commissioner Lengyel reported that the generator at Smithburg is done. Flag light at District is done.

Website: Waiting on an update from Commissioner Horan.

Legal: Mr. Youssef provided the Board with a Resolution awarding the bay floor contract to George Koustas Painting and Construction, LLC, and read said resolution into record.

Motion was made by Mr. Story to adopt the Resolution Awarding a Contract to George Koustas Painting and Construction, LLC.

Second: Mr. Fogarty

Roll call vote: 4-0 all in favor

Mr. Youssouf also provided the Board with a contract between the Board of Commissioners and George Koustas Painting and Construction, LLC, to be signed by the Chairman and Mr. Koustas. The start date for the contract is when all parties have signed the contract.

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty authorizing Chairman Toutouchi to sign the contract between the Board of Fire Commissioners and George Koustas Painting and Construction, LLC.

Second: Mr. Story

Roll call vote: 4-0 all in favor

Commissioner Story will have Mr. Koustas sign said contract and provide him with a copy as well as to get a fully signed copy back to Mr. Youssouf.

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty and seconded by Mr. Lengyel to adopt a Resolution amending the Fire District's drug testing policy to incorporate the words that were added recently for the food ingestion. Said Motion was not voted on, as the Board decided to wait until Mr. Youssouf prepares a resolution with the correct (poppy seed) wording.

Chief's Report: Chief Dan Spicuzza read his report into record and also advised the Board that:

- Marissa S. and Collin M. are new members (The Board requested a review of the member list.);
- All lights on his car were fixed, and mud flaps will be put on;
- All testing was done;
- Camera system in 95 was ordered;
- No problems with the MDT's.

Board discussed the issue of the Chiefs' vehicle repairs with Chief Spicuzza. Mr. Youssouf noted that the Commissioners should be signing the repair contracts on the Fire District's vehicles, and Officers should not be signing. The Board will discuss this subject further at the next workshop meeting.

Mr. Toutouchi addressed the preemption system with Chief Spicuzza and noted that it is not in the best interest to have the preemption system on during non-emergencies. A discussion was held between the Board and Officers about getting the cars rewired. Officers chose to turn them off manually, as opposed to sending the cars back for repairs. Mr. Toutouchi will obtain a quote to have them rewired.

President's Report: Vice President John Catenacci reported as follows:

- Two new members Marissa S. & Collin M.;

- Someone needs to look into the water system on Georgia Road (salt system);
- Requested new sets of buntings and light bar coverings. Commissioner Story will look into it.

Old Business: Mr. Fogarty recapped the 2021 budget discussions that were held at the last few meetings. Because of the \$48,000 that the State of New Jersey requires for the Fire District to purchase mail-in ballots, that amount has increased the operating budget. Board agreed to \$115,000 for radios. Board will not finalize the following improvements to the building at this time: upgrading both bathrooms, HVAC, concrete apron, bay ceiling ventilation, pipes in hallway. Rather than putting all that in the budget, bonding was discussed. Mr. Youssouf recommended that the Board put all the improvements onto one issue on the February ballot, and the Board should not wait any later than mid December to have said ballot approved.

New Business: (none)

Audience: (none)

Motion was made by Mr. Story to take the meeting into executive session at 8:41pm for purposes of discussing lawyer/client privileged material.

Second: Mr. Fogarty

Roll call vote: 4-0 all in favor

Back from executive session at 9:25pm.

There being no further business, Mr. Lengyel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25pm.

Second: Mr. Story

4-0 all in favor

Respectfully submitted,

John Toutouchi, Chairman
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