

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

Regular Meeting

November 9, 2022

Chairman John Toutouchi called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners to order at 7:00pm, and Chief Haas led the flag salute. Roll call was taken, and the Commissioners present at the meeting were John Toutouchi, Michael Fogarty, Phil Engel and Stephen Lengyel. Board Secretary-Rachel Davis was also present at the meeting. Board Attorneys-Richard Braslow and Neil Braslow attended the meeting via teleconference.

Chairman Toutouchi suspended the normal order of business to allow Chief Haas to give his report before he had to leave and also to go into executive session.

Chief's Report: Chief Haas noted that there is hose and ladder testing coming up.

Motion was made by Mr. Lengyel to go into executive session at 7:02pm.

Second: Mr. Engel

Roll call vote: 4-0 all in favor

Board returned from executive session at 7:43pm.

Treasurer's Report: Commissioner Fogarty read the November 9, 2022 Treasurer's Report into record.

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to transfer \$46,000 from Ocean First Money Market to Ocean First checking and to pay the bills in the amount of \$43,191.79.

Second: Mr. Lengyel

Roll call vote: 4-0 all in favor

Motion was made by Mr. Lengyel to approve the minutes from the October 25, 2022 regular and executive meetings.

Second: Mr. Engel

Roll call vote: 4-0 all in favor

Legal: Mr. Braslow had nothing to report. Mr. Fogarty asked Mr. Braslow as to the architect's payment schedule. Mr. Fogarty made Mr. Braslow aware of the service problem on the ladder truck. Mr. Braslow said to contact him if they give the Board a problem. Mr. Braslow then excused himself from the meeting at 7:51pm.

Insurance: (none)

New Business: Commissioner Toutouchi brought up an issue about the District insurance covering members' personally owned items that break while on a fire call (i.e. cell phone). Board members discussed the matter in depth and came to the conclusion that they would cover certain items (glasses, hearing aids, braces, dental implants, etc.), as long as they are covered by insurance.

Mr. Braslow rejoined the meeting at 8:01pm.

Motion was made by Mr. Engel that any items which are medically needed to perform fire duties will be replaced if damaged on a firematic incident, drill or work detail, as long as these items are covered by insurance.

Second: Mr. Fogarty

Roll call vote: 3-1 motion passed

Mr. Engel: yes

Mr. Fogarty: yes

Mr. Lengyel: no

Mr. Toutouchi: yes

The employee/member handbook, which was discussed in closed session, was confirmed and will be in effect as of January 1, 2023.

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to adopt the Fire District No. 1 Employee/Member Handbook to be effective January 1st, 2023.

Second: Mr. Lengyel

Roll call vote: 4-0 all in favor

Commissioner Engel will send a message to notify all members.

Mr. Braslow left the meeting at 8:24pm.

The Board then discussed the motion from April 24, 2018 with reference to drug and alcohol testing after accidents. Mr. Toutouchi stated that, moving forward, the Board will continue with on-site drug testing if a member gets into an accident with District-owned vehicles.

The Board discussed ways to incentivize members. The Fire District No. 1 LOSAP Point System was then reviewed in detail, and the Board discussed changes to the LOSAP percentages.

Motion was made by Mr. Engel to change the current LOSAP Point System to reflect that the minimum of LOSAP points required to earn a year of active service be lowered to 30 points. Also, in Section 3, *Elected or Appointed Positions*, (25 points maximum), add “D) Engineers - 25 points.” This will all be effective from November 1, 2022 to October 31, 2023, the Fire Company fiscal year.

Second: Mr. Lengyel

Roll call vote: 4-0 all in favor

Audience: (none)

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:04pm and the Board will reconvene after the Special Meeting concludes.

Second: Mr. Engel

4-0 all in favor

Chairman Toutouchi reconvened the regular meeting at 9:08pm. The Commissioners present at the meeting were John Toutouchi, Michael Fogarty, Phil Engel and Stephen Lengyel. Board Secretary-Rachel Davis was also present at the meeting.

There being no further business, Mr. Lengyel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:09pm.

Second: Mr. Engel

4-0 all in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Engel, Secretary
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