

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

Regular Meeting

December 26, 2024

Chairman John Toutouchi called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners to order at 6:00pm and led the flag salute. Roll call was taken, and the Commissioners present at the meeting were John Toutouchi, Andrew Story, Michael Fogarty, Phil Engel and Jonathan Dunberg. Board Secretary- Rachel Davis was also present at the meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to open up the public budget hearing at 6:00pm.

Second: Mr. Engel

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

Chairman Toutouchi continued with the regular business meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to approve the minutes from the November 26, 2024 regular meeting.

Second: Mr. Dunberg

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

Treasurer's Report: Commissioner Fogarty read the December 26, 2024 Treasurer's Report into record.

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to transfer \$200,000 from Ocean First Money Market to Ocean First checking and to pay the bills in the amount of \$191,085.27.

Second: Mr. Story

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

Commissioner Fogarty noted that the high number is due to the bond payment. He also stated that DCA had questions about the operating budget, truck maintenance budget as well as the 2023 budget, so the Board cannot adopt the budget today, therefore, the hearing will remain open until the next meeting on January 14, 2025.

Insurance: Commissioner Dunberg had nothing to report.

Buildings: Commissioner Engel had nothing to report.

Commissioner Story updated the Board on the digital sign. The township has all the information. There will be a capital project meeting on January 16th, which he will attend and which an attorney will be present to represent the Board pro bono.

Commissioner Toutouchi noted that someone needs to check the rock salt in each building.

Chief's Report: 1st Assistant Chief Santore had nothing to report. Captain Mike Celano updated the Board on RedNMX. 2nd Assistant Chief Schneider is waiting on a call back from East Coast on 86's siren.

Fire Company: President Kevin Keane updated the Board on the recent election results:

Executive Board

President Kevin Keane
Vice President Mike Vota
Secretary Josh Olin
Assistant Secretary Marissa Celano
Treasurer Chris Puccio
Assistant Treasurer Dan Dunn

Line Officers

Chief Craig Haas
1st Assistant Chief Frank Santore
2nd Assistant Chief Erik Schneider
Captain Mike Celano
1st Lieutenant Bob Bereheiko
2nd Lieutenant Christian Frank

President Keane, on behalf of the Fire Company, expressed his appreciation for the support of the Fire Commissioners and is looking forward to continued support in 2025. Commissioner Toutouchi complimented the Line Officers and Executive Board for the great job on Operation Santa. Commissioner Fogarty advised President Keane that DCA wants an annual contract in the beginning of the year, so he will draw it up soon.

Old Business: Commissioner Dunberg advised the Board that the grant was submitted to FEMA on the 20th, and there won't be an answer until May or June.

Commissioner Story reminded the Board of the Saturday, February 15, 2025 elections. The only petition he received was from Commissioner Phil Engel. He hired four people to help with the elections. Commissioner Toutouchi advised that petitions must be submitted by January 17th.

New Business: (none)

Audience: (none)

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to go into executive session for personnel reasons at 6:25pm.

Second: Mr. Story

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

(back from executive at 7:08pm)

There being no further business, Mr. Fogarty made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:08pm.

Second: Mr. Engel

5-0 all in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Dunberg, Secretary
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