

**MEETING MINUTES  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
HOPEWELL BOROUGH DISTRICT NO. 1**

**February 13, 2013**

**PRESENT:** Chair Morehouse  
Cmsr. Evans  
Cmsr. Myers  
**ABSENT:** Cmsr. Anderson  
Cmsr. Bovenizer

The scheduled meeting of the board was called to order by Chairman Morehouse at 7:30 pm. Proof of publication under the Open Public Meetings Law (Annual Meeting Notice published in the official newspapers of the district, posted at the Hopewell Borough Municipal Building and the board offices) was provided.

**Minutes** (January 16, 2013)

On a motion by Cmsr. Evans and seconded by Cmsr. Myers, the minutes of the January 16, 2013 meeting were approved as presented.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Treasurers Report:**

A copy of the treasurer's report was made available to each commissioner with a list and description of the bills to be paid. The Chief Financial Officer certified that there were sufficient encumbered funds from the 2012 budget and sufficient unencumbered funds in the 2013 temporary budget to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged.

1. Bills were submitted to be paid from the 2012 encumbered funds in the amount of \$72,184.82. The most notable expense was the payment that will be due from the capital budget on delivery of the tanker (\$70,000.00). Bills were submitted to be paid from the 2013 temporary budget in the amount of \$19,908.23. The most significant expenditure was for insurance (\$14,837.00). On a motion by Cmsr. Morehouse and seconded by Cmsr. Myers, the foregoing bills were proposed for payment. Payment was approved on a roll call vote.
2. The tanker should be delivered before the next meeting. In accord with Resolution 12-018 and as approved by the Local Finance Board, Commissioners Evans and Morehouse will execute the documents necessary to secure financing for the balance due on delivery (\$176,603.12).
3. On a motion by Cmsr. Morehouse and seconded by Cmsr. Myers Resolution 13-12 was proposed. The board adopted **Resolution 13-12** certifying the board's review of the Local Finance Board's findings and recommendations relating to the tanker financing and authorizing a certified copy of the resolution and the group affidavit attesting to same to be delivered to the LFB.

**Fire Department Administration:**

1. A building committee has been formed and will meet in the next few weeks. One of the first projects is replacing the stone in the driveway.
2. Plans are underway for the annual Easter Egg Hunt.
3. The fire company awards dinner is February 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Ladies' Auxiliary:** No report

**EMU Report:**

1. 22 calls in January: 9 Township, 10 Borough, 3 other, and 1 scratched call. The scratched call occurred early on a weekday morning.
2. Pennington EMS will provide coverage during the annual awards dinner.
3. There will be a poison training seminar held this month.

**Fire Chief Report:**

1. 20 calls in December: 6 Township, 3 Borough, 2 Pennington Borough and 9 other.
2. East Amwell– The fire company is responding to a number of calls in East Amwell. In the past there was a contractual arrangement between the fire companies or the fire districts of East Amwell Township and Hopewell Borough that provided for payment to Hopewell for the provision of fire and EMS coverage in East Amwell. A question arose as to whether that arrangement still exists. The clerk will look for the agreement; Cmsr Morehouse will try to contact the chief at East Amwell as well.
3. A residential structure fire in East Amwell for which the Hopewell Fire Department provided assistance (3 trucks and manpower) resulted in damage to a ladder, a broken pike pole and a broken tail pipe on the engine.
4. Quint - The vehicle information center is broken. This is the second time the system has failed. The chief has contacted E-One and is awaiting a return call. He will report back to the board.
5. Rescue - Repairs (2012 encumbrances) have been completed – muffler, pump packings and transfer case leak.
6. Tanker - The truck should be ready for delivery within two weeks of the Hale pump being shipped to Sutphen, which is soon. Plans are being made for the final inspection trip. Cmsr. Evans would like to accompany the truck committee on the inspection trip.
7. DMV Registrations - All communication from DMV for two ambulances and the rescue truck are going to the Borough. A change of address somehow went through the DMV system when the Borough moved its offices and DMV is not making it easy to change back to the fire district's address. The clerk will check to be sure the names on the vehicle registrations were not affected and will help get the matter straightened out.

**Fire Official Report:** On file

**Committee Reports:** None

**Attorney Report:** None

**Other Business:**

**Annual Election and Budget Referendum:** Cmsr. Evans will open and will also close with polls with either Cmsr. Anderson or Bovenizer on February 16<sup>th</sup>. Carol Pfister and Lyle Kennedy were appointed poll workers. The two candidates for seats on the board are Schuyler Morehouse (3 yr. term) and Melvin Myers (1 yr. term).

**Joint Fire District Meeting:** The purpose of the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting is to discuss ways the three boards might work together in an effort to reduce costs and control cost escalation.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the board, on a motion by Cmsr. Evans and seconded by Cmsr. Morehouse, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on March 13, 2013.