

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

**June 12, 2013**

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

**Call to Order:** The scheduled meeting of the board was called to order by Commissioner Morehouse at 7:35 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 :** (May 8, 2013)

On a motion by Cmsr. Myers and seconded by Cmsr. Evans the minutes of the May 8, 2013 meeting were approved as presented.

**Public Comment:** Residents of 3 Columbia Avenue asked for an update on the construction/repair work being done in and around the firehouse. Roof and gutter replacement are going on at this time. An issue with the Plymovent system will require repair or replacement. Window replacement is completed, as is installation of a new heating system. Air conditioning is almost fully installed on the second floor. Diseased/damaged tree removal is complete. Unfortunately, this also required removal of smaller flowering trees. Monitoring wells at the rear of the building related to the in-ground oil tank removal have been drilled and will remain in place for about a year. The soil has tested clean but installation of the monitoring wells is mandated by law to ensure there is no residual contamination. There is no time-line for completion of all the repair and renovation projects (the driveway will be repaved at some point), as the fire company is paying for the work being done and it is being accomplished as cash flow allows. The roof alone cost about \$45,000.00. Interior remodeling is on-going; as members have time to devote, interior projects are completed. June 29<sup>th</sup> will be clean-up day and thereafter the dumpster will be removed. Insofar as audible sirens, silent first alarms for the EMU between 7 pm and 6am is being tried now, made possible by the establishment of nighttime duty crews. Topography issues cause a problem in attempting to silence fire alarms, however the board is mindful of residents' concerns in this regard and will continue to try to find a solution.

**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 unencumbered funds in the 2013 budget to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged.

Bills were submitted to be paid from the 2013 budget in the amount of \$ 10,406.96. The most significant expenditures were for fuel, counsel fees and annual cell phone stipend. CPR and 1<sup>st</sup> Aid classes (\$570.00) are provided free-of-charge to borough residents as a community service.

On a motion by Cmsr. Myers and seconded by Cmsr. Evans, the foregoing bills were presented for payment. Payment was approved on a roll call vote.

### **Fire Department Administration:**

1. Content of report was covered during Public Comment.
2. 19 Borough residents participated in the CPR and 1<sup>st</sup> Aid classes.
3. The Memorial Day parade was a success.

### **Ladies' Auxiliary:**

1. Dinner meeting was a success; they will not meet again until September.
2. The blanket sale is underway. Blankets are available in a variety of colors and the cost is \$40.00. Cmsr. Morehouse suggested a sample be displayed at Borough Hall so more people can see it.
3. Patriotic signs are being sold, similar to that on the firehouse lawn. The cost is \$20.00. MaryAnn VanDoren is organizing the sale and can be reached at 466-3060.

### **EMU Report:**

1. 26 calls in May: 14 Township, 10 Borough, 1 other. No scratched calls. 4 calls in Hopewell Borough were motor vehicle accidents.

### **Fire Chief Report:**

In the chief's absence, Rob Myers presented the report:

1. 19 calls in May: 12 Township, 4 Borough, 12 Pennington Borough and 1 other.
2. Township Chief's Meeting – Looking into creating a township-wide Rapid Intervention Team (RIT). Hopefully, a joint drill at the township-owned house remaining on the Pennytown tract can be held. The township is moving forward with plans to improve access for drafting where there are no hydrants. Two sites have been designated – one is on Route 31 south of Route 518 and the other is in Titusville.
3. Tanker - The new tanker will be returned to the station on Thursday. Radios and wireless headsets still need to be installed, however driver training has been completed and it is anticipated that the truck will be placed in full service shortly after its arrival. Attorney Griswold will contact the township board to confirm they have no interest in taking possession of the old tanker and once confirmed, will advise on public auction sites and other methods of selling the vehicle.
4. Utility Vehicle – Awaiting mechanic's advice whether it is possible to replace the motor with a rebuilt or used one.
5. Drills – An extrication drill was held at the firehouse a few weeks ago and a valley-wide company drill is planned for the Dempster Fire School.

**Fire Official Report:** On file

**Committee Reports:** None

**Attorney Report:** None

### **Other Business:**

Commissioner Evans informed the board that he has become a 25% owner of Odyssey Specialty Auto Group, a vendor that has done business with the board in the distant past. Should a business opportunity between the company and the board arise in the future, Cmsr. Evans will recuse himself from all conversations, deliberations and votes on any matter which involves or may involve the company.

### **Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the board, on a motion by Cmsr. Myers and seconded by Cmsr. Evans, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on July 10, 2013.