

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

**March 11, 2020**

**PRESENT:** Cmsr. Morehouse  
Cmsr. Bovenizer (arrived at 7:43)  
Cmsr. Davies  
Cmsr. Myers

**ABSENT:** Cmsr. Evans

**Call to Order:** The scheduled meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:02 pm by Chairman Morehouse following proof of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of the meeting was given through the Annual Meeting Notice and was filed with the municipal clerk, posted at the municipal building, the board's office, the fire district website, and advertised in the official newspapers of the district as required by law.

**Election Results:** The budget was approved by voters (34 YES 14 NO) at the February 15<sup>th</sup> election, the referendum for the ambulance was approved (39 YES and 10 NO) and Greg Davies and Mel Myers were re-elected to a three-year term on the Board of Fire Commissioners.

**Reorganization of Commissioners**

Motioned by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Evans and Davies that each commissioner will maintain the same positions in 2019 as they held in 2018. Motion passed unanimously with two absences.

Commissioner Morehouse—Chairman

Motioned by Commissioner Myers and seconded by Commissioner Davies to keep Chairman Morehouse as the chairman. Unanimously passed with two absences.

Commissioner Myers—Vice Chairman and Insurance Liaison

Motioned by Chairman Morehouse and seconded by Commissioner Davies to keep Commissioner Myers as the Vice Chairman. Motion unanimously passed with two absences.

Commissioner Davies—Secretary, LOSAP Officer, and Public Records Custodian

Motioned by Commissioner Myers and seconded by Chairman Morehouse to keep Commissioner Davies as the Secretary. Motion unanimously passed with two absences.

Commissioner Evans—Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Motioned by Commissioner Myers and seconded by Commissioner Davies to keep Commissioner Evans as the Treasurer. Motion unanimously passed with two absences.

Commissioner Bovenizer-PACO officer and Fire & EMU Liaison

Motioned by Commissioner Davies and seconded by Commissioner Myers to keep Commissioner Bovenizer as the PACO officer and Liaison. Motion unanimously passed with two absences.

**Minutes:**

On a motion by Commissioner Myers and seconded by Commissioner Davies the February 12, 2020 minutes were approved with two absences.

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

**Treasurer's Report: 20-18**

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 in the 2019 budget and the 2020 budget to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged.

1. Bills were submitted to be paid from the encumbered 2019 budget in the amount of \$7,508.14 and in the 2020 budget of \$30,935.61 for a total of \$38,443.75.

Motioned by Commissioner Davies and seconded by Commissioner Myers to pay the bills as submitted with a roll call vote.

2. The list of encumbrances from the 2019 encumbered budget and the 2020 budget was given to the Board for review.

**Hopewell Fire Department Administration:**

The Pancake breakfast was postponed. There is a officers meeting on March 6, 2020. As of now the dinner is still planned for March 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Ladies Auxiliary-**

There was no one present to give a report.

**EMU Chief Report:**--There were 25 calls for the month of February with 4 scratches. There was a demo for a power stretcher which met with mixed reviews. It was mentioned that the squad is looking to change the driving age from 21 to 18 which will require a change in the SOP's.

There is progress regarding the ambulance and state licensing. There are new policies for the COVID-19 virus and everyone has been trained and EMT's are getting fit tested.

**Fire Chief Report:**—There were 19 calls for the month of February with nothing big to report except for a fire in Amwell. The fuel issue has been resolved. The member will have to reimburse the Commission and is banned for life from public employment. The member was terminated from membership. The bylaws were changed regarding active members and a letter was sent out as per the changes. The letter met with a lot of hostility so there will be a letter of apology issued and a better explanation of the bylaws. There will be new signage for the parking lot.

#### **Insurance-**

The workers compensation audit was completed.

**Fire Official Report:** On file and a copy was provided to the Commissioners.

#### **Committee Reports**

**LOSAP** Commissioner Davies is waiting on a few applications to be filled out.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the board, on a motion by Cmsr. Bovenizer and seconded by Cmsr. Davies and approved the meeting adjourned at 8:14. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on April 8, 2020.

