

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

JANUARY 13, 2021

PRESENT: Cmsr. Morehouse
Cmsr. Bovenizer
Cmsr. Evans
Csmr. Davies
Cmsr. Myers

ABSENT:

Call to Order The regularly scheduled meeting was conducted remotely by means of a web-based conference call through Google and was called to order by Chairman Morehouse at 7:00 pm, following adequate notice under the Open Public Meetings Law (annual notice published and revised meeting notice published in the Times of Trenton and Hopewell Valley News, provided to the Hopewell Borough Clerk for filing and posting, posted at the Board offices and on the fire district's web site providing information on how the public could access and join the meeting, as well as provided to any person requesting same in advance of the meeting.)

Minutes:

On a motion by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Myers the December 9, 2020 minutes were approved with no absences.

On a motion by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Davies the December 15, 2020 minutes were approved with one abstention.

Resolutions 21-02 through 21-07 and 21-09 and 21-10

Motioned by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Evans to approve resolutions 21-02 through 21-07 and 21-09 and 21-10 all at one time. Motion passed with no absences.

Resolution 21-02 was a resolution designating depositories of funds and a cash management plan. Resolution 21-03 was a resolution appointing an attorney for 2021. Resolution 21-04 was a resolution appointing a clerk for 2021. Resolution 21-05 was a resolution appointing an accountant/auditor for 2021. Resolution 21-06 was a resolution appointing official newspapers for 2021. Resolution 21-07 was a resolution authorizing the budget to be read by title. Resolution 21-09 was a resolution appointing an insurance broker for 2021. Resolution 21-10 was a resolution adopting a temporary budget for 2021.

Treasurer's Report: 21-01

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 previously certified that there were sufficient encumbered funds in the 2020 budget and the 2021 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 2020 budget of \$19,352.60 and the 2021 temporary budget of \$25,609.01 for a total of \$44,961.61. Motioned by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Evans to pay the bills as submitted with a roll call vote.
2. The list of encumbrances from the 2020 budget and the 2021 temporary budget was given to the Board for review.

Public Hearing 2021 Budget

Motioned by Commissioner Evans and seconded by Commissioner Bovenizer to open the public hearing for the 2021 budget.

No public present at meeting.

Due to the fact the Governor pushed back the election date, there may be some changes that have to be made regarding the paragraph regarding when the election is conducted. Attorney Griswold has a call into the State to check on that and if changes have to be made that will happen prior to the submission of the budget.

Motioned by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Evans to close the public hearing for the 2021 budget.

Resolution 21-08

Motioned by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Davies to pass the resolution adopting the 2021 budget.

Motion passed with no absences.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Hopewell Fire Department Administration:

The monthly meetings are still being conducted virtually. Santa riding around town on the fire truck was a big success with the citizens of the town. Even if Project Santa occurs next year, the fire department may still do the Santa ride thorough town. The new 3rd Vice President is Franck Scalice.

Ladies Auxiliary-

There was no one present to give a report.

Fire Chief Report:—There were 19 calls for the month of December and 261 calls for the year of 2020. Chief Mullen provided a breakdown of the calls for service. The new fireground ID system will be implemented as soon as all the cards are made. There was a serious MVA a few days after Christmas and counseling services were offered to those on the call. The patient was extricated within 16 minutes. The Governor moved firefighters into group 1a so more people will be able to be vaccinated. There are 164 interested first responders in the Valley and they will be vaccinated as soon as possible. At the chief officers meeting it was decided that all mandatory training will be conducted virtually. Goals for 2021 include moving away from Firehouse Software, considering going to paperless Purchase Orders, trying to do more training, replacing hose and large appliances, and discussing the options with Brush 52.

EMU Chief Report:--There were 27 calls for the month of December with 2 scratches and 263 calls for the year with 35 scratches. Most of the scratches occur during the weekdays during the day. A152-2 had a problem with the water pump. 2 or more EMT's will be returning to ride the ambulances. The SOP's are being worked on as they are required to be updated for State certification. It was decided to try to get the SOP's submitted to the Commissioners by March for approval and apply for certification from the State by May.

Resolution 21-11

Motioned by Commissioner Myers and seconded by Commissioner Davies to approve the resolution approving transfers for the 2020 budget.

Motion passed with no absences.

It was mentioned that \$7,000 was spent on COVID-19 supplies but the fire company is applying to FEMA for reimbursements.

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

Committee Reports

LOSAP

The Fire Department is working to get the LOSAP numbers to Commissioner Davies as soon as possible.

Attorney Report:

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the board, on a motion by Cmsr. Evans and seconded by Cmsr. Davies and approved the meeting adjourned at 8:30. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on February 9 2021 via Google Meet.