

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

**August 11, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Cmsr. Morehouse  
Cmsr. Bovenizer  
Cmsr. Davies (attended via Google Meet)  
Csmr. Evans (arrived at 7:06)  
Cmsr. Myers

**ABSENT:**

**Call to Order:** The regularly scheduled meeting was conducted both in person and remotely by means of a web-based conference call through Google and was called to order by Chairman Morehouse at 7:00, following adequate notice under the Open Public Meetings Law (annual notice published and revised meeting notice published in the Times of Trenton and transmitted to the Hopewell Valley News provided to the Borough Clerk for 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 Myers and seconded by Commissioner Bovenizer the July 14, 2021 minutes were approved with no absences.

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

**Treasurer's Report: 21-36**

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 2021 budget to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged.

1. Bills were submitted to be paid from the 2021 budget in the amount of \$52,260.98.
2. Motioned by Commissioner Evans and seconded by Commissioner Bovenizer to pay the bills as submitted with a roll call vote.

3. The list of encumbrances from the 2021 budget was given to the Board for review.

### **Hopewell Fire Department Administration:**

The meeting in August was conducted in person. The Fire Department participated in National Night Out and provided tables and the grill as well as trucks to display. The Department incorporated the annual awards for 2020 and 2021 into the meeting.

### **Ladies Auxiliary-**

The Ladies Auxiliary are on summer vacation.

**EMU Chief Report:**--There were 26 calls for July with 7 scratches mostly in the day. Chief Brown is trying to bring back people that have taken a step back. The trucks seem to be in good shape. Chief Brown is looking to have a CORE refresher in October. The updated SOP's are waiting on feedback from the attorney.

**Fire Chief Report:**—There were 25 calls for July with 11 calls in the township and 5 in the borough. Included in these calls were a shed fire, an electrical fire and 2 house fires as well as fire alarms. The Tanker was driven out to Pennsylvania where drawings were made for the redesigned tanker. The truck was then taken to Sutphen where it will be repaired. It will take 10-12 weeks to receive the tank. Sutphen will install the tank, fix the pump panel and repaint. There will be a warranty on the new tank. The Board would like a letter from Sutphen in assurance that they are responsible for all promised aspects of the repairs. Past Chief Joseph Novack and Chris Jones will be new fire commissioners in Hopewell Township in the next year. Rescue 52 will be taken to Hopewell Township Youth Police Academy and members will demonstrate an extrication. On September 8<sup>th</sup>, members will be setting out flags at the 9-11 memorial at Woolsey Park. On Saturday September 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am the 9-11 memorial event will take place at Woolsey Park. In addition to remembering the events from 9-11 the names of members who passed away the previous year and this year will be announced. There will also be a 9-11 golf tournament.

### **Insurance-**

No report

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

### **Committee Reports**

**LOSAP** The return of non-vested money from member's LOSAP accounts was discussed. Commissioner Davies spoke to the Township about the returning of funds and the answer he got was vague. Commissioner Davies is going to continue with this project.

**Legal--** As Attorney Griswold will be retiring at the end of the year a new lawyer must be found for the Board. 2 lawyers attended the meeting. Casey Acker works at the Lenox Law Firm and handles defense of school boards, municipalities and some fire districts. Richard Friedman lives in Hopewell Borough and mainly works for teachers associations and PBA's. Both men were welcomed to the meeting and introduced themselves and stayed for the meeting. They will email their resumes to the Board Clerk.

It was decided to advertise for 30 days and collect resumes and then interview lawyers for the job.

Motioned by Chairman Morehouse to put in a formal ad on the New Jersey League of Municipalities web site "Municipal Job Openings " and seconded by Commissioner Evans. Motion passed with no absences.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the board, on a motion by Cmsr. Evans and seconded by Cmsr. Bovenizer approved the meeting adjourned at 8:52. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on September 8, 2021.