

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

JANUARY 12, 2022

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 hybrid conference call through Google and in person 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 Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Davies the December 8, 2021 minutes were approved with no absences.

Resolutions 22-02 through 22-07 and 22-09 and 22-10

Motioned by Commissioner Evans and seconded by Commissioner Bovenizer to approve resolutions 22-02 through 22-07 and 22-09 and 22-10 all at one time. Motion passed with no absences.

Resolution 22-02 was a resolution designating depositories of funds and a cash management plan. Resolution 22-03 was a resolution appointing an attorney for 2022. Resolution 22-04 was a resolution appointing a clerk for 2022. Resolution 22-05 was a resolution appointing an accountant/auditor for 2022. Resolution 22-06 was a resolution appointing official newspapers for 2022. Resolution 22-07 was a resolution authorizing the budget to be read by title. Resolution 22-09 was a resolution appointing an insurance broker for 2022. Resolution 22-10 was a resolution adopting a temporary budget for 2022.

Treasurer's Report: 22-01

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 2021 budget and the 2022 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 2021 budget of \$2,505.63 and the 2022 temporary budget of \$15,834.25 for a total of \$18,339.87. Motioned by Commissioner Evans and seconded by Commissioner Myers to pay the bills as submitted with a roll call vote.
2. The list of encumbrances from the 2021 budget and the 2022 temporary budget was given to the Board for review.

Public Hearing 2022 Budget

Motioned by Commissioner Evans and seconded by Commissioner Bovenizer to open the public hearing for the 2022 budget.

There was no public comment or questions regarding the 2022 budget.

Motioned by Commissioner Evans and seconded by Commissioner Bovenizer to close the public hearing for the 2022 budget.

Resolution 22-08

Motioned by Commissioner Myers and seconded by Commissioner Bovenizer to pass the resolution adopting the 2022 budget.

Motion passed with no absences.

Resolution 22-11

Motioned by Commissioner Bovenizer and seconded by Commissioner Evans to approve the resolution authorizing a lease agreement with Hopewell Fire Department for the period of January 2022 through December 2022.

Motion passed with no absences.

Resolution 22-12

Motioned by Commissioner Myers and seconded by Commissioner Evans to pass the resolution authorizing insurance premium installment payments between meetings.

Motion passed with no absences.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Hopewell Fire Department Administration:

The tree lighting went well. Project Santa was a success earning about \$3000.00 for the fire department. Presents were delivered to 102 houses. Santa also rode through the town which was well received by the community. The dinner dance is on hold at this time, but not canceled.

Ladies Auxiliary-

There was no one present to give a report.

EMU Chief Report:--There were 21 calls for the month of December with 7 scratches and 333 calls for the year. Three members have started EMT class. Chief Tunison is trying to catch up with the process for state certification. She is updating all the rosters and tracking down members certifications.

Fire Chief Report:—There were 321 calls for 2021. Firehouse Software, the program fire calls are tracked in, was bought out so the fire department will have to get a new tracking system. Chief Galatro is working on getting 3 quotes for a new program. It was suggested to try to partner with Hopewell Township and use their tracking system to save costs. Chief Galatro is also in the process of getting quotes for truck maintenance. A group of members went to go inspect the Tanker and it should return within 4 weeks. A lot of old radios and pagers were found and Chief Galatro would like to dispose of them. It was suggested to put them up on Municibid for auction.

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

Committee Reports

LOSAP

Attorney Griswold sent Commissioner Davies a few emails regarding the process of recouping non-vested members funds. Commissioner Davies needs some time to go over the emails. All accounts of non-vested members have been identified and they fall into 2 categories. The process of recouping the funds has been placed on hold until all questions are answered.

Attorney Report:

The SOP's are being dealt with by the Fire Department and the attorneys. Casey Acker, the new Board Attorney was welcomed.

Reorganization of the Board

Chairman—Motioned by Commissioner Myers and seconded by Commissioner Evans to nominate Sky Morehouse for the position of Chairman. Nomination was accepted and motion passed with no absences.

Vice Chairman – Motioned by Chairman Morehouse and seconded by Commissioner Evans to nominate Mel Myers for the position of Vice Chairman. Nomination was accepted and motion passed with no absences.

Treasurer—Motioned by Chairman Morehouse and seconded by Commissioner Bovenizer to nominate Paul Evans for the position of Treasurer. Nomination was accepted and motion passed with no absences.

Secretary—Motioned by Chairman Morehouse and seconded by Commissioner Evans to nominate Greg Davies for the position of Secretary. Nomination was accepted and motion passed with no absences.

The PACO officer will be decided at the next meeting.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the board, on a motion by Cmsr. Myers and seconded by Cmsr. Evans approved the meeting adjourned at 8:30. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on February 9, 2022 via Google Meet and in person.

