

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

September 14, 2022

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

ABSENT:

Call to Order: The scheduled meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 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.

Minutes:

Motioned by Chairman Morehouse and seconded by Commissioner Myers to approve the July 13, 2022 minutes as printed.

Motion passed with one abstention.

Motioned by Commissioner Evans and seconded by Commissioner Blasi to approve the August 10, 2022 meeting minutes as printed.

Motion passed with two abstentions.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Treasurer's Report: 22-30

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 funds in the 2022 budget to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged.

1. Bills were submitted to be paid from the 2022 budget in the amount of \$75,152.71 with an insurance payment of \$4332.00 on August 22, 2022.
2. Motioned by Commissioner Myers and seconded by Commissioner Blasi to pay the bills as submitted with a roll call vote.
3. The list of encumbrances from the 2022 budget was given to the Board for review.

The bills were discussed, specifically the Waste Management bill. A copy of the contract was given to the board attorney for his review and the President of the Fire Department spoke with the new tenants at the restaurant and he is confident the bill can be split. The remaining 2022 budget was discussed.

Hopewell Fire Department Administration:

No report given.

Ladies Auxiliary-

There was no one present to give a report.

EMU Chief Report:--There were 36 calls for the month of August with 12 scratches. There are currently 3 members out on medical leave. 1 member is in the process of recertifying and 1 member passed EMT class. The power lift for the new stretcher has arrived and the stretcher will be delivered in December. The State determined that the trustees of the Fire Department should be fingerprinted for certification so Chief Tunison is working on getting the trustees on board. The Harvest Fair is on September 17th and there will be a 5K run on September 24th. Chief Tunison and Lieutenant Morehouse gave an informed presentation at the Hopewell Borough Council meeting. The mayors from Hopewell Borough, Pennington Borough and Hopewell Township will be meeting about the state of EMS in the Valley. There was a discussion about approaching the Department of Public Works and offering incentives to take EMS training and then the workers could respond to calls during work hours. State certification was discussed by a member of the fire department as well as coming up with creative recruiting methods.

Fire Chief Report:—There were 33 calls in the month of August. Chief Galatro solicited 3 quotes for a new thermal imaging camera. The lowest quote was \$5995. New swift water gear will be ordered and it will be paid by donations to the fire company. Chief Galato is working on getting quotes for new Milwaukee tools. There was a problem with the CAFS system on the Quint but it was repaired. There was a fire on Hart Ave which was extinguished quickly. Wildwood weekend is coming up and members of the fire department will be looking at replacement fire engines for a reasonable price that fits the needs of the department.

Legal- Attorney Acker will work with the President of the Fire Department regarding the Waste Management contract.

LOSAP

A non-vested member reached out to Commissioner Davies and stated they had enough points to qualify for the LOSAP deposit but did not receive the points and no deposit was made. The member stated this was 10 years ago. It was decided by the Board that 10 years was too far out for a claim to be made. The letters for recouping the funds have been drafted but not finalized. There are two different letters, 1 for members who have been away from the department for an extended period of time and another letter for members who have been away for 5 years or less.

Insurance-

No report

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

Committee Reports

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the board, on a motion by Cmsr. Evans and seconded by Cmsr. Davies approved the meeting adjourned at 8:30. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on October 12, 2022 in person and via Google Meet.