

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

**April 12, 2023**

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

**Call to Order:** The scheduled meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chairman Morehouse following proof of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice 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:**

Commissioners reviewed minutes. Noted by Cmsr. Blasi to fix date to 3/8, Motion by Davies, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Blasi, all in favor approving March minutes.

**Public Comment:** None present

Spoke in reference to Resolution 2023-25, where one member was short changed on their LOSAP contribution. Motion was tabled until May when groupnet totals are available.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Resolution 2023-26 was discussed to which was amending the March 2023 treasurers report (2023-21) due to the LOSAP payment not being made. Check #12103 in the amount of \$25,378.55 was voided which made the new bill total only \$33,309.25. Motion made by Cmsr. Davies, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cmsr. Evans with a roll call vote all in the affirmative passing via majority 5-0 motion carries.

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 encumbered 2022 budget and the 2023 budget to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged.

Bills were submitted to be paid from the 2022 budget in the amount of \$11,762.75 and \$39,307.26 from 2023 budget. Motioned by Commissioner Evans and seconded by Commissioner Myers to pay the bills as submitted with a roll call vote all in the affirmative passing via majority. Resolution 2023-27 roll call vote 5-0 motion carries.

**Fire Department Administration:**

Breakfast being held 5/7. Fund drive was sent out. Hope to recruit new members. Working on a to do project list for members. Working on stocking up on dry clothes for time of emergencies. Board asked if Admin could ask for donations from community. President Scalice will look into it.

**Ladies Aux:** No report

**EMU Report:**

Chief Read advised 45 calls for the month, expecting Ambulance donation by Squad 151. Looking into contracting with East Amwell to cover EMS in lower portion of Hunterdon. Issues with 154 dispatched into Ewing and Lawrence. Commissioner Morehouse will reach out to Mayor Steinmann of Ewing.

**Fire Chief Report:**

30 calls reported for fire last month. Training is ongoing, water rescue equipment continues to arrive. Replaced tire on Quint at a fire scene, due to a misplaced tool. Also need to replace tires on Quint and Tanker due to 7 year life limit as per DOT laws. Quote for \$3,701.03 for 4 tires. Chairman Morehouse would like to make sure that we don't replace all tires at once in order to not overburden the budget line. Had officer meeting, will postpone engine replacement. Would like to save money to replace Quint in 2027. Chairman Morehouse advised the truck may not be replaced without looking into refurbishment if there is a substantial cost savings. The Board cannot necessarily afford a \$2 million dollar expenditure. Looking to replace the Utility truck.

**Fire Official Report:** on file

**Attorney Report:** No Report

**Committee Reports:**

Resolution 2023-28 to remove claimant signatures when appropriate from purchase orders, motion made by Cmsr. Davies, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cmsr. Evans roll call vote held, motion passes 5-0.

Resolution 2023-29 to allow Board to enter into an MOU with NJSP OEM to receive COVID fund reimbursement, motion made by Cmsr. Myers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cmsr. Evans roll call vote held, motion passes 5-0.

Resolution 2023-30 closed executive session for personnel matters, moved by Commissioner Davies, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Myers. Roll call 5-0 motion carries. Entered into closed session at 8:32 pm. Returned to public session at 9:23 pm.

\*Closed session minutes are not for public release at this time.

**Public Comment (non-agenda):** No public in attendance to comment.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the board, on a motion by Commissioner Morehouse and seconded by Commissioner Davies unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on May 10, 2023.