

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

**July 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 7:02 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. Motion by Blasi, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Davies, all in favor approving June minutes.

**Public Comment:** None

**Treasurer's Report:**

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

Bills were submitted to be paid in the amount of \$22,013.09 from 2023 budget. Motioned by Commissioner Blasi and seconded by Commissioner Myers to pay the bills as submitted with a roll call vote all in the affirmative passing via majority. Resolution 2023-36 roll call vote 5-0 motion carries.

**Fire Department Administration:**

Concerts in the park has started FD made \$692 selling food. Currently 17 juniors in our program. Getting people from all over the county inquiring about participation. Key system being replaced with new system to include cameras. Upcoming budgeting for 2024 to include possible reimbursement of key system and looking into further improvements. Spoke about ways to increase certain lines of budget for future building expansion.

**Ladies Aux:** None

**EMU Report:**

Chief Read advised 36 calls for the month with only 3 scratches. Work being completed on 152-3, to include new tires and steering linkage. Spoke about EMS calls in relation to 2022, and how the numbers

are askew due to the career staff now covering calls that would have been considered a scratch. Chief Read arrived and went thru staffing levels and discussed the scratched calls (on weekend days no career staff) and how he was hoping new members will be able to fill in the gaps.

**Fire Chief Report:**

21 calls reported for fire last month. Quint 52 is in service, with \$11,019.20 in total repairs. Gear purchase for this year was only budgeted for \$17,000, and the quote came in at \$23,011.45. Brush truck almost complete just have to finish brakes. Hose and pump testing will be scheduled in August. Should have the utility info in August.

**Fire Official Report:** on file

**Attorney Report:** n/a

**Committee Reports:** LOSAP – Commissioner Davies is issuing a letter to recoup 95% of stagnant accounts. Holding back on 6 accounts out of 44. Had Lincoln Financial confirm deposits were correct. Spoke about accepting members from other LOSAP programs and enrolling them at their current step. Will formulate a resolution to accept transfers.

Insurance – Workers Comp took on the injury of junior member. More members mean higher insurance costs.

Budgeting will start at the August meeting, need to be mindful of rising costs, loss of certain annual payments, and long term goals.

Elections – Commissioner Davies, Evans\* and Blasi have to have their petitions filed in the clerk's office by 4pm on July 31, 2023.

\*- Commissioner Evans is not up for election, it was actually Commissioner Myers.

Notified of award of covid grant reimbursement from NJSP OEM for \$8,641.88.

**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 Evans, unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on August 9, 2023.