

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

**May 10, 2023**

**PRESENT:** Cmsr. Morehouse      Cmsr. Myers  
                 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. Noted by Chief Read to replace contracting and add supporting, question asked by public as to who the 3 Chiefs were from Hunterdon, answered by Chief Read, as Tom Hoffman, Jason Strauss, and Patrick Eckard. Motion by Myers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Blasi, all in favor approving April minutes.

**Public Comment:** None

Spoke in reference to Resolution 2023-25, tabled at April meeting. New groupnet totals were presented with the Boro paying \$25,496.51 and the Township paying \$59,491.88 for LOSAP contribution. Motion was moved by Davies, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Blasi, all in favor motion passed 4-0.

**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 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 \$25,496.51 and \$17,943.89 from 2023 budget. Motioned by Commissioner Blasi and seconded by Commissioner Davies to pay the bills as submitted with a roll call vote all in the affirmative passing via majority. Resolution 2023-31 roll call vote 4-0 motion carries.

**Fire Department Administration:**

Breakfast served 661 guests raising over \$4,000, last year only served 311. Boot drive postponed to end of month during car show. Getting ready for Memorial Day Parade.

**Ladies Aux:** Commissioner Morehouse recognized Mrs. Eileen Toth and all of her dedication to the community and Department.

**EMU Report:**

Chief Read advised 36 calls for the month, getting ready for Memorial Day Parade. Attended airport drill has positive feedback. 10 days ago received 151-3 now to be converted to 152-3, and a \$100,000 donation from PFAS. NJFAC inspected the rig, waiting on registration from motor vehicle. Tomorrow NJSP delivering PPE to Hopewell Valley. Some maybe expiring soon as 1/2024. Picked up new members, and have up to 2 crews on at night. 154 still going to Ewing and Lawrence. Commissioner Blasi states scratches are down almost 50% with call increases. Commissioner Myers added new rig to insurance policy, and increased the replacement value of 152-1, 152-2. Will discuss the plans with Chiefs on the future of 152-2. Past Chief Springer made a point to utilize 3<sup>rd</sup> rig with visibility of using as a special rehab unit making the SS a better equipped unit for special ops/assignments.

**Fire Chief Report:**

23 calls reported for fire last month. Tires for Quint and Tanker will be done on Monday. MC Airport drill was attended, waiting on hotwash. In reference to refurbishing Quint, there is not a lot of interest from vendors. Asked about how to go about purchasing new utility. Need to go to referendum in November and be added to 2024 budget. Valley wide air pack purchase coming up. Old utility will be auctioned off. Commissioner Morehouse will inquire with the accountant about taking money out of capital reserve. Discussion as to how to go about acquiring the vehicle.

**Fire Official Report:** on file

**Attorney Report:** No Report – will discuss in executive

**Committee Reports:**

Resolution 2023-32 closed executive session for personnel matters, moved by Commissioner Myers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Blasi. Roll call 4-0 motion carries. Entered into closed session at 8:05 pm. Returned to public session at 8:21 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 8:40 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on June 14, 2023.