

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

September 13, 2023

PRESENT: Cmsr. Myers
Cmsr. Davies Cmsr. Blasi

Call to Order: The scheduled meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:03 pm by Secretary Davies 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, 2nd by Myers, all in favor approving August minutes.

Public Comment: Mark Bovenizer asked to have ACH form completed for payment of auctioned items by Municibid.

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 Clerk certified that there were sufficient funds in the 2023 budget to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged.

Resolution 2023-38 was read and discussed by Board members, motioned by Davies, 2nd by Blasi, all in favor motion passed.

Bills were submitted to be paid in the amount of \$153,095.94 of which \$110,973.20 comes from LOSAP refund, \$42,122.74 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 2023-39 roll call vote 3-0 motion carries.

Fire Department Administration:

Proper grounding for radio antenna will be done with guidance from Stony Brook Lightning Rods owner. Materials will possibly be donated or sold at cost. Check received from Amwell Valley Rescue for handling calls. Was advised to not deposit check, will speak with attorney offline and draw up a shared services agreement. Looking to keep these mutual aid services within a geographical area, possible tiered payment plan. New cameras and door system operational.

Ladies Aux: None

EMU Report:

Chief Read advised hit 300 calls for the year. Brought in 3 new members. Looking to get a bunk room designated within spec of State law that requires fire alarm system for members sleeping at station. Looking to have 1 or 2 beds. Met with leadership of PFAS and was advised of another possible gift.

Fire Chief Report:

26 calls reported for fire last month. 9/11 memorial had good turnout. Career staff will staff station extended hours while members are away at fireman's convention in Wildwood. Deputy Chief vehicle has been lettered and will be outfitted with radios by next week. Expedition will be added to auction, HTFD #1 has denied first right of refusal. Currently have one student in FF1. Would like to move forward with purchase of boat, motor and trailer. Resolution 2023-40 read and motioned by Commissioner Myers, 2nd by Blasi. Motion passed 3-0, all pricing is under state contract.

Fire Official Report: on file

Attorney Report: n/a

Committee Reports: 2024 Budget – Several discussions on budget lines and decreasing/increasing amounts. Budget total has been kept to under 2% cap.

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 Davies and seconded by Commissioner Blasi, unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on October 11, 2023.