

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

**November 13, 2024**

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

**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.

**Executive Session:** The board voted to go into executive session at 19:05. Moved by Evans seconded by Davies. Returned at 19:27 and resumed public meeting.

**Minutes:**

Commissioners reviewed October minutes and with a motion by Commissioner Myers and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Blasi the motion passes 5-0, all in favor.

**Public Comment:** Council member Hook advised of the ongoing inquiry with the redevelopment of 57 Hamilton Ave. is now in the planning board phase.

**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 2024 budget to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged.

Bills were submitted to be paid from the 2024 budget for a total of \$58,837.38. Motioned by Commissioner Davies and seconded by Commissioner Evans to pay the bills as submitted with a roll call vote all in the affirmative passing via majority. Resolution 2024-48 passed 5-0.

Resolution 2024-51 to purchase portable radios; motion moved by Commissioner Blasi, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Evans, all in favor passes 5-0.

Resolution 2024-49 transferring of funds between budget lines was tabled due to incorrect budget report.

**Fire Department Administration:** No one present

**Ladies Aux:** No one present

**EMU Report:**

Looking to push along EMS fees from Boro Council. Chief Read states that he cannot submit the application for State certification until the fee schedule has been established. Waiting to meet with Twp to discuss fees. Chairman Morehouse asked clerk to obtain various fees from surrounding towns that bill. Chief Read reported 48 calls for the month. Duchess Lake passed away; the Department will be attending wake.

**Fire Chief Report:**

Chief Galatro reports 41 calls for October. Many brush fires. 2 scratches so far this year. One was for a cover assignment, other was a fire alarm during the day. Looking to purchase a gas meter to replace an aging one that does 4 gases. Has quote for ff gear to move forward with purchase. Waiting on 2 trunking radios to test with before making a decision on purchase, as well as air packs. Large Brush fire believed to be caused by train at the Golf Course. Current restrictions in place restrict charcoal grills and open fire pits. Officers next year Galatro, Fenton, Springer, Joe Novak, Bobby Jones, Marcus Jones, and Bovenizer.

**Fire Official Report:** on file

**Attorney Report:** None

**Committee Reports:**

**Election** - Paul Evans will concede the election, however since neither candidate had 10 votes, the election was not able to be called. The 5<sup>th</sup> commissioner spot will remain open until appointed by Board to fill the vacancy until the next election in 2025. John Blasi won his seat until 2027.

Resolution 2024-50 Shared services agreement for fire safety to provide fire inspection services. Will move to a three-year contract. Motion moved by Commissioner Myers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Evans. Motion passes 5-0.

**Public Comment (non-agenda):** None

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the board, on a motion by Cmsr. Davies and seconded by Cmsr. Morehouse unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the board will be held on December 11, 2024.