

The Commissioners of Fire District No. 1  
In the Township of South Brunswick  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
October 9, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District NO. 1, in the Township of South Brunswick, was called to order at 6:33 p.m., by Chairman Orchard, in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

**Roll Call:**

Members present: Commissioners Berezansky, Hohmeier, Olson, Orchard and Josephson.

Members absent: none

**Flag Salute:** completed

**Agenda Changes:** none

**Address from the Public:** none

**Approval of September Regular Meeting Minutes:** Mr. Hohmeier made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and Mr. Josephson seconded it. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

**Reports:**

Line Activities – Chief Perez reported the following:

- Stats for Sept: 35 fire calls, 1 training drill, 2 work details. YDT: 256 fire calls, 20 training drills and 21 work details. He noted that the Company is still on track for a very busy year.
- There were also a couple of mutual aid calls.

President – Mr. Melchisky was not present at the meeting.

Treasurer's Report/Voucher List - Ms. Berezansky presented the report (file copy attached). She stated that all the bills for the month had been paid and noted that there was a large payment for Workman's Comp coverage.

She also reported that there is \$200K left in the budget but next month all insurance policies will need to be paid, which was reduce that amount.

After review of the Voucher List, Mr. Olson made a motion to approve as presented and Mr. Josephson seconded it. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

Secretary's Report – Mr. Olson had nothing to report.

Fire Coordinator's Report – Mr. Perez reported the following:

1. The pagers have been ordered and the Township will pay for them. They should be in service by the beginning of the new year. The current system is currently functioning well.
2. He had a conference call with the Auditor and the State and found out that the District had not used its Budget Cap for the last two years, which means that some of the money in the Budget Cap Bank can be used to offset next year's budget, without have to go for a referendum to raise the tax rate. The amounts are: 15K from 2021; 17K from 2023 and 217K from 2022. Because of these monies, the District can consider doing some capital projects.
3. Mr. Perez noted that there will be an increase Workman's Comp next year; this will be discussed at next month's meeting regarding the 2024 Budget.
4. He is still working to get into a co-op to get rid of Truck 221.
5. Mr. Perez reported that the National Volunteer Fire Council has come out with a EAP (Employee Assistance Program) which helps Firefighters who may mental health or financial issues. He would like to include this in with the regular Company's insurance. The cost is \$21.99 per members annually, which is nice benefit for a relatively low cost. The Board agreed it was worthwhile, so Mr. Perez will get more information on the program.

Chairman's Report – Mr. Orchard had nothing to report.

Standing Committee Reports –

*Fire Company Liaison* – nothing to report.

*Rescue Squad Liaison* – nothing to report

*Public Relations* – the Open House was held last Sat.

*State Association* – no report, as no one attended the meeting.

*Insurance* - all are currently up to date.

**Unfinished Business:** Mr. Olson reported that he had looked into the A/C & Heat issues at Station 23. He will make some changes to take care of the issues. He suggested that Board consider budgeting for a new boiler, because the existing boiler may not last.

**New Business:** Budget discussions will be held at next month's meeting.

**Executive Session:** none

**Address from the Public:** none

**Adjournment:** As there was no further business to discuss, Ms. Berezansky made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Hohmeier seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonnie R. L. Knigge

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