

The Commissioners of Fire District No. 1

In the Township of South Brunswick

October 13, 2009

Executive Session

Insurance: Mr. Orchard reported that the Accidental Death and Dismemberment policy, as well as the Property and Casualty policies are up for renewal on November 1st. Currently the Board uses Bollinger Insurance Company, who, except for a problem with the insurance upgrade of life insurance, has been fine to work with and have paid claims without any problems. There are differences in the costs for the various policies between Bollinger and VFIS, however, it is not known if the coverages are the same. The Commissioners directed Mr. Orchard to review the policies and if the coverages are similar, to make the decision he believes is appropriate.

Rehab Truck: Mr. Rosenberg reported that Mr. Ray Weiss of the Rescue Squad, had approached him and is looking to get the three districts to provide funds for their Rehab Truck. The money would be used for equipment; the cost should be minimal.

Rescue Truck: Mr. Rosenberg stated that he had received an e-mail from Chief Perez, indicating that the Board needs to decide if it is going to fund the purchase of the truck, which should be around \$700K. The Board discussed various funding options and determined that funding was possible but a payment schedule would be necessary, with everything rolled into the bid. The payment schedule will be needed before next month's meeting.

Fire Coordinator Guidelines: Board members concurred that the guidelines developed by Mr. Behrend were fine. They were forwarded to Mr. Braslow, who will review them and work into an agreement. The issue of a "contract" was brought up again, however, it was stated that Mr. Braslow has stated that there should not be one.

Fire Inspection Service: Mr. Olson and Mr. Rosenberg attended a meeting with Matt Watkins on 9/28 regarding the Fire Inspection Bureau's request to be taken over by the districts. At this meeting Mr. Watkins indicated that funding is his actual goal. Kingston and Kendall Park seem to be on the same page with this issue. Monmouth Junction seems to indicate that it is inevitable that the districts will take over the entire function. Mr. Rosenberg stated that he feels the Township wants to give up salaries and labor problems but as for the vehicles, they are funded by the penalty funds, so there is no cost to the Township. There are a number of questions that need to be address by the Joint Board members. Mr. Olson will check with District No. 2 to see if there is a special meeting scheduled. Mr. Orchard expressed concern about giving a \$25K "tribute" this year and noted 2010 budgeting will begin next month. There is a concern if no money is given, district inspections may not be done. Mr. Orchard noted that there are other avenues that could be investigated to cover inspections.

2010 Budget – Mr. Rosenberg presented a first draft of the 2010 Budget which the Board reviewed (file copy attached). Highlights included:

- Increase of \$1,000 stipend for each Commissioner.
- \$30K increase by the Fire Company for the new addition.
- A \$2,000 increase in Legal Services, as Mr. Braslow is going to assist with by-laws re-write.
- An increase of \$2,500 for Equipment Maintenance and Repairs, as everything is getting older.
- Purchase of Fire Equipment was reduced to \$35K. The Chief has not provided his 2010 Budget request yet.
- Infused capital: \$48,580.
- Total to be raised by tax levy: \$755,820.00
- Tax impact: 3 cents

Mr. Rosenberg will contact the Tax Assessor's Office to get the Tax Ratable.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:20 p.m.