

The Commissioners of Fire District No. 1

In the Township of South Brunswick

Regular Monthly Meeting

October 13, 2014

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 6:30 p.m. by Chairman William Orchard, in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call:

Members present: Commissioners Josephson, Olson, Orchard, Rosenberg and Tarnowski.

Flag Salute: completed

Agenda Changes: none

Address from the Public: none

Approval of September Regular Meeting Minutes: Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Mr. Tarnowski seconded it. A vote was taken and passed, with Mr. Olson abstaining.

Reports:

Line Activities – Chief Perez presented the following report.

- Stats for the month of September: 20 fire calls, 3 drills/training and 2 work details. YTD: 192 calls, 22 drills/training and 29 work details for a grand total of 4,306 man-hours.
- There was an arson fire last week that required the Company to work overnight for 7 hours. Arrests were made. The Firefighters did a very good job and the apparatus worked well.
- Two more members will be attending the training course at Texas A&M. It was noted that most of the costs will be covered by a grant.
- The Open House went well, considering the weather was wet and cool. Turnout was lower, probably because of the weather.
- Foam Training well went and the trainer was very knowledgeable.

President's Report – As previously noted, the Open House went well. Also, a new junior member was sworn in, who happens to be the younger brother of a probationary firefighter. Finally, elections for 2015 Officers will be next month.

Treasurer's Report Voucher List – Mr. Rosenberg presented the report (file copy attached). He noted that the Insurance payments will be paid this month. Mr. Perez noted that insurance coverage will now include a cyber policy. A preliminary copy of the proposed 2015 was distributed for the Board to review.

After review of the Voucher List, Mr. Olson made a motion to approve the List 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 presented the following report:

1. The ladder truck went out for repairs and yearly maintenance; testing will take place later.
2. Station 23's A/C unit needs repairs, which will be looked into to see the extent of work necessary.
3. The General Election will be on 11/4 at Station 23. The trailer will be left at Station 22 until the election is over.
4. School visits for Fire Prevention Month are in the process of being done and should be completed in November.
5. A Capital Improvement Plan was distributed (file copy attached). The aim of the Plan is to spread out the purchases of large apparatus. He noted that NFPA dictates when some types of apparatus must be replaced, usually 20 years. Also, the Plan includes other projects such as the generator's replacement, Opticom Light Emitters for Rt. 1, and Flashing Lights at Station 22. Mr. Perez noted that fire apparatus exiting and entering the building have a very difficult time due to traffic.

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 website is up to date. All Commissioners have completed their Financial Disclosure forms.

State Association – Mr. Rosenberg reported the following:

1. There may be legislation forthcoming that will assist Fire Districts who wish to merge.
2. There was discussion about those Districts that must budget for their fire hydrants water supply in one year and then if there is a rate increase, where does the additional money come from.
3. The acting head of the DCA stated that if a District's website is not compliant, there will be no review of a proposed budget, until the situation is corrected.
4. Bill Crammer, the head of the Fire Safety Division, said the better communication is required of brecking crews. It was noted that District 1 is not really affected.
5. The next meeting will be in December in Howell.

Insurance - previously discussed.

Unfinished Business: Electronic Sign Board – Mr. Perez reported that the Township is OK with the idea. Mr. Josephson volunteered to look into costs and designs.

New Business: nothing

Executive Session: Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to go into Executive Session at 6:45 p.m. to discuss the 2015 Budget; Mr. Josephson seconded the motion. After their discussion, Mr. Olson made a motion to come out of Executive Session and Mr. Rosenberg seconded the motion to come out at 7:14 p.m.

Address from the Public: none

Adjournment: As there was no further business to discuss, Mr. Olson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Rosenberg seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonnie R. L. Knigge

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