

The Commissioners of Fire District No. 1

In the Township of South Brunswick

Regular Monthly Meeting

October 8, 2018

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 Berezansky, Josephson, Orchard, Olson and Tarnowski.

Members absent: none

**Flag Salute:** completed

**Agenda Changes:** none

**Address from the Public:** none

**Approval of September Regular Meeting Minutes:** Mr. Tarnowski made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Ms. Berezansky seconded it. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

**Reports:**

President's Report - no report.

Treasurer's Report/Voucher List – Ms. Berezansky presented the report (file copy attached). All bills have been paid. After review of the Voucher List, Mr. Tarnowski made a motion to approve the List and Mr. Josephson seconded it. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

Line Activities – Chief Cioffi reported the following:

- Stats for Sept: 26 total events; 23.9 event hours; 310 man-hours; 263 firefighters
- Stats YTD: 327 total events; 389 event hours; 4045 man-hours; 3475 firefighters
- This could be a record year for Fire Company activity.
- There was a live Phase 5 burn at Somerset Fire Academy , which was very successful. There was a large turnout and compliments were received from the instructors.

- The Open House will be October 13 and all invited to attend.
- Large format drawings of new Truck 221 were available for the Commissioners to look at. The Chief stated how proud he was of the Truck Committee and all the work that was done in a short time. The new truck is a “next generation” vehicle and modifications made to the original design incorporate how fires are fought. Mr. Braslow has been included in the loop and once approval to manufacture, it should be about a 12-month build (Dec 2019 or Jan 2020). Mr. Cioffi stated that the old 221 would be sold for a good amount of money.

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

Fire Coordinator’s Report – Chairman Orchard reported, as Mr. Perez was out of town.

1. Two quotes have been received from some insurance reps and there should be a substantial savings with Workman’s Compensation. There was some discussion about JIF (Joint Insurance Fund) and whether it was a good idea. It was noted that changes have been made to JIF, so Mr. Perez will look into it.
2. Replacement lap tops for the Treasurer and Clerk should arrive soon.
3. Six used pagers were ordered and received. Motorola does not make new pagers that support the Township’s low band system, therefore, refurbished ones were purchased, along with the charging bases.
4. Four more sets of gear were sent out for repairs and cleaning. One set of gear had a bad vapor barrier and the cost to repair (\$850) will be covered under warranty.
5. Mr. Perez and Chief Cioffi had a discussion about the possibility of purchasing a washing machine to clean turn-out gear. Mr. Cioffi stated that there are concerns about the gear and potential for cancer cases. He noted that sending out the gear all the time would not be possible, as there is no extra turn-out gear and the cost would be prohibitive. He and the Chief will investigate pricing and see what grants are available.
6. Options for financing of the new truck were discussed with Mr. Braslow. One would be to go out for bid, however, Mr. Braslow does not like that option, as you lose your right for inspections and change orders. The other option that Mr. Braslow recommends is to use an agency that will take into consideration various factors and come back with a recommendation. Using this option eliminates the need for a special meeting and only requires that the cost be added in the 2019 Budget. The cost of the agency is covered by the State.
7. Discussions between the Treasurer, Chairman and Mr. Perez indicate no major changes to the 2019 Budget. At next month’s meeting, the Board will review the draft of the Budget.

Chairman's Report - Mr. Orchard discussed the issue of Group Homes with Mr. Braslow and the increased fire and first-aid alarms generated by the residents. It was noted that there are at least 20 Group Home in South Brunswick. The Attorney will look into this issue.

Standing Committee Reports –

*Fire Company Liaison* – nothing to report.

*Rescue Squad Liaison* – nothing to report.

*Public Relations* – Open House is Saturday, Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>.

*State Association* – Harry Carter may take over the Presidency.

*Insurance* – previously discussed.

**Unfinished Business:** none

**New Business:** none

**Executive Session:** none

**Address from the Public:** none

**Adjournment:** As there was no further business to discuss, Mr. Olson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Berezansky seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonnie R. L. Knigge

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