

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1  
35 Belle Mead-Griggstown Road, P.O. Box 130  
Belle Mead, N.J. 08502**

**Meeting Minutes of August 9, 2022**

**Call to Order** – The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at the firehouse at 7:30 p.m. by Commissioner Spohn, following proof of publication in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. The Annual Meeting Notice was published in the Courier News (official newspaper of the district) and provided to the Montgomery News and Packet Publications, filed with the municipal clerk, posted at the Montgomery Township municipal building, the Board’s website, offices and provided to any person requesting same prior to the meeting.

**Roll Call** – Upon Roll Call the following commissioners were present: William Hyncik, Eric Lemon, Michael Parise, Ricky Puleio and William Spohn.

Also present: Attorney Eric Perkins, Treasurer Lynn Franchino, QPA Bill Newberry and Assistant Chief Rich Kennedy.

**Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of the July 12, 2022 meeting were presented.

*Motion to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2022 board meeting was made by Commissioner Lemon; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Puleio. Motion passed unanimously.*

**Public Comment** – None

**Meeting Updates** –

Emergency Services – No meeting last month

Fire Prevention – No meeting last month

Rescue Task Force- No meeting last month

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

**Monthly Bills/ Financial Statement Review** – A copy of the Treasurer’s report, attached hereto and incorporated as part of these minutes, was made available to each Commissioner with a listing and description of bills to be paid.

*Administration: Elections: \$3,636.30*

TOTAL ADMINISTRATION: \$3,636.30.

*Operations: General Operating: General Operating: Other \$7,630.61; Maintenance & Repairs: \$11,161.90; Rental Charges/Apparatus Housing: \$12,500.00; Training and Education: \$1,560.00; Utilities: \$2,305.41.*

TOTAL OPERATIONS: \$35,157.92.

TOTAL OPERATIONS and ADMINISTRATION: \$38,794.22.

*(Additional detail regarding accounts charged and vendors is contained in the Treasurers Report)*

**RESOLUTION 2022-19 Payment of Bills**

*Upon certification that there are sufficient encumbered and unencumbered funds in the FY22 budget to pay the bills as presented and having designated the accounts to which each should be charged, authorization is granted to pay the bills as set forth in the Treasurer's report and FY22 Encumbered Check Detail in the total amount of \$38,794.22 allocated to the various administration and operating accounts.*

*Motion to approve accept the Treasurer's report and approve payment of the bills by Commissioner Hyncik, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Lemon . Resolution Ayes: Spohn, Puleio, Hyncik, Parise and Lemon. Nays: None*

*Abstention noted for Chairman Spohn for items for Sunrise Office Systems pursuant to annual notice.*

Ms. Franchino noted the necessity of transferring monies from the investment account to the checking account. Commissioner Hyncik moved a resolution approving the transfer of \$60,000 into the checking account. Commissioner Puleio seconded the motion, and it was approved by a unanimous vote of the board.

**PURCHASING OFFICER'S REPORT**

QPA Newberry reported that the RAM mounts, radio straps, paratech equipment and water rescue equipment have all been ordered but not yet received.

The two 2022 Chevy Tahoe command vehicles remain at the dealership awaiting the installation of Whelen emergency equipment. It is anticipated that they will be in the installation shop in the next two or three weeks and that delivery will occur in late September or early October.

The Chief has submitted on requisition in the amount of \$1,211.00 for Alert-all for helmets for fire awareness month.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Tanker/Pumper Committee:** Commissioner Puleio provided and Executive Summary of the Truck Advisory Board's deliberations. The Advisory Board recommendation was to replace Engine 45-2, which is nearly twenty years old, with a tactical pumper with increased water storage capacity. The new apparatus will be designed to respond to calls in the increasingly narrow new residential neighborhoods now under construction. The Board's review also concluded that Tanker 45 can be maintained in operational service for another ten to twenty years.

**Training Facility Improvements:** Commissioner Puleio reported that he had met with the township building officials and they indicated that no building permit would be required for the improvements as long as they were not structural. The proposed contractor suggested that a six-inch floor slab would be better to withstand the proposed usage. Jon Kessler will review the project and payment schedule prior to giving approval to the contractor to proceed.

**Fire Company Agreement:** Commissioners Lemon and Hyncik will meet with Rich Karsay from the fire department to begin discussions on the renewal agreement.

**NJ American Rescue Plan Firefighter Grant Program:** The application process for the program was exceptionally onerous and included registrations with the State that the BOFC did not have. Given the brief time available it was not possible to submit an application by the grants deadline. Efforts will be made to obtain the requisite registration so that applications can be submitted for future grants.

**FY2021 Audit:** Records are at the auditors and should be reviewed during the coming month.

**Generator Replacement:** Chairman Spohn indicated that replacement options were being reviewed.

**Tablet Purchase:** Chairman Spohn will speak with Roy Mondy about utilizing fine money to purchase additional tablets.

**Fire District Election Date:** Chairman Spohn reviewed the pros and cons of changing the election date from February to November. He will meet with the chairman of the BOFC District No. 2 to discuss the issue.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Annual EMS Equipment Purchase:** Chairman Spohn reported that Montgomery EMS has requested the purchase of a CO meter that can determine the level of CO2 in a patient. This device may be especially beneficial in treating fallen firefighters. The cost exceeds the amount available in the budget but given the potential benefit he noted that monies could be transferred from another account to cover the

difference. Commissioner Hyncik moved approval of the purchase in an amount up to \$4,995.00. Commissioner Pulieo seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

### **CHIEF'S REPORT**

Assistant Chief Kennedy reported that there were 18 calls in the month of July. In addition to the normal business meeting and truck cleaning, drills included hose operations.

There is no update on the utility truck. Delivery is anticipated in November.

The installation of the plumbing for the washer is continuing. No completion date at the present time.

Assistant Chief Kennedy requested approval to upgrade the headlights on engine 45-3 to LED. He noted the improved quality of the light provided and the fact that the LED headlights have a substantially longer lifespan. Commissioner Hyncik moved approval of the replacement in the amount of \$1,025.00 as per the quote from Fire and Safety Services. Commissioner Puleio seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Engineers Report**

Tanker 45: F&SS is checking for additional air system leaks as the compressor continues to run intermittently. They are also assessing a small water leak on the passenger side control panel. The 5" relief valve shut-off failed during testing and will be examined by F&SS.

Engine 45-2: The Echo vent saw was repaired by Central Jersey Nurseries. The annual PM for the apparatus is scheduled with Absolute Fire Protection during the week of August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Engine 45-3: The master intakes and anodes have been delivered and will be installed the week of August 8<sup>th</sup> by F&SS. The apparatus air conditioning was recharged by Harlingen Garage. Dye was injected into the system to monitor for leaks.

Rescue 45: Red-Line Fabrication's modification of the apparatus to fabricate and install brackets to accommodate the new rescue jacks should be complete by mid-August.

SS45: The apparatus PTO seal kit awaits installation by Harlingen Garage. Assessment of the onboard battery charger and all of the lights to determine if they need to be replaced due to water damage is also pending. Redline Fabrication will provide a quote for emergency light installation after the electric system is repaired.

Commissioner Lemon reported that he had discussions with DMV and was provided advice that no salvage title is necessary for the restored apparatus.

Annual Hose/Ladder/Pump Testing: The testing was conducted on July 21<sup>st</sup>. Everything passed with the exception of two lengths of hose; one 100 ft. length of 1 3/4" Ponn (2001) and one 50 ft. length of 1 3/4"Snaptite (2010). Both hoses were removed from service.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Parise moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Commissioner Hyncik seconded the motion, and it was unanimously adopted. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, September 13th, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.