

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
Montgomery Township Fire District No. 2
PO Box 264
Blawenburg, New Jersey 08504

MINUTES OF APRIL 2, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board was called to order by Chairman Laughlin at 7:00 pm, following proof of publication under the Open Public Meetings Law (Annual Meeting Notice published in the official newspaper of the district, posted at the Montgomery Township Municipal Building and at the Board offices).

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners L. Laughlin, J. Plimpton, S. Weingart, D. VanDoren. Absent: Commissioner C. Lewis. Also present: Chief Kabis, Fire Company President Kauffman, Fire Company LOSAP Coordinator G. Keller, Attorney Griswold and L. Franchino.

Chairman Laughlin addressed board members reminding them of their roles and responsibilities as commissioners, welcoming questions and encouraging open discussion of matters brought to the board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed and discussed the minutes of the February 9, 2015 and March 9, 2015 meetings. *A motion was made to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2015 and March 9, 2015 minutes as presented.*

Motion made by Plimpton. 2nd by Weingart. Motion passed without objection.
Cmsr. Van Doren did not vote on the February 9th minutes and Cmsr. Laughlin did not vote on the March 9th minutes (due to respective absences from those meetings).

TREASURER'S REPORT

BILLS

A copy of the Treasurer's Report was made available to each commissioner with a list and description of the bills to be paid.

- The vendor for work done on new 46-107 (repairs & maintenance) should be changed from Absolute Fire Protection, Inc. to E-One.
- As authorized in a prior resolution, poll tellers for the February election and budget referendum were paid between meetings on approval of three commissioners (\$225.00 each to Donald Thiel and Charles W. Kabis – chargeable to the 2015 Elections appropriation).
- Three invoices were added to the list of bills to be paid: Four Lanes End for preventive maintenance on old 46-107, 108, and 156 (\$1,211.50); Harlingen Garage for maintenance on Car 46 (\$82.43); Emergency Services Marketing Corp for annual renewal of the 'I am Responding' program

(\$800.00) – all but the Four Lanes End invoices chargeable to the 2015 General Operating appropriation (Four Lanes End invoices charged to 2014 Encumbered General Operating).

- The treasurer requested a transfer of funds to the checking account to pay the bills.

A motion was passed to accept the Treasurer's Report, to approve payment of the bills as presented, amended and supplemented, to ratify payment to the election poll tellers and to transfer \$30,000.00 to the checking account for the purpose of paying the bills.

Motion made by Laughlin. 2nd by Plimpton. Motion passed without objection.

RESOLUTION 2015-23 Payment of Bills and Transfer of Funds.

The Chief Financial Officer having certified that there were sufficient funds encumbered from the 2014 budget and available in the 2015 budget to pay the bills as presented, amended and supplemented, and having designated the accounts to which each would be charged, authorization to pay the bills in the total amount of \$29,927.05 (\$1,211.50 from 2014 encumbered funds and \$28,715.55 from the 2015 budget), ratifying payment of \$450.00 to the two February election poll tellers, and authorizing the transfer of \$30,000.00 from the HVCB money market account to the HVCB operating account for the purpose of paying bills.

Resolution Ayes: Laughlin, Plimpton, Weingart, VanDoren. Nays:None Absent: Lewis.

The balance of funds in both the TD Bank equity and operating accounts can be transferred out and the accounts closed. Signature cards for PNC Bank and HVCB were distributed for signatures.

There will be a credit coming in connection with the 2014 workers' compensation insurance audit.

REAPPOINTMENT OF POSITIONS

Board members unanimously approved a change in appointments made last month to reflect Cmsr. Plimpton as LOSAP Plan Administrator and Cmsr. Laughlin as the Insurance Review Officer. Cmsr. Laughlin will also take over management of the web site.

CHIEF'S REPORT

The fire company responded to 25 calls during March, 2015, including 1 mutual aid structure fire, a mulch fire and 2 natural gas leaks due to pipe lines sustaining damage.

- Meeting with Station 45 - Officers of both companies met in an effort to advance inter-company communications and interaction.

- Bakken Oil - The chief and Ass't. Chief Bolen attended an informational meeting at the county fire academy addressing Bakken Oil transportation concerns and state/county/local resource availability in the event of an incident. Progress has begun on the preparation of a response plan, but it will take a great deal of time to complete.

- Sheridan Fire - The final report on the fatal fire in September has been issued and the case closed.

- Rescue Engine 46 and 46-108 - Preventive maintenance completed.

- Old 46-107 - serviced.

- Warranty - E-One informed the chief that a certified apparatus mechanic is not necessary for routine service and will not affect warranties.

- New -46-107 - E-One warranty work still needs to be done on the ladder rack bypass; repainting by factory rep not to the chief's satisfaction.

- I am Responding – all participating area companies' information (hydrant markings, etc.) is available for review, which is extremely beneficial and time-saving.

*A Motion was made to approve expenditures/purchases presented to the board for consideration.
Motion by Laughlin 2nd by Weingart. Motion passed without objection.*

RESOLUTION 2015-24 – Approving Expenditures.

The Chief Financial Officer having certified there are sufficient unencumbered funds in the 2015 budget, a Resolution passed authorizing the following expenditures:

- 1. Office supplies from W.B. Mason at a cost of \$153.96, chargeable to the 2015 Office appropriation.*
- 2. Encumber \$500.00 from the 2015 Training appropriation for admission and costs associated with firefighter attendance at the PA Fire Expo in Harrisburg in May – reasonable expenses to be reimbursed upon submission of receipts for actual expenses incurred.*
- 3. Encumber \$1,000.00 from the 2015 Training appropriation for admission and costs associated with officers' attendance at the NJ Fire Weekend at the National Fire Academy in Maryland in June - reasonable expenses to be reimbursed upon submission of receipts for actual expenses incurred.*
- 4. Encumber an additional \$30.00 in connection with the purchase of turn-out gear approved at the March 9th meeting (Resolution 2015-21), bringing the total approved encumbrance to \$12,714.10, chargeable to the 2015 Supplies appropriation.*
- 5. Encumber an additional \$45.00 in connection with the air compressor 500-hour valve maintenance approved at the March 9th meeting (Resolution 2015-21), bringing the total approved encumbrance to \$995.00, chargeable to the 2015 General Operating appropriation.*

Resolution Ayes: Laughlin, Plimpton, Weingart, VanDoren. Nays:None Absent: Lewis.

OLD BUSINESS

Financial Disclosure Forms – Filing deadline is April 30, 2015.

E-Mail address – Cmsr. Plimpton established an e-mail address for the board to which questions and requests can be directed: commishmontfiredisttwo@gmail.com

Sale of Old 46-107 – After no bids were received on the GovDeals.com auction, the vehicle has been advertised with major companies dealing in the resale of similar apparatus. A fire district in Missouri has shown interest. There have been no other serious inquiries regarding the vehicle. The asking price is \$30,000.00, with a 10% commission due the advertiser upon sale. Taking into consideration the carrying costs of the vehicle - housing, insuring and maintaining the vehicle in saleable condition – and the price similar vehicles are bringing on GovDeals and other auction sites, the recommendation was to pursue the sale with the interested party.

A Motion passed to authorize the sale of the old 46-107 to Purdy Fire Protection District, of Purdy, Missouri, "as is/where is", pursuant to the advertised listing.

Motion by Laughlin. 2nd by Weingart. Motion passed without objection.

RESOLUTION 2015-25 – Authorizing Sale 1992 E-One Hush Pumper (46-107).

Whereas, the fire district owns a 1992 E-One Hush Pumper which has become surplus property no longer needed for public use; and

Whereas, in September, 2014, pursuant to NJSA 40A:11-36, the vehicle was placed for sale by public auction conducted online through an approved internet-based vendor and no bids were received; and

Whereas, since that time the fire district has borne the costs of housing, insuring and maintaining the vehicle, even though it is not being used for emergency response; and

Whereas, the vehicle has been advertised for sale through five major fire industry publications that deal with the resale of similar vehicles; and

Whereas, in response to the advertising a potential buyer has expressed an interest in purchasing the vehicle, which buyer is a political subdivision (fire protection district) of the State of Missouri; and

Whereas, NJS A 40A:11-36 allows the fire district to sell the vehicle to another contracting unit or government unit in the United States.

It is Resolved, that the board approves the sale of its 1992 E-One Hush Pumper to the Purdy Fire Protection District of Purdy, Missouri, pursuant to the advertisement of same, in "as is/where is" condition, job Montgomery Twp. Volunteer Fire Company #2 firehouse, Blawenburg, NJ, for the sum of \$30,000.00, with a commission not to exceed 10% of the sales price payable by the board to the advertiser; and

It is Further Resolved, that Commissioner Plimpton is authorized to negotiate and consummate the sale with the purchaser, to execute on behalf of the board documents necessary and/or desirable to do so, and to deliver title and possession of the vehicle to the buyer or its authorized representative upon consummation.

Resolution Ayes: Laughlin, Plimpton, Weingart, VanDoren. Nays:None Absent: Lewis.

Security – The board’s desire to install security cameras outside the firehouse as a means of protecting fire district apparatus and equipment will be presented to the Board of Trustees of the fire company, with the goal of future presentation to the membership for an open and frank discussion of the board’s reasoning and proposal.

NEW BUSINESS

Fire Company Agreement for Fire Protection Services – The agreement will be reviewed. It is currently in the first of its two automatic one-year renewal periods, which period is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2015.

Fire Company Information Sharing – A request was made to have the fire company provide the board with the codes/passwords for fire-related web-sites and agreements (ie. I am Responding and Verizon, etc.). Commissioner Laughlin suggested it might be a good idea for an overview of the various levels of fire company/fire district governance be presented at a future fire company meeting.

Dual Membership Expenses – Commissioner Laughlin noted that the number of MTVFC2 members who are also members of neighboring volunteer fire companies/departments is increasing. He inquired into the wisdom of approaching these companies/fire districts toward sharing the costs of conference, convention, and fire academy training expenses when a person belongs to more than one emergency service that receive the benefits of the training and education.

FEMA Project Completion Report – NJOEM requested the report, which relates to a 2009 Disaster Relief Funding Agreement, be completed and returned.

A Motion was made to authorize Commissioner Laughlin to research and sign off on the form if appropriate.

Motion by Weingart. 2nd by Plimpton. Motion passed without objection.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on May 7, 2015.

Motion made by Laughlin. 2nd by Plimpton. Motion passed without objection.

