

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

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board was called to order by Chairman Devin Davis at 7:31 pm, following proof of publication under the Open Public Meetings Law (Annual notice published in the official newspaper of the district and provided to two other newspapers, posted at the Montgomery Township Municipal Building and Board offices).

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners D. Davis, L. Laughlin, J. Plimpton, S. Weingart, C. Lewis (arrived late). Absent: None. Also present: Chief Kabis, Treasurer Adams, Attorney Griswold and L. Franchino.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed and discussed the minutes of the August 7, 2014 meeting.

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the August 7, 2014 meeting as presented.

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

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 Chief Financial Officer certified that there were sufficient unencumbered funds to pay the bills and designated the account to which each would be charged. Three additional bills – Continental Fire & Safety, Inc. (\$261.78) for a Cairns helmet, Signal Control, Inc. (\$2,550.00) for the wireless beacon system, and Hesco (\$32.40) for 3 quartz lamps - will be added to the bills being paid at this meeting.

The treasurer requested the transfer of \$80,000.00 from the TD Bank equity account to the checking account for the purpose of paying the bills.

A motion was passed to accept the Treasurer's Report, to approve payment of the bills as presented and supplemented, and to transfer money to the checking account for the purpose of paying the bills.

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

RESOLUTION 2014-37 Payment of Bills and Transfer of Funds.

Approval of payment of the bills in the total amount of \$86,781.10, which amount reflects the addition of payments to Continental Fire & Safety, Inc. in the amount of \$261.78 chargeable to the 2014 Supplies appropriation; and to Signal Control, Inc. in the amount of \$2,550.00 and to Hesco in the amount of \$32.40, both chargeable to the 2014 General Operating appropriation; and authorization to transfer \$80,000.00 from the TD Bank equity account to the checking account for the purpose of paying the bills.

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

A motion was passed to transfer the money designated as Reserve for Future Capital Outlay from the current operating budget to the reserved capital fund.

Motion by Laughlin.

2nd by Davis.

Motion passed without objection.

RESOLUTION 2014-38 Transfer to Reserved Capital Fund.

Approval to transfer \$230,000.00 designated as Reserve for Future Capital Outlay in the 2014 operating budget to the reserved capital fund.

Resolution Ayes: Davis, Laughlin, Plimpton, Weingart.

Nays: None.

Absent: Lewis.

A motion was passed to encumber the \$45,000.00 LOSAP appropriation in the current operating budget for payment of the 2014 LOSAP contribution due next year.

Motion by Davis.

2nd by Laughlin.

Motion passed without objection.

Long Range Planning - The tower apparatus (46-126) will be reaching its half-life expectancy next year. It is the board's policy to consider rebuilding as needed at that stage of its useful life. SCBA air bottles are due to be replaced in 2016. There are 68 bottles that span from 30 to 60 minute capacity, and which could range in price from an estimated \$1600.00 to \$2300.00 each. Most SCBA air packs are 15 years old. It may be economically beneficial to replace the Cascade system. The chief was asked to prepare a detailed listing of the full inventory and pricing in today's dollars of air bottles, packs and masks, along with a list of pros and cons of newer higher pressure systems (bottles), as well as alternatives and estimates for replacing the Cascade system.

Commissioner Lewis arrived.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

OLD BUSINESS

MEMS Agreement – Completed.

Disposition of old 46-107 – The auction on GovDeals.com will begin on September 22, 2014 and will run for almost 3 weeks, until October 10, 2014.

Human Resources – Discussion will continue.

Banking - Commissioner Plimpton will present banking authorizations for approval at the next meeting.

CHIEF'S REPORT

The fire company responded to 21 calls during August, 2014, including an HVAC unit fire and a fully involved car fire for which the CAFS system on the rescue was instrumental in extinguishing.

Activities –

1. The 9/11 memorial event will be held on 9/13. This is a township event.

2. Deputy Chief Ballinger has retired and has moved from the area. Jimmy O'Brien has joined the Army and is at boot camp. We wish them both the best.

Bascom Turner Meter –One malfunctioned during calibration testing and will be sent for repair.

Leather Helmets – Some members have requested approval to purchase their own helmets. The matter will be tabled until a future meeting.

Pager Purchase – Five (5) Unicom G1 pagers authorized for purchase last month will be purchased from M&W Communications, Inc. at a cost of \$2,790.00.

New Engine 46-107 – Still working with Absolute Fire to have open items resolved.

Sensitivity Training – The County Fire Academy does not provide this service, although they will look into who does. It was suggested that the insurance agency be contacted for possible leads.

Equipment Received – Thermal Imaging Cameras will be installed soon. 3 sets of turnout gear received and are in service. The hydra-ram has been received. Helmet and helmet shields received.

Discussion as to having the trucks weighed at the quarry, officer training plans, LOSAP coordination between the fire company (administrative and operational) and the commissioners. The board asked that there be an electronic distribution of records between all arms of the operation to ensure transparency and accuracy in LOSAP point allocation and reporting.

NEW BUSINESS

The chief inquired into establishing credit at the new Tru-Value Hardware store in Montgomery Shopping Center. The board tabled action on this.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on October 2, 2014.

Motion by Davis.

2nd by Laughlin.

Motion passed without objection.