

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

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 18, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Board was called to order by Chairman Davis at 7:30 pm, following proof of publication under the Open Public Meetings Law (Meeting Notice published in the official newspaper of the district, posted at the Montgomery Township Municipal Building and at the Board offices). Further, special notice as required for a special vote of taxpayers was provided.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners D. Davis (left early), L. Laughlin, J. Plimpton and S. Weingart.
Absent: C. Lewis. Also present: Chief Kabis, Attorney Griswold and L. Franchino.

OPEN POLLS FOR SPECIAL VOTE OF TAXPAYERS

The Chairman announced the purpose of the special vote of taxpayers being held at this meeting and opened the polls. The public questions ask for approval to purchase and retrofit to the extent possible SCBA (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus) at a cost not to exceed \$250,000.00, and to purchase up to three (3) Opticom intersection control devices for the fire district at a cost not to exceed \$30,000.00, as well as for approval to include these purchases and appropriate funds to pay for them in the capital outlay section of the fire district's 2015 budget.

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 since the last meeting. The Chief Financial Officer certified that there were sufficient unencumbered funds to pay the bills and designated the accounts to which each would be charged. The following additional payments were added to the list of bills being paid at this meeting: MCI \$32.93; Firefighter 1 \$813.96 (ladder); Bergey's \$7,498.89 (apparatus preventive maintenance); MTVFC2 Chief's account \$5,130.05 (\$1,008.95 retention program; \$3,588.73 EMS purchase reimbursement; \$282.84 shield purchase reimbursement; \$150.53 training and meeting food); \$99.00 reimbursement eyeglass installation in SCBA mask). The cost of the fire inspector course payable to Somerset County Emerg. Service Training should be increased to \$850.00, including certification.

The treasurer requested the transfer of \$75,000.00 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, supplemented and amended, and to transfer money to the checking account for the purpose of paying the bills.

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

RESOLUTION 2013-49 Payment of Bills and Transfer of Funds.

Approval to pay the bills as presented in the amount of \$47,543.43, which amount reflects the addition of \$175.00 to the payment to Somerset County Emergency Services Training (fire inspector course), and payment of the following: MCI \$32.93, Bergey's \$7,498.89 and MTVFC#2 Chief's account \$282.84 (shields) and \$99.00 (SCBA lens installation), all chargeable to the 2014 General Operating appropriation; Firefighter 1 \$813.96, chargeable to the 2014 Supplies appropriation; MTVFC#2 Chief's account \$3,588.73 chargeable to the 2014 EMS appropriation; and MTVFC#2 Chief's account \$1,159.48 chargeable to the 2014 Training appropriation; and authorization to transfer 75,000.00 from the TD Bank equity account to the TD bank checking account for the purpose of paying the bills.

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

Transfer of Funds Between Line Items in the 2014 Budget –

The 2014 expenses for Insurance and Supplies will exceed the budget appropriations for these items, and there are excess funds available in the Training and General Operating appropriations to cover these insufficiencies.

A Motion was made to transfer funds between line items in the 2014 budget to cover the shortage in the budget's Insurance and Supplies line item appropriations for expenses incurred during 2014.

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

RESOLUTION 2013-50 – Transfer of Funds Between Line Items in 2014 Budget (Attached).

NEW BUSINESS

Reschedule January 8, 2015 Meeting - As the 2015 fire district budget will not be approved until tonight, to meet statutory guidelines the date for the public hearing on the budget cannot take place until January 15, 2015.

A Motion was made to reschedule the January 8, 2015 meeting to January 15, 2015, at which time the public hearing on the approved 2015 budget will take place, and all other business to come before the board will be addressed.

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

Traffic Warning Signal at Firehouse – Malfunctioning; seems to activate itself and won't shut off. Chairman Davis is working with the vendor to remedy, however until then it will be disconnected.

Fire Company Elections – For 2015, Justin Kabis was elected Chief and Mike Kauffman remains as Fire Company President. Chairman Davis congratulated the electees.

Commissioner Davis left.

CHIEF’S REPORT

The fire company has responded to 11 calls so far during December, 2014, including 2 potential structure fires that were extinguished by the homeowners, one of whom credited the fire companies’ fire prevention education for his knowledge of what to do.

Fire Fighter One – The two candidates from Station 46 passed the live burn portion of the requirements. The final exam takes place soon.

Leather Helmets - Some members wish to purchase leather helmets for their personal use. The helmets are OSHA and NFPA compliant. This has come up before the board before. After discussion,

A Motion was made to allow firefighters to purchase their own leather helmets and use them when responding to emergencies on the condition that prior to their use they present the chief with documentation that the helmets have been purchased new and are certified as NFPA and OSHA compliant.

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

Engine 107 – Is at Absolute Fire for some E-One factory issues including the Opticom control and an exterior paint problem.

Fire Company Elections – For 2015, Justin Kabis was elected Chief and Mike Kauffman remains as Fire Company President. Chairman Davis congratulated the electees.

SPECIAL VOTE RESULTS

At 9 p.m. the polls for the special vote of taxpayers were closed, the ballots counted, and the results certified by the clerk as follows:

To raise money in the 2015 budget for the purchase and/or retrofitting of SCBA (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus) at a cost not to exceed \$250,000.00.

7 YES 0 NO

To raise money in the 2015 budget for the purchase of up to three (3) Opticom intersection control devices for the fire district at a cost not to exceed \$30,000.00

7 YES 0 NO

2015 BUDGET

In light of the results of the special vote of taxpayers, and after discussion, the proposed fire district budget for 2015 (appended to these minutes) was presented for approval. The estimated tax rate will be \$0.046 per \$100 assessed valuation.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-51 – Approval of 2015 Fire District Budget. (Attached).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m. The next meeting, including the public hearing on the 2015 approved budget, will be held on January 15, 2015.

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

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 2**

The budget approved for the year 2015 by Resolution of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District No. 2, Montgomery Township, Somerset County, New Jersey, at its meeting held December 18, 2014, is as follows:

Anticipated Revenues		
Unreserved Fund Balance Utilized	\$ 25,000.00	
Interest on Investments & Deposits	2,500.00	
SFS Basic Entitlement Grant	1,780.00	
Amount to be Raised by Taxation	<u>852,300.00</u>	
Total Revenues		<u>\$ 881,580.00</u>
Operating Appropriations		
Administration:		
Election	\$ 800.00	
Office Expense	9,000.00	
Professional Service	32,000.00	
Advertising	<u>2,000.00</u>	
Total Administration		\$ 43,800.00
Cost of Operations:		
Insurance	\$ 80,000.00	
Apparatus Housing	192,000.00	
Supplies Expense/New Equipment	65,000.00	
Training/Fire Prevention	50,000.00	
General Operating	105,000.00	
Montgomery EMS	4,000.00	
SFS Grant Equipment	1,780.00	
Contingency	<u>10,000.00</u>	
Total Cost of Operations		507,780.00
LOSAP Appropriation		50,000.00
Capital Appropriations:		
SCBA	250,000.00	
Opticom	<u>30,000.00</u>	
Total Appropriations		<u>\$ 881,580.00</u>

Estimated Tax Rate per \$100.00 = \$.046
Based on 2014 assessed valuation of \$1,867,903,430.00

2015 FIRE DISTRICT BUDGET RESOLUTION

#2014-51

Montgomery Township #2

FISCAL YEAR: January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget for the Montgomery Township Fire District No.2 (the "Fire District") for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2015 and ending December 31, 2015 has been presented before the Board of Commissioners of the Fire District at its open public meeting of December 4, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the budget as introduced is in compliance with the Property Tax Levy Cap Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.44 et. seq.) [Include the following as appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget as introduced reflects Total Revenues of \$ 881,580.00, which includes an amount to be raised by taxation of \$ 852,300.00, and Total Appropriations of \$ 881,580.00; and

WHEREAS, the amount to be raised by taxation to support the district budget shall be the amount to be certified to the assessor of the municipality to be assessed against the taxable property in the district, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:14-79. Such amount shall be equal to the amount of the total appropriations set forth in the budget minus the total amount surplus and miscellaneous revenues set forth in the budget; and

WHEREAS, in calculating the amount to be raised by taxation, the Fire District has taken into account the assessed valuation of taxable property in the Fire District;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of the Fire District, at an open public meeting held on December 4, 2014 that the Annual Budget, including all related schedules, of the Fire District for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2015 and ending December 31, 2015 is hereby approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the anticipated revenues as reflected in the Annual Budget are of sufficient amount to meet all proposed expenditures/expenses and all covenants, terms and provisions as stipulated in the Fire District's outstanding debt obligations, capital lease arrangements, service contracts, and other pledged agreements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fire District will consider the Annual Budget for adoption on January 15, 2015.

s/ Leighton Laughlin, Jr.
(Secretary's Signature)

December 18, 2014

(Date)

Board of Commissioners Recorded Vote

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Davis				X
Laughlin	X			
Lewis				X
Plimpton	X			
Weingart	X			