

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

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 4, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

The scheduled meeting of the Board was called to order by Commissioner Laughlin at 7:40 pm. 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 the Board offices) was provided.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners L. Laughlin, C. Lewis, C. Kabis, D. Cummings and D. Davis. Also present: Chief Ballinger, Attorney Griswold and T. Stys.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed and discussed the minutes of the September 6, 2012 meeting.

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the September 6, 2012 meeting as presented.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

BILLS

A copy of the Treasurer's Report (attached) was made available to each commissioner with a list and description of the bills to be paid. The \$7.50 invoice from Cammps Hardware (electrical conduit) belongs to the fire company and will be deleted from the list of bills. 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 3rd quarter tax check in the amount of \$192,325.00 and the final FEMA reimbursement for Hurricane Irene in the amount of \$3718.23 were deposited in the TD Bank equity account.

Ms. Stys estimates there should be about \$12,000 more in insurance bills (workers' comp and liability policy renewals) due before year end.

The balance of encumbered funds for the Baltimore Fire Expo (\$1588.51) and the Harrisburg Fire Expo (\$434.55) will be released back to the Training budget.

A motion was passed to accept the Treasurer's Report, to approve payment of the bills with the deletion noted above.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-38 Payment of Bills. *Approval to pay the bills as presented, less the invoice of \$7.50 from Cammps Hardware, in the amount of \$40,192.75 (\$2000.00 payable from 2011 encumbered funds and \$38,192.75 payable from 2012 funds).*

Resolution Ayes: Laughlin, Lewis, Kabis, Cummings, Davis. Nays: None. Absent: None.

CHIEF'S REPORT

The fire company responded to 22 calls during September, 2012.

- Princeton Hospital is directly billing the firefighter injured during a training session last month. The chief spoke with the insurance broker and workers' comp carrier to resolve the billing issue. This is a recurring problem with comp claims processed by this hospital.

- The Sept. 11th memorial dedication was well attended. Media coverage of the event was excellent and there has been significant positive feedback from attendees and contributors.

- The annual fire prevention open house will be hosted by Station 46 on September 9th with four local emergency services companies participating.

- 46-156 and 108 sustained minor damage during training exercises, consisting of damage to the tail boards and tail lights. The chief does not recommend filing an insurance claim as the cost of repair should be minimal.

- Annual preventive maintenance on 46-108 and 126 will occur before year end.

- Annual SCBA flow testing will take place on October 8th; fire extinguisher tests/inspections will be completed before year end.

- A number of SCBA bottles (40+) will go out of date in about 4 years.

- A thermal imaging camera (TIC) failed this month. It has been sent to the manufacturer for diagnosis and a repair estimate. It is the newest of the TIC's in service, purchased in 2007, and is used (as are the others) on almost every call. A new unit costs about \$12,000.00. If its failure foreshadows the useful life of the remaining TIC's, the chief recommends the board consider budgeting for replacement cameras over the next few years. On a question from Cmsr. Cummings, the chief will research whether service contracts exist for the TIC's and the cost thereof.

BID OPENING

Pumper: Two bids were received for the pumper:

1. Emergency One, Inc., 1601 SW 37th Avenue, Ocala FL 34474

Base Price: \$708,852.00

Pre-payment Discounts: Yes

Exceptions: Yes

Trade-In Value 46-107: \$10,000.00

Delivery Date: 280 calendar days from pre-build

Options: separate prices given

2. Campbell Supply Co., LLC., 145 Talmadge Road, Suite 8, Edison NJ 08818, as representative of Spartan ERV d/b/a Crimson Fire, 907 7th Avenue N, Brandon SD 57005

Base Price: \$651,734.00

Pre-payment Discounts: Yes

Exceptions: Yes

Trade-In Value 46-107: \$9500.00

Delivery Date: 330 calendar days after receipt of PO or signed contract.

Options: no bid

A Motion was passed to receive the pumper bids as submitted, subject to compliance with the legal and technical specifications.

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

Hose: Two bids were received for the hose:

1. Continental Fire & Safety, Inc., 180 Volusia Ave., Trenton, NJ 08610
Base Prices: Vary depending on item
Exceptions: Yes
Delivery: 1-4 weeks
2. Absolute Fire Protection Co., Inc., 2800 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield NJ 07080
Base Prices: Vary depending on options
Exceptions: No (according to bid cover sheet)
Delivery: TBD

A Motion was passed to receive the hose bids as submitted, subject to compliance with the legal and technical specifications.

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

OLD BUSINESS

LOSAP – The 2010-11 audit was distributed to the board. As there are minor corrections to be made, the board will address the final document next month. The auditor submitted a management representation letter for the treasurer's signature.

A Motion was passed to execute the required management representation letter for Bonamici, Colletti, Solitario & Tierney, CPA's, the firm performing the LOSAP review.

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

Replacing/revamping the telephone system in the firehouse must become a priority. Incoming calls to the station (not 911 calls) are not being received and the chief has received complaints from residents (taxpayers).

NEW BUSINESS

Three mobile VHF radios cannot be narrow-banded due to their age and programming capabilities. The stated date for narrow-banding compliance is January 1st. Quotes were presented for Tait TM8250 mobile radios, microphones and coder keys from M&W Communications, Inc. \$1165.00 each (no shipping); and from Tait North America, Inc. USA \$1457.00 each, plus \$25 shipping. Installation costs will be \$395 per radio. A third quote for Tait radios was unavailable. Comparative Motorola VHF radios would cost roughly \$3100.00 each, plus installation.

A Motion was passed to purchase and install three (3) Tait VHF mobile radios.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-39 – Authorizing VHF Radio purchases.

Authorizing the purchase and installation of three (3) Tait TM8250 VHF mobile radios and accessories pursuant to lowest quote from M&W Communications, Inc., at a total cost of \$4680.00, chargeable as follows: \$3495.00 to the 2012 Supplies appropriation and \$1185.00 (installation) to the 2012 General Operating appropriation.

Resolution Ayes: Laughlin, Lewis, Kabis, Cummings, Davis. Nays: None. Absent: None.

Overhaul tools are needed to equip the trucks. The chief requested to purchase 6 ea. various length and model NY Steel hooks and 2 ea. pick head axes. Quotes were presented from Absolute Fire Protection Co. \$598.25; Emergency Responding \$832.69; and the Fire Store \$715.43. None of the quotes include shipping.

A Motion was passed to purchase overhaul tools.

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

RESOLUTION 2012-40 – Authorizing tool purchases.

Authorizing the purchase of two (2) 4' NY Steel hooks, two (2) 5' NY Steel hooks, one (1) 4' NY Steel hook w/ 'D' handle, one (1) 6' NY Steel hook w/ 'D' handle, and two (2) 6# pick axes with fiberglass handles pursuant to lowest quote from Absolute Fire Protection Co., Inc. at a cost of \$598.25, plus shipping. The total expense shall not exceed \$750.00 and will be chargeable to the 2012 Supplies appropriation.

Resolution Ayes: Laughlin, Lewis, Kabis, Cummings, Davis. Nays: None. Absent: None.

2013 BUDGET – Preliminary discussion to be further addressed next month. Long range planning should address thermal imaging cameras, Opticom, SCBA bottles and the telephone system.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on November 1, 2012.

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