

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
Montgomery Township Fire District 2
PO Box 264
Blawenburg, New Jersey 08504**

MINUTES OF JULY 14th, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board was called to order by Chairman Sartorio at 7:30 p.m. following proof of publication under the Open Public Meetings Law (Annual meeting notice published in the Courier News (official newspaper of the district) and provided to two other newspapers, filed with the municipal clerk, posted at the Montgomery Township Municipal Building, Board offices and fire district web site, and provided to any person requesting same prior to the meeting.

Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Stephen Morrison, Andy Mozumdar, Michael Ruppert and Tony Sartorio. Absent: Commissioner Gerard Hogan.

Also present: Deputy Chief Kyle Rendell, Engineer Justin Kabis and Attorney Eric Perkins.

Approval of Minutes

On the motion of Commissioner Mozumdar, seconded by Commissioner Sartorio, the minutes of the meeting of June 9th, 2022 were unanimously approved.

Public Comment – None

Meetings

Emergency Services – No meeting held.

Fire Prevention- No meeting held.

Rescue Task Force- No meeting held.

Chief's Report

Deputy Chief Rendell reported that there were 28 calls in the month of June. The only major incident was a hybrid vehicle/garage fire in District 1 last week. No fire company personnel were injured, and no apparatus were damaged in any of the responses.

Three members are currently attending the intensive SCESTA firefighter program. They should be certified in early August. One of the students was injured in a fall from a ladder at SCESTA. The incident was documented but he refused medical assistance.

Deputy Chief Rendell expressed appreciation on behalf of the Chief for the aerial pre-build trip to Seagrave in Wisconsin.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

T46- The jibboom repair, master drain leaks and intake drain spring repair are scheduled with F&SS. The replacement rear spotlights have not been received as of this date.

FP46 – Harlingen Garage determined that the brake leak was caused by a loose hose on the rear drum. A repair was made, and the master cylinder was not replaced as had been anticipated.

E467- The deck gun auto-stow and light tower repairs await scheduling with Four Lanes to diagnose problems.

B46- The apparatus broke down at the Millstone July 4th parade. It was towed and awaits evaluation by the Dichman Ford dealership. The apparatus remains under warranty and some of the repairs may be covered. Engineer Kabis will advise the Chair if additional monies are required between BOFC meetings.

As previously noted, the apparatus is awaiting scheduling with Mercer Spring to review the defective suspension which is causing the apparatus to lean to one side.

R46- The deck gun valve rebuild has been completed by Four Lanes. The cab tilt relay or safety await review by Four Lanes. Mercer Spring has not been able to schedule replacement of the shock absorbers. The cartridge valve was rusted in place and could not be removed. Four Lanes is waiting for a replacement before attempting additional removal efforts as the plastic components may be damaged with removal efforts.

Engineer Kabis has been unable to locate a replacement for the broken tripod light mount on the apparatus. He will investigate the possibility of the construction of a custom replacement. He also noted that the body of the apparatus appears to be sagging. This condition will be investigated.

The annual testing for the pumps and ladders is scheduled for August 18th. Hose testing will take place on August 24th and 25th.

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. Additional detail is included in the Treasurer's report. The report was accepted as presented.

Administration: None

Total Cost of Administration: None

Cost of Operations:

Apparatus Housing: \$16,000.00; General Operations: Supplies: \$904.15; General Operations: Medical: \$5,625.00; General Operations: Repairs and Maintenance: \$1,770.42; General Operations: Other \$1,722.51; Utilities: \$675.73; Training/fire prevention: \$6,450.99.

Total Cost of Operations \$31,717.25.

Total Cost of Administration and Operations: \$31,717.25.

Resolution 2022-16 Payment of Bills

*The Chief Financial Officer having certified there are sufficient unencumbered funds in the 2022 budget to pay the bills as presented and having designated the accounts to which each should be charged, the Board authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to pay the Administration and Operations bills in the total amount of **\$31,717.25.***

On Motion of Chairman Sartorio, 2nd by Commissioner Mozumdar the BOFC unanimously approved payment of the bills.

Purchase orders have been issued for all requisitions from the June meeting. The website has been updated to include the May minutes.

Purchasing

Requisitions:

The following items were submitted:

Replacement Morning Pride Knee Pads; 6 @ \$173.30; total \$1,039.80.
Fire Extinguisher pins (25); \$3.75
2 ½" NH/ NST/NPSH Gasket (20 Pack) \$63.09
1 1/2" NH/NST/NPSH Gasket (20 pack) \$42.25
1" NH/NST/NPSH Gasket (20 pack) \$48.88

FDNY 36" Velcro hose straps (4) \$13.00
2 1/2" female NH to 1 1/2" male NH (4) \$45.90

Total requisitions amount of \$1,256.67.

Approval for the above requisitions was moved by Chairman Sartorio, second by Commissioner Mozumdar and unanimously approved by a vote of the full BOFC.

NEW BUSINESS

CCG Contract Chairman Sartorio moved approval of the no cost contract for a review of the past five years of workers compensation records. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ruppert and unanimously approved. Any recovery would be divided 50%/ 50% between the BOFC and CCG.

Chair Sartorio indicated that the initial review found no errors. A confirmation letter should be received shortly.

It was noted that the workers compensation ERM is beyond the control of the BOFC but that the BOFC should attempt to monitor the membership rolls. Fire Company President Kabis indicated that the quarterly membership review will take place in the coming weeks and that a copy will be provided to the BOFC.

Annual Election Date – Chair Sartorio indicated that he will meeting with Chair Spohn of the BOFC District 1 to review the positives and negatives of moving the election from February to November.

OLD BUSINESS

T46 Replacement: Chair Sartorio reported on the pre-build trip to the Seagrave facility in Wisconsin. Upon a review by the Seagrave engineers, it was determined that the apparatus would have to have an on-board generator for the electrical system to function correctly. The approved modifications to the specifications should be received from Seagrave within two weeks. The BOFC will then have five days to approve them. It is anticipated that the completed apparatus will be delivered 580 days after the specifications are approved. It was noted that as the BOFC will not require funds for payment until 2024, the available monies should be invested at the best rate of interest for the intermediate term. Commissioner Mozumdar will present alternatives at the next meeting.

N.J. American Rescue Plan Firefighter Grant: Chair Sartorio noted that the BOFC needs additional information to determine what equipment should be requested under the grant. He will discuss the issue with Mr. Newberry and the line officers. The BOFC will consider a resolution to apply for the grant at the August meeting. The grant deadline is August 13th. Chair Sartorio will attempt to create a BOFC SAGE account with the State DCA in anticipation of the grant application.

Records Retention – No update.

Deputy Chief Vehicle – According to the GM representative production of the vehicles should begin later this month. No delivery estimate is available at the present time. There are no retired police vehicles available for re-assignment in the interim. There is a possibility of a donation by another emergency services agency which will be pursued.

FEMA - Deputy Chief Rendell noted that he continues to work with FEMA. The paperwork is complete and the next meeting to close out the applications is on July 18th.

SANDY- The reimbursement in the amount of approximately \$6,000.00 has been processed and should be received shortly.

Capital Inventory – Chairman Sartorio will provide to the line officers for review and revision.

Banking – Awaiting execution of new signature cards to permit account access by all commissioners.

Renewal of Contract with MTVFC#2 - A meeting between two commissioners, the Company President, and the Company Treasurer, to open discussion on contract renewal has been scheduled for August 4th.

Insurance Beneficiary Forms – Chairman Sartorio will obtain the forms from Nottingham Insurance. President Kabis will encourage members to update their forms at the next fire company meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on August 11th, 2022. *Motion by Sartorio, 2nd by Mozumdar. Motion passed without objection.*