

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

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 9, 2021

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 A. Mozumdar, M. Ruppert and A. Sartorio. Also present: Chief Adam Verducci, Deputy Chief K. Rendall, Lt. J. Neves, Engineer J. Kabis and QPA W. Newberry.

Approval of Minutes

On the motion of Commissioner Mozumdar, seconded by Commissioner Sartorio, the minutes of the meeting of October 14, 2021, 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

Chief Verducci reported that there were 20 calls in the month of October, on pace for approximately 300 calls for the year.

Two insurance-related incidents occurred during the month of October. A fire police member was struck by a vehicle while crossing the road to get to his car to respond to a fire call. In the second incident the fire police van was involved in an

accident at an emergency scene. The insurance carrier has been notified in both instances.

ENGINEER'S REPORT -

E107- The TPMS module replacement part has been received and will be installed after it is programmed.

E107- CAFS PTO/ Pump transfer case output shaft is worn. The Seagraves Sales & Service quote on repair options has been delayed.

The apparatus has an issue with the auto stow function for the deck gun and the light tower stow feature. Four Lanes approved to visit the firehouse to diagnose the problems and quote the repairs. Four Lanes will also quote repairs for the deck gun. The auto-stow operates very slowly.

T46 – Apparatus OOS at Mercer Spring for frame repair. All other repairs on the apparatus are on hold pending completion of this repair.

B46- The apparatus has a suspension issue as it leans to the passenger side. The Engineer is obtaining a repair quote. The Engineer and officers are working on a lighting upgrade plan and possible re-wiring of the high-idle switch.

R46- MIV valve issues. Four Lanes has been contracted to service the apparatus for \$1,400 and \$360 to repair the valve. Both projects are scheduled.

Milspray has been contracted to apply an annual undercoating to all vehicles. Application of the undercoating is scheduled for November 19.

Annual PM's are scheduled on all apparatus and the Hurst tools. PM on T46 and the annual aerial certification are on hold pending return of the apparatus.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Newberry reported that the BOFC has received a check in the amount of \$972,319.50 from Montgomery Township, representing the tax proceeds for the 2021 year.

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.

Invoices from the 2021 Budget:

Administration: Office Expenses: \$280.66.

Total Cost of Administration: \$280.66.

Operations: Apparatus Housing: \$16,000.00; General Operations/Repairs and Maintenance: \$7,624.57; General Operating/Other: \$770.00; General Operations/Utilities: \$560.08; Supplies: \$4,223.00; Training \$4,175.00.

Total Cost of Operations: \$33,352.65.

Total 2021 Budget Cost of Administration and Operations: \$33,633.31.

Total Capital: \$419.00 (R46 refurbishment)

Resolution 2021-19 Payment of Bills

*The Chief Financial Officer having certified there are sufficient unencumbered funds remaining in the 2021 budget and capital account 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 bills (\$33,633.31 in expenses and \$419.00 in capital) in the total amount **\$34,052.31.***

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

Purchasing

The requisition to Firefighter One for turnout gear approved at the October meeting has been converted to a purchase order and forwarded to the Chief for processing .

Ron Gerschel of Montgomery EMS has been contacted regarding the rehabilitation tent but has not replied as of yet.

Requisitions

Gemtor Harness w/alum. Carabiner Size Reg (Qty 4) All Hands Fire	\$871.00
Gemtor Harness w/alum. Carabiner Size XL (Qty 4) All Hands Fire	\$911.20
Sensit G2 meters (Qty 3) Global Test	\$6,296.00
Sensit G2 Calibration Gas Global Test	\$498.51
50' Combat Ready 2" Hose (Qty 6) Water Supply Innv.	\$1,722.00
50' Eco 10 2 1/2" Hose (Qty 6) Water Supply Innv.	\$1,722.00

50' Combat Ready 1 1/2" Hose (Qty 6) Water Supply Innv.	\$1,356.00
1 1/2" Elkhart brass FD shutoff (Qty 3) Water Supply Innv.	\$971.10
Elkhart brass XD fog tip (Qty 3) Water Supply Innv.	\$1,244.10
Hydra Ram II Unlimited (Qty 2) All Hands Fire	\$4,752.00
Road Flares (Qty 2) All Hands Fire	\$349.88
NOCO 3000A Lithium Jump Starter (Qty 2) All Hands Fire	\$324.94
6' NY Roof Hook (Qty 1) All Hands Fire	\$140.00

Total (Supplies): \$21,653.47

Additionally, it was noted that the price for the tires on T46 has increased by the amount of \$818.00.

Total requisitions for the month of November meeting: \$22,453.47

Chairman Sartorio moved approval of the listed requisitions; seconded by Commissioner Mozumdar. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Sartorio reviewed the status of the FY 21 budget with projections for the final month of the year. He also provided a copy of an updated proposed FY22 budget based on BOFC discussions. The FY 22 will be presented for approval at the December meeting.

Chairman Sartorio noted that the BOFC has received an OPRA request since the October meeting. The request sought information on the number and nature of fire calls for a property on Route 206. Attorney Perkins replied to the request by email, noting that the District does not keep records by property addresses; he noted that if the requestor provided additional information the BOFC may be able to assist.

Chairman Sartorio reported that the BOFC insurance carrier has advised that a Workers Compensation claim has been filed against the District on behalf of Steve Weingart. The insurance carrier may request additional information in the future.

As previously noted in the Chief's report, the fire police van was involved in an accident. The van is currently OOS at Calhoun's Autobody for an assessment of the damage. There is a \$1,000 collision insurance deductible that will be paid by the BOFC. Chief Verducci confirmed that the updated Driver Policies include an accident review directly following each incident.

OLD BUSINESS

Replacement of T46: The Board discussed the need for a capital referendum to permit the replacement of T46 and the deputy chief's vehicle that was destroyed during Ida. After discussion it was agreed that the replacement of both pieces of apparatus should be included in the FY22 budget. It was noted that the cost of replacement for T46 will not require monies until FY23 given the time necessary to construct the apparatus. All monies for the replacement of both pieces of apparatus will come from the capital account and the insurance proceeds for the deputy vehicle.

FY 22 Capital Referendum: Chairman Sartorio moved a resolution establishing December 9th as the date for the FY 22 capital special meeting and vote. The special meeting and vote will take place at the firehouse between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. Notice will be published in the legal newspaper of the district and posted in five prominent locations throughout the district. The resolution was seconded by Commissioner Ruppert and unanimously adopted.

EMS Budget Request: (See QPA Newberry's report above)

Fire Prevention Fine Monies – No action at this time noting the continuing post Ida work in progress. The monies may be available to assist in the purchase of a boat for high water rescues.

Viburnum Underground Tanks – No report

Renewal of Rocky Hill Agreement- A revised agreement document is being prepared consistent with last month's resolution.

Grants: Chair Sartorio submitted a Request for Public Assistance Grant to FEMA on behalf of the BOFC. The grant application seeks reimbursement for the cost of replacing the Deputy car and related equipment, as well as reimbursement for emergency protective measures due to tropical storm Ida (for which a disaster declaration was made). The next step in the process will be phone call review with FEMA on November 29th.

Communications Policy: Chief Verducci has reviewed the proposed BOFC policy and will email comments to Chair Sartorio.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the BOFC will be held on December 9th, 2021. *Motion by Chair Sartorio, 2nd by Ruppert. Motion passed without objection.*