

The Board of Fire Commissioners

Fire District No. 1

Regular Monthly Meeting

September 21, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of The Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District N. 1 in the Township of South Brunswick, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman William Orchard, in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call:

Members present: Commissioners Tarnowski, Rosenberg, Olson & Orchard.

Members absent: Commissioner Behrend

Flag Salute: completed

Agenda Changes: none

Address From the Public: none

Report from the Fire Marshall: Mr. Laird was not present. Mr. Rosenberg stated that he had talked to Mr. Laird, who indicated that there was still no authorization for new hiring. Mr. Orchard stated that in his conversations with a Township official, more time is needed on this issue.

Approval of August Regular Meeting Minutes: Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Mr. Olson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed.

Reports:

Line Activities – Chief Perez stated the statistics were not available due to a computer server problem, however, he presented the following:

- Due to Hurricane Irene, the Company handled about 30 calls from 8/27-8/28. There were 23 firefighters standing by during this time and did a great job. For the month there were about 55/60 incidents.
- The Fire Prevention Open House is 10/8 from 1 to 4 p.m. There will be a dedication of the new Station 22 at 12:45 p.m. which will include some Township Committee members and a ribbon cutting ceremony. Afterwards there will be cake and ice cream .
- The computer system should be up and running soon.

- Truck 221 had a brake repair job done and Truck 222 has new steps to be installed, once it arrives.
- OSHA will inspect the new building in a few weeks. Bulletin boards need to be hung along with some other minor requirements.
- The generator for Station will need to be replaced in the not too distant future at a cost of about \$75K-\$100K. A temporary fix had been made for the near term but this is an issue for capital improvements.
- Mike Kolder of the Company was hired by the Virginia Beach Fire Department and the Company wished him well. It is a good sign that paid companies are hiring volunteer members.
- Box plans have been reduced from 4 to 2. This will be reviewed at this evening's Chiefs' meeting.
- Curt Ewings was reinstated to the Fire Company; the issue was about dues.

President – not present.

Treasurer's Report/Voucher List – Mr. Rosenberg presented the report and stated the following:.

- The Board now owns Truck 221; the title has been received.
- The repairs to the generator were \$3,800.

Mr. Olson made a motion to approve the Voucher List as presented and Mr. Tarnowski seconded it; a vote was taken and passed.

Secretary's Report – no report.

Fire Coordinator – to be discussed in Executive Session.

Chairman – Mr. Orchard reported that there were some violations for Station 23:

- Exit signs are good but the back lights are out; these will be replaced.
- Truss sign needs to be relocated.
- Sprinkler Company is not responding in a positive manner. Another company is being considered to address the violations.

Standing Committee Reports:

Fire Company Liaison - Mr. Behrend was present for a report.

Rescue Squad Liaison – Mr. Tarnowski had nothing to report.

Public Relations - Mr. Orchard stated that the Newsletter that Mr. Behrend put together was outstanding. The Chief stated that copies should be posted in the firehouses.

State Association - Mr. Rosenberg reported that he attended the meeting last week in Wildwood; topics discussed:

- Bill Donohue is now the President and Roger Potts the VP.
- A decision on the lobbyist will be made at the December meeting.
- Work is being done on getting the EMS Law into effect.
- The DCA provided a Budgeting Schedule Calendar. Mr. Rosenberg and those Commissioners who are available will meet next Tuesday, the 27th with the Auditor to discuss where the budget is, where to go with the tax levy, the cap bank, and other budgetary concerns. Mr. Rosenberg noted that closer to November 1st timeline for the budget to be submitted, the better.
- The fire safety issue is still open.
- The Fire Institute has presented a resolution that all new construction have fire sprinklers; they are looking for support from the Fire Companies and Districts.

Joint Board - Mr. Rosenberg stated that a consensus had been reached to disband the Joint Board. He will notify the new Township Administrator of this in the next few weeks.

Insurance - Mr. Orchard stated that the Workman's Compensation bill will be paid this month. Nothing has been received from Bollinger at this time.

Unfinished Business:

Rescue Truck – Chief Perez stated that the delivery date is the end of October/early November; tools have been coming in except for the rescue tools which have been delayed.

New Business: none

Executive Session: The Board went into Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. to discuss personnel issues. They came out at 7:40 p.m.

Address From the Public: none

Adjournment: As there was no further business to discuss, Mr. Tarnowski made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Olson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonnie R. L. Knigge

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