

The Commissioners of Fire District No. 1

In the Township of South Brunswick

Regular Monthly Meeting

March 21, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No. 1, in the Township of South Brunswick, was called to order by Chairman William Orchard, at 6:55 p.m., in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call:

Members present: Commissioners Behrend, Orchard and Tarnowski

Members absent: Commissioners Olson and Rosenberg

Flag Salute: completed

Agenda Changes: none

Address From the Public: none

Report from Mr. Laird: this item will be removed from future agendas.

Approval of 2/15 Regular Meeting Minutes: Mr. Tarnowski made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Mr. Behrend seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed.

Reports:

Line Activities – Chief Perez presented the following report:

- The three fire companies will participate in Little League Opening Day Ceremonies on 4/14.
- There was a delay in putting the Rescue Truck into service, due to a blown hydraulic hose. However, the tools are all mounted and the radios and chargers are in. Training will take about two weeks, once the truck is in service.
- Stats for February were: 20 emergency calls, 2 drills and 2 work nights for a total of 43 calls for the year. He noted that March has been a slower month.

President – Mr. Corris reported that entire membership was well; no incidents to report.

Treasurer's Report/Voucher List – Mr. Rosenberg's report was reviewed by the Board. The only issue was to make sure Wachovia Bank is changed to Wells Fargo. Mr. Tarnowski made a

motion to accept the Report and the Voucher List as presented, Mr. Behrend seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed.

Secretary's Report –none

Fire Coordinator - Mr. Perez reported the following:

- All apparatus is in service except the Rescue Truck, as previously discussed.
- The Fire District Audit was completed and well pretty well.
- ISO (Insurance Services Office) will be conducting an audit of the District to determine insurance rates for the residents of the District. He will meet with them on 4/12 to provide the necessary documentations. Mr. Orchard stated that the higher the rating, the more chance homeowners insurance will go down.
- He will be on vacation from 3/31 – 4/9.

Chairman – Mr. Orchard reported the following:

- Thanks to Mr. Perez and Mr. Corris for their help in correcting two minor OSHA violations. The Fire Company is now compliant.
- A thank you card was received from Kris and Bernadette Olson for the fruit basket.
- He and Messrs. Rosenberg and Perez met with the Auditors regarding the Fire District Audit. Two questions must be answered by the Board before the Audit can be completed.
 1. There is a decreased of approximately \$100K the 2010 and 2011 audits. Mr. Perez and Mr. Rosenberg researched the discrepancy and attributed the difference to the \$100K given to the Fire Company for upgrades to the building for fire response purposes. The Commissioners were agreeable to the explanation.
 2. District Liabilities increased from 2010 to 2011. This was caused by the acquisition of the Rescue Truck. The Commissioners were agreeable to this explanation also.

Standing Committee Reports –

Fire Company Liaison – Mr. Behrend had nothing to report.

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

Public Relations - Mr. Behrend reported that the Newsletter is in the process and should be ready to go within the next week. Mr. Orchard stated that there had been a discussion as to eliminating the Spring Newsletter and just go with the Fall Newsletter. The reason for this consideration is that the District received a hefty insurance bill, which could be off-set by using these PR funds. The Commissioners agreed to this change.

State Association – The meeting was held 3/3 and Mr. Perez reported that the major topic of discussion was the pending legislation to move the elections to November.

Insurance – Mr. Orchard reported that Cigna decided that the District was paying the wrong formula and they wanted to back-charge for two years. Mr. Orchard thanked Mr. Perez for his perseverance in obtaining a positive conclusion.

Mr. Perez participated in the conference call with Cigna reps and the District's insurance agent. Mr. Perez maintained that the District should not be responsible for pass charges, as the error was on the part of Cigna. After further review, Cigna agreed to erase all back payments; the increase will now take affect with the August 2011 payment (which had not been paid at that time). The payment due will be in the amount of \$5,205, which is the actual premium from last year, not the up-charge. Beginning with the January payment, the up-charge will be about \$6K or a total of \$12K for the year. Mr. Perez felt comfortable with the agreement.

Unfinished Business: Rescue Truck – previously discussed.

New Business: none

Executive Session: none

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. Behrend seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonnie R. L. Knigge

Filename: mr032112