

The Commissioners of Fire District No.1

In the Township of South Brunswick

Regular Monthly Meeting

October 15, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No. 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 Olson, Orchard, Rosenberg and Tarnowski

Members absent: Commissioner Josephson

Flag Salute: completed

Agenda Changes: none

Address from the Public: none

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

Reports:

Line Activities - Chief presented the following report (file copy attached):

- Stats for September: 16 calls, 3 drills, 3 work details for a YTD total of 181 calls, 21 drills and 28 work details; totaling 3,018 man-hours.
- The Company responded to a large incident this past Thursday (car/house fire), which was coordinated very well to keep damage to a minimum.
- The Open House was a huge success with a lot of activity and attendance.
- The Company will be attending Home Depot's Fire Safety Day on 10/26 from 10-2p.m. This is a yearly event that the Fire Company has supported for the last 8-10 years.
- On 11/3 the Fire Company will host a Water Flow Drill with Plainsboro, Kingston, Monmouth Junction. Participants will be introduced to the use of the Foam Trailer.

President – Mr. Corris reported the following:

1. During this month, one Probationary Firefighter was sworn in and one Junior Member was read in. All others members are good in health.
2. He reiterated that the Open House was a success and there were some new things that the public liked.
3. The trophy cabinet has been completed.
4. Fire Department nominations will take place in November.
5. The Installation Dinner is scheduled for 2/15, which is the same day as the Fire Company Election. It will be looked into changing the date.

Treasurer's Report/Voucher List – Mr. Rosenberg presented the report (file copy attached). He noted that the Budget will be discussed in Executive Session. The Commissioners reviewed the Voucher List after which Mr. Olson made a motion to approve the List as presented and Mr. Tarnowski seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.

Secretary's Report – Mr. Olson had nothing to report.

Fire Coordinator – Mr. Perez reported the following:

1. A new contract was negotiated with Midco Waste Management for bi-monthly garbage service. The cost will be \$52/month for a 3-year contract, with a maximum yearly increase of 2%. This is approximately a \$146 monthly savings.
2. The Ladder is out for service and repairs which should take about 2 weeks.
3. School Fire Safety visits are underway: 5 have been completed and there are about 8/9 more to go.
4. The Newsletter was completed, mailed and posted on the website.
5. The Website has been updated to include monthly agendas, which means the District is 100% compliant.
6. There will be a Special Senator Election tomorrow, the 16th, and the General Election on 11/5. Both will be held at Station 23 and Mr. Tarnowski will close both.
7. The Chief and Deputy Chief Choffi will attend the International Association of Fire Chiefs Training from 11/6-10.

8. Mr. Perez reported that he met with 4 insurance vendors: VFIS, Selective, ESIP and JIF (Joint Insurance Fund). He provided an analysis of the Insurance Pricing (file copy attached). He noted that all quotes are “apples to apples”, except the deductible on ESIP, which is \$250/apparatus. This is because the District has been with that company for a long time. All other deductibles are \$500. Mr. Perez reported that VFIS is currently working with the State to get an approved Workman’s Comp program just for firefighters, which would be a savings of about \$4,000/yr. After the review of the insurance analysis, the Commissioners agreed to go with VFIS for Property, Casualty, Accident and Sickness; VESO for Term Life and Liberty Mutual for Workman’s Comp. Mr. Perez was thanked for the detailed analysis he did.

Chairman - Mr. Orchard reported that there are 4 people on the LOSAP roster that are no longer with the Fire Company and they were never vested, amounting to \$16,261.85 just sitting there. He suggested that Lincoln Financial be contacted to obtain these funds and put them back into surplus. The Commissioners were in agreement; Mr. Perez will prepare a letter stating the Board’s intention.

Standing Committee Reports:

Fire Company Liaison - no report.

Rescue Squad Liaison - nothing to report.

Public Relations - The Newsletter, website and Open House all came out great.

State Association - Mr. Rosenberg reported the following:

1. Mr. Harry Carter did not attend the meeting held at the Wildwood Convention and there were no State representatives there, except for Steve Sweeney.
2. The District will need to sign off that the website is in compliance with the rules before the State will approve the 2014 Budget. Mr. Rosenberg noted that the Budget needs to be submitted by 12/17.

Unfinished Business: Mr. Perez stated that the agreement for the Deputy Fire Marshall is due in October. Mr. Orchard had earlier requested this requirement be deleted from the agreement. It was decided to hold off on this issue until the Board gets back to him.

New Business: none

Executive Session: The Commissioners went into Executive Session at 7 p.m. to discuss firematics; they came out at 7:40 p.m.

Address from the Public: none

Adjournment: As there was no further business to discuss, a motion was made and passed to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonnie R. L. Knigge

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