

**Board of Fire Commissioners
Fire District No. 1
330 Stillwells Corner Road
Freehold, NJ 07728**

Regular Meeting

May 25, 2021

Chairman John Toutouchi called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners to order at 7pm. Chief Spicuzza led the flag salute, and the notice was read. Roll call was taken, and the Commissioners present at the meeting were John Toutouchi, Andrew Story, Michael Fogarty and Stephen Lengyel. Also present was Board Secretary-Rachel Davis. Board Attorney-Richard Braslow, Esq., Neil Braslow, Esq., and Commissioner Kevin Horan attended the meeting via teleconference. This meeting was also live streamed.

Chairman Toutouchi requested a moment of silence to remember the fallen soldiers for Memorial Day.

The first order of business was for Mr. Braslow to administer the oath of office to the re-elected commissioners—Michael Fogarty and Steven Lengyel. Mr. Braslow congratulated Commissioner Fogarty and Commissioner Lengyel on their re-election.

Motion was made by Mr. Horan to return all sitting Commissioners to the offices they held in 2020.

Second: Mr. Lengyel
5-0 all in favor

Mr. Braslow discussed the following Reorganizational Resolutions:

- Authorizing Appointment of Auditor-Gerard Stankiewicz for the 2021-2022 Year;
- Authorizing Reappointment of Board Secretary-Rachel Davis;
- Designating Surety Bond for Commissioners;
- Authorizing Approval and Payment of Claims;
- Designation of Official Newspapers for Publications for the 2021-2022 Year;
- Adoption of Cash Management Plan;
- Authorizing Appointment of Attorney-Richard M. Braslow, Esq., for the 2021-2022 Year;
- Authorizing Appointment of Accountant-Gerard Stankiewicz.

Motion was made by Mr. Lengyel to accept all reorganizational resolutions.

Second: Mr. Fogarty
5-0 all in favor

Legal: Mr. Braslow inquired about the Board donating the trailer to the Monmouth County Fire Academy.

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to authorize the disposal of the Board's personal property, namely one air trailer, and to donate it to the Monmouth County Fire Academy.

Second: Mr. Lengyel

5-0 all in favor

Mr. Braslow advised that the website terms and conditions must be posted to the website.

Mr. Braslow discussed the advantages and disadvantages of changing the election to November.

Motion was made by Mr. Story to approve the minutes from the April 27, 2021 regular meeting.

Second: Mr. Fogarty

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

Correspondence: (none)

Treasurer's Report: Commissioner Fogarty read the May 25, 2021 Treasurer's Report into record.

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to transfer \$82,000 from Ocean First money market to Ocean First checking and to pay the bills in the amount of \$81,852.76

Second: Mr. Story

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

Insurance: One claim was made, but medical treatment was denied.

Website: Up to date.

Buildings: Commissioner Lengyel reported that the generator at Smithburg was not working; someone is coming out Friday to look at it. Mr. Lengyel is also waiting to figure out the repairs the Board will be making at the District building. The Board discussed the repairs. Commissioner Story suggested walking around the building during one of the regular meetings to examine the building.

Board thanked Commissioner Horan for mowing Georgia Road firehouse. Mr. Horan discussed the previous landscaping quote that he received last year for low-maintenance, deer resistant landscaping along with proper drainage. He only received the one quote for \$7,000 and could not get any other quotes, as no one returned his calls. Mr. Braslow said the Board could proceed on the \$7,000 bid, if the vendor honors it and if Mr. Horan can document the fact in the minutes that he reached out to other companies but only received one quote. Mr. Horan said it was previously documented and confirmed with Mr. Braslow

that he would be in receipt of a business registration certificate and proof of insurance. Board discussed having to hire someone on a regular basis to maintain the landscaping.

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to authorize the \$7,000 bid for the landscaping at Georgia Road Fire House.

Second: Mr. Horan

Roll call vote: 4-1 (Commissioner Toutouchi opposed.)

Chief's Report: 1st Assistant Chief Haas gave an update that 80 is out for repairs, and four members must come off insurance (S. McKenna, Mike Greco, Matt Greco and A. Gandolfo). Commissioner Lengyel expressed his disappointed in the fact that the truck was not being used when it was under warranty and maybe this problem could have been avoided.

Mr. Toutouchi asked that the Chief let all the drivers know that when they leave for a call that the garage doors must be closed.

President's Report: (no one representing)

Old Business: (none)

New Business: (none)

Audience: (none)

Motion was made by Mr. Lengyel to go into executive session for a personnel matter at 8:08pm.

Second: Mr. Fogarty

Roll call vote: 4-1 (Mr. Story opposed.)

Chairman Toutouchi excused the Board Attorney and Board Secretary at this time.

(returned from executive session at 8:25pm)

There being no further business, Mr. Fogarty made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm.

Second: Mr. Lengyel

5-0 all in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Horan, Secretary
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