

June 16, 2016
Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners
District #3 in the Township of Hanover
County of Morris, Cedar Knolls, New Jersey

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on June 16, 2016 in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act of 1975 Chapter, 231.

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners Peter DeNigris, Maria Florio, Robert Callas, Thomas Quirk, and Michael Dugan were present.

Also in attendance was Chief DiGiorgio

Administrator Schultz was absent

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Scott Thompson, 44 Fairchild Place, Whippany addressed the Board to thank them for the letter he received regarding pension matters and looking out for his well-being.

CORRESPONDENCE: Commissioner Callas read a letter from Tony Corsimmo thanking the Commissioners and CKFD3 for including them in the celebration for their Father's 50 years of service.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner DeNigris made a motion to approve the Minutes of May 19, 2016, seconded by Commissioner Callas. All in favor with the exception of Commissioner Dugan who abstained due to his absence at the last meeting.

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER: Commissioner DeNigris received a letter from the VM Associates, 111 Howard Boulevard, Mount Arlington regarding the annual audit. There were no recommendations for changes. A resolution to adopt the report has been prepared. **Commissioner Dugan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Quirk to accept the Treasurer's Report. All approved.**

REPORT FROM CHIEF AND OTHER BOARD COMMITTEES:

Chief DiGiorgio's distributed his bi-monthly report to the Commissioners and highlighted the following points:

- Engine 34 has been added as a first responder.
- The Chief stated he is keeping up with the lawsuits being generated from the County of Morris regarding propane being stored in Mt. Olive in the Morristown Erie rail cars. His concern is if Morris County is successful in getting the cars off those rails, Morristown Erie also has rails in Hanover Township. He will continue to keep up with what is going on.
- Volunteer crew coverage shift will be from 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m. to accommodate schedules.

- Panel Interview for career volunteer firefighters EMTs will take place next Friday at 8:30 a.m.
- At their last meeting the Fire Company approved to moving forward with a recruitment and retention work group. Chief DiGiorgio would like the Commissioners to assign someone from the Board as a liaison to sit on this work group. His suggestion is to assign a primary and an alternate.
- Ambulance 38 is out being fixed. Ambulance 39 has just come back after some costly repairs, but shouldn't have to be sent out again for another 10 years.
- A gear washer was approved on Monday and should be here sometime next week.

EMS: Nothing to report.

BUDGET: Commissioner DeNigris reported overall everything is okay, however overtime and legal continue to be problems. Legal is at 90% of budget and will likely go over budget due to the continuing issues involving Gentek. **Action Item: Commissioner Dugan will contact Attorney Braslow and ask him to keep track of legal costs related to Gentek so in the event the Board is able to recoup any losses through subsequent action or through bond there will be an accounting of hours/fees paid.**

LABOR RELATIONS: Nothing to report at this time.

LIAISON TO THE VOLUNTEERS: Nothing to report at this time.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

- Commissioner Dugan advised there is a Resolution to re-bid the apron project.
- Air conditioning in the Dayroom has been fixed. A surge protector will be installed to avoid further problems.

APPARATUS AND MAINTENANCE:

Chief DiGiorgio had a telephone conversation with Scott McDermott, Emergency Vehicle Specialist from VCI. Mr. McDermott answered a list of questions from the Chief regarding vehicle replacement options. From that conversation, the following was shared with the Board:

- What would make the most sense financially would be to remount the existing box onto a new chassis. Purchasing a Ford F Series chassis and the remount of box would cost approximately \$120 – \$130K. This would be a 4-wheel drive, 2017 model, with 19,500 GVW. Turnaround time is approximately 6 months with a loaner provided during remount.
- Going into a new vehicle would have to include a required Power Load System option. The Power Load System cost is \$25,000, in addition to all other costs.
- Municipal leasing is another option.

A lengthy discussion followed.

Commissioner Quirk made a motion, seconded by Commissioner DeNigris to move forward with remounting the current box onto a new chassis, all in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A Resolution has been prepared for ramp project.
- Commissioner Florio has reviewed the Smoking Cessation policy and would recommend “definitions” and “terms” be more defined. Target date for the implementation of this policy is January 1, 2017.
- Uniforms – It was agreed previously that uniforms would be worn to meetings. Since not all Commissioners are wearing uniforms, a re-vote was suggested. Commissioner Florio expressed her opposition along with Commissioner DeNigris. This item has been tabled while the Board continues to look for shirts that would be appropriate for both male and female Commissioners. **Action Item: Chief DiGiorgio will look for a uniform that has “woman’s cut” shirt.**

NEW BUSINESS:

- Cooperative Pricing – The Board questioned whether the \$1,250.00 annual fee with a five-year term is actually cost effective. Before signing the agreement Chief DiGiorgio will research actual savings and this items will be tabled until the July 7, 2016 meeting. **Action Item: Chief DiGiorgio will research savings from Cooperative Pricing agreement and report back to the Board at the next meeting.**
- The next meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners will be Thursday, July 7, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS:

Commissioner Callas read **Resolution 16-06-16-71** appointing per diem emergency medical technician Ryan Houser. **A motion was made by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Florio to adopt the resolution, all in favor.**

Commissioner Callas read **Resolution 16-06-16-72** appointing volunteer member Caitlin Davidson as a Volunteer Member with the Fire District. **A motion was made by Commissioner Florio, seconded by Commissioner Dugan to adopt the resolution, all in favor.**

Commissioner Callas read **Resolution 16-06-16-73** authorizing a Memorandum of Agreement for the transfer of Unit 30 to the Township of Hanover. **A motion was made by Commissioner Florio, seconded by Commissioner DeNigris to adopt the Resolution. Commissioners Callas and Dugan in favor, Commissioner Quirk recused himself.**

Commissioner Callas read **Resolution 16-06-16-74** authorizing entering into a mutual aid agreement with Township of Parsippany Troy Hills (Par-Troy) for the providing of Emergency Medical Services. **A motion was made by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner DeNigris to adopt the Resolution. Commissioners Florio and Callas in favor, Commissioner Quirk abstained.**

Commissioner Callas read **Resolution 16-06-16-75** adopting the 2015 Annual Audit. **A motion was made by Commissioner Quirk, seconded by Commissioner Callas to adopt the Resolution, all in favor.**

Commissioner Callas read **Resolution 16-06-16-76** to amend Resolution **16-03-03-36** to include additional cost for Engineering services with Bowman Consulting. **A motion was made by Commissioner Quirk, seconded by Commissioner DeNigris to adopt the Resolution, all in favor.**

Commissioner Callas read **Resolution 16-06-16-77** authorizing authorization publication of notice to bidders for ramp apron project. **A motion was made by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner DeNigris to adopt the Resolution, all in favor.**

Commissioner Callas read **Resolution 16-06-16-78** authorizing the closing of meeting pursuant to Open Public Meeting Act.

The Board went in to closed session at 8:30 p.m.

The Board came out of closed session at 9:10 p.m. Personnel matters were discussed. Letters were sent to members that may be affected by the volunteer issue, thus concluding action on this matter.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Robert Callas, Secretary