

November 3, 2022 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 November 3, 2022 in accordance with the Public Meeting Act of 1975, Chapter 231. The Board observed a moment of silence for all those who have given their lives in service of their communities and nation.

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners Steven Cornine, Robert O'Hare, and Shawn Waldron were present. Commissioners Mary Lou DeSimone and Michael Dugan Jr. were absent.

Administrator Schultz, Asst. Fire Chief Martin, Lt. Belott, Lt. Sulpy, FF Gilson, FF Ujfalussy, FF Fire Co. President James Hark Jr., and Fire Co. Member Keyser were also in attendance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Fire Co. Member Keyser asked when the minutes from the August 8 Special Meeting would be available on the website. Administrator Schultz reviewed the website and noted that the link was missing but would be corrected by tomorrow.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

The minutes from the October 20, 2022 Regular Meeting were reviewed.

Amendments to Previous Minutes: None.

Commissioner Waldron made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 20, 2022 Regular Meeting. Commissioner Cornine seconded the motion. Commissioners Cornine and Waldron were in favor. Commissioners DeSimone and Dugan Jr. were absent. Commissioner O'Hare abstained.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER:

Administrator Schultz reported that he, Commissioner Waldron and President Hark Jr. met with the Boonton Townships Qualified Purchasing Agent and the Administrator of Boonton Township on Monday morning and have a much better grasp of what is entailed with a shared services agreement. Administrator Schultz reported that Boonton Township is going to discuss a shared service

agreement with the Boonton Township Committee at their November 14 meeting. Administrator Schultz reported that Boonton Township is going to send District 3 a draft resolution for the shared services agreement although the price has not been finalized yet. Administrator Schultz felt that if the District is able to enter into the shared service agreement with Boonton Township for a Qualified Purchasing Agent it would be very beneficial to the District in regards to a couple of audit items and in the circumstances that the District exceeds the \$17,500 bid threshold with a vendor. Administrator Schultz noted that if the Boonton Township Committee approves the agreement at their Nov. 14 meeting then the Board will be ready to vote on a resolution entering into a shared services agreement at the November 17 Board meeting. Administrator Schultz reported that he has another person to talk to if the Boonton Township agreement falls through.

Commissioner Waldron reported that the District is operating within budget.

Report of Fire Commissioner Board Committees and Chief of Department:

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief DiGiorgio submitted his Bi-Monthly report on October 31, 2022. Commissioner O'Hare asked Asst. Chief Martin if he had anything to add to the report. Asst. Chief Martin reported that the District responded to 2 separate motor vehicle accidents on Rt. 287.

EMS: Nothing to report.

BUDGET: Commissioner Waldron reported that there are weekly meetings to work on the 2023 Budget. Administrator Schultz reported that the District has a draft 2023 budget which will be sent to our accountant for review. Administrator Schultz reported that he would like to have the 2023 budget introduced at the next Board meeting.

PERSONNEL: Commissioner Waldron reported that the Board had 9 individuals take the written exam and physical agility test for the FF/EMT position. Commissioner Waldron reported that the 4 individuals who passed the written exam and received the top 4 scores on the agility test were invited to interview with him, Commissioner Cornine, and the 3 lieutenants. Commissioner Waldron noted that Chief DiGiorgio, Administrator Schultz and President Hark Jr. sat in on the interviews. Commissioner Waldron indicated that there was a need for executive session to discuss the results and recommendation of the Committee. Commissioner Waldron noted that the job announcement indicated that the

District was making a list of viable candidates and asked how long the list would be good for. Commissioners Cornine, O'Hare, and Waldron agreed that the list would be good for 1-year.

NEGOTIATIONS: Nothing to report.

LIAISON TO THE VOLUNTEERS: Commissioner Waldron reported that Dr. Gluckman has not been cooperative about getting the required paperwork for physicals to the Board.

Commissioner Waldron reported that Chief DiGiorgio has reinstated 2 volunteer firefighters contingent on getting the physical paperwork completed. Commissioner Waldron recommended that the 2 EMS volunteers who have not completed their annual competencies be given leeway also and Chief DiGiorgio contingently reinstated them also. Commissioner Waldron felt that the common denominator was Dr. Gluckman and his unwillingness to cooperate with the District.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Commissioner Waldron reported that the parts for the bay door are expected by the middle of November and once they are received the door should be done within a few days.

APPARATUS/EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE: Commissioner Waldron reported that Truck 33 is back in service.

INSURANCE: Nothing to report.

BY-LAWS: Nothing to report.

WEBSITE: Up to date. Commissioner O'Hare reported that a young man who did research on various firefighting articles asked if District 3 was interested in having them put on our website. Administrator Schultz reported that he would reach out to the individual.

Commissioner Waldron asked who received volunteer inquiries that come in through the website. Administrator Schultz reported that the inquiries go to him, Chief DiGiorgio, and Asst. Chief Martin. Administrator Schultz noted that Asst. Chief Martin was added to the distribution yesterday. Asst. Chief Martin did not know why Chief DiGiorgio was getting involved with membership issues. Administrator Schultz reported that the inquiries started to go to Chief DiGiorgio when the Asst. Chief of EMS position became vacant but the distribution has now been corrected to include Asst. Fire Chief Martin.

PLANNING COMMITTEE: Commissioner Cornine reported that he attended the consolidation Committee meeting last night. Commissioner Cornine reported that the Chief Perrello is trying to schedule another meeting with the DCA. Commissioner Cornine reported that Chief Perrello expressed frustration over scheduling a meeting with the DCA that would allow District 3 Commissioners to attend. Commissioner Cornine reported that he recommended that the individual Boards draft resolutions of continuing support for the Consolidation Committee in 2023 and schedule Joint Board meeting throughout the year to discuss the Consolidation Committee progress. Commissioner Cornine reported that he recommended to the Committee that the Boards pick some of the bigger items and sign MOAs for them as a way to continue moving forward with consolidation discussions and see what will and what would not work if the Districts decide to consolidate. Commissioner Cornine reported that one year into the process a lot of work has been put into a plan but the Districts are not any closer to consolidating than at the beginning of the process. Commissioner Cornine reported that there were also programs within each District which could start to mirror one another and make it easier to consolidate. Commissioner Cornine reported that he spoke to the Committee about possibly running the District 3 Volunteer EMS program out of the District 2 firehouse to try to revive the program since District 3 has hardly any Volunteer EMTs.

Commissioner Waldron asked Administrator Schultz if the list of questions he submitted to DCA had been answered. Administrator Schultz reported that the only thing he received from the DCA was the confirmation of the next meeting date.

President Hark Jr. reported that the District met with the architects this week to go over what would be needed in a new firehouse so they could get started on the feasibility study. President Hark Jr. reported that there would be another meeting an about a month.

LIASON TO EXEMPTS: Nothing to report.

RECORDS RETENTION: Nothing to report.

LIAISON TO HANOVER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE: Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS: Commissioner Waldron reported that there has been a development with needed cameras on the front of the firehouse. President Hark Jr. reported that Sgt. Schauder came by and said the police are willing to install a

camera on the front of the firehouse. President Hark Jr. reported that the police would own and monitor the camera and the District could request footage if needed. Commissioner Cornine asked for clarification on who wanted the camera on the front of the firehouse. Commissioner Waldron reported that the District was looking into purchasing and installing a camera on the front of the firehouse so that activity on the driveway aprons could be monitored. Commissioner Waldron reported that the police department has now asked if they could put up a camera. Asst. Chief Martin asked why the police department did not put their camera on the traffic lights. Commissioner Waldron reported that they wanted to put the camera on the building which would provide the security that the District wants and felt that if the police department offering to pay for it the District should consider it. Commissioner Cornine asked if the District would have to file OPRA requests to get any footage. Administrator Schultz reported that our Counsel recommended an agreement between the District and the police department that allows them to put the camera on our building and that they would not require the District to file OPRA requests for footage. The Board agreed to pursue the police camera.

Commissioner O'Hare asked about the status of the exercise equipment in the tent. Commissioner Waldron thought that FF Ujfalussy was going to be contacted to see if he knew anyone who wanted it but discovered today that no one had contacted FF Ujfalussy. FF Ujfalussy reported that he would contact District 2 to see if they want it.

Commissioner Waldron asked what the terms and conditions of Dr. Gluckman's employment for the District are for his functions as Medical Director and Health & Safety Officer. Commissioner Waldron clarified that Commissioner DeSimone asked what the expectations did the Board have for Dr. Gluckman in his role as Health & Safety Officer or what does his contract specify. Commissioner Waldron reported that Commissioner DeSimone also asked if the Board felt that Dr. Gluckman has met expectations and asked who from this Department or Board did Dr. Gluckman take direction from. Commissioner O'Hare felt that Dr. Gluckman takes direction and interacts with the Chief and maybe the Administrator but nobody on the Board that he is aware of. Commissioner Waldron felt that Dr. Gluckman dealt with Chief DiGiorgio and Lt. Sulpy on EMS matters. Commissioner Waldron felt that Dr. Gluckman was holding up the annual physicals process for members by not providing the paperwork they can take to their doctors. Commissioner Cornine disagreed and felt that the District

hired Dr. Gluckman to perform physicals and subsequently went back and requested he change everything to accommodate our members. Commissioner Cornine reported that the District is changing the game, not Dr. Gluckman. Commissioner Cornine felt that the Board has to decide what the annual physical policy will be as opposed to trying to make Dr. Gluckman accept another doctors work. Administrator Schultz clarified that the Board appointed Dr. Gluckman as Medical Director and FastER Urgent Care was appointed as the medical provider which performs the annual physicals. Administrator Schultz reported that he was not aware that there were issues getting the paperwork from Dr. Gluckman. Administrator Schultz reported that he would discuss why the current policy on annual physicals exists in closed session. Commissioner Waldron noted that there are 2 members that Chief DiGiorgio reinstated contingent on them completing their physicals in a month.

Commissioner Waldron reported that since the last Board meeting Mr. Keyser has had the hand cart removed from the ambulance bay and taken to the museum at the Firemen's Home. Commissioner Waldron thanked Mr. Keyser for handling this.

NEW BUSINESS: Administrator Schultz asked permission to talk with Mr. Giorgio about the PILOT monies and how they were distributed monies since any development in District 2 relies on District 3 for EMS services. Administrator Schultz reported that he would like to speak with Mr. Giorgio about the fact that development in District 2 has an economic impact on District 3 as well. Administrator Schultz reported that he would like to know if the distribution of PILOT monies is based on an ordinance or just an agreement and whether consideration would be given to amending the ordinance or agreement to include District 3 in any PILOT monies since District 3 is bearing the cost of providing EMS services. Commissioner O'Hare felt that it was worth looking into and suggested going through our liaison, Committeeman Cahill. Commissioner O'Hare reported that he would be willing to attend any meeting on the topic.

REMINDERS:

The next regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners will be held on Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 7:00 P.M at the firehouse.

The Joint Fire Prevention Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 1, 2022 at the District 3 Fire House at 6:30 P.M.

The Annual Tree Lighting will be held on Saturday, November 26, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. at the Cedar Knolls Fire Station.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Fire Co. Member Keyser asked what insurance policy non-operational members would be covered under should they get hurt while helping out with the Tree Lighting. Commissioner O’Hare reported that operational members who are injured on the job are entitled to Workers Compensation but a non-operational member who gets hurt while decorating the tree would be covered under the Accident & Sickness policy. Mr. Keyser asked for a copy of the Accident & Sickness policy. President Hark Jr. will provide a digital copy.

RESOLUTIONS: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Cornine read Resolution 22-11-03-79 to enter into executive session. Commissioner Cornine made a motion to introduce the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Waldron. All were in favor. Commissioners DeSimone and Dugan Jr. were absent.

The Board went into closed session at 7:50 p.m.

Personnel matters were discussed, and action will be taken.

The Board came out of closed session at 9:02 p.m.

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Commissioner Cornine, seconded by Commissioner O’Hare, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. Commissioners DeSimone and Dugan Jr. were absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Steven Cornine, Secretary