

**The Monthly Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners
District #3, in the Township of Hanover,
County of Morris, Cedar Knolls, New Jersey
August 5, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM on August 5, 2010 in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act of 1975, Chapter 231.

Attendees: Commissioners Gary Keyser, Paul Pilipie, Thomas Quirk

Absent: Commissioners Thomas Harrington, Joseph Martin

The Board stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Quirk acted as Chairman in the absence of Chairman Harrington.

There was no one present from the public.

The first order of business was the approval of minutes from the July 1, 2010 regular monthly meeting. Commissioner Keyser indicated that there was one correction on page 5 in the 6th paragraph right above the **Treasurer's Report.** The second sentence should read: *He asked what exactly they do for the **district**...instead of *department*.* **Commissioner Pilipie made a motion to accept the minutes from the July 1, 2010 regular monthly meeting as corrected, seconded by Commissioner Keyser, all in favor.**

Correspondence

Commissioner Pilipie reported that the Board had received thank you notes from Russ Dobson and Vince Donofrio & family. He also reported that they received a thank you note from the DeCosta family from New London, Connecticut.

Old Business

- Acting Chairman Quirk indicated that they would discuss the by-laws at the next meeting.
- Acting Chairman Quirk asked Commissioner Keyser if he had looked into District #2's 2nd quarter payment in which the Treasurer's Report listed the amount received as \$16,000.00 vs. the \$18,500.00 which should have been received and the Commissioner responded that he had inadvertently put it under Fire District #3 instead of a line item for EMS. It has been corrected.

- Commissioner Keyser said the Board had previously discussed the First Aid Squad buying a new ambulance and keeping the old ambulance as a rehab unit. There had been discussion at a previous meeting that there was no place to garage the ambulance and the Board did not want it sitting in the parking lot. His understanding was that the First Aid Squad needed to find a place to house the ambulance locally 24/7 until it was decided what to do with the firehouse and then see if it could be worked into the plans. Commissioner Keyser said he had heard from Chief Davidson that the First Aid Squad is planning on housing it at the Township garage in the winter. The Commissioner said they will have to find another place to house the ambulance for the rest of the year or for the entire year. He also said that he was not for having the ambulance housed under a tent in the fire department's parking lot nor was he for the Board paying any mechanical costs for repair. Commissioner Pilipie read from the **June 3, 2010 Regular Monthly Meeting** minutes: *“Chairman Harrington indicated that there was a crack in the block of ambulance #38. Sealer was put in to, hopefully, repair it temporarily. The Chairman said that they would no longer be keeping the ambulance as a firefighter rehab ambulance because they will be trading the ambulance in since it would cost \$12,000.00 for a new engine. They hope to have the new ambulance sometime in July or August.”* Commissioner Pilipie agreed that he does not want it parked in the parking lot also. He suggested having Jim Schultz prepare a letter stating that the Board does not want the ambulance housed on premises nor does the Board want to be responsible for any mechanical maintenance. Acting Chairman Quirk suggested preparing a letter stating that *it was the Board's understanding that they were not keeping the ambulance -- Now that you are, what are your intentions of where it will be kept?* There was discussion on whether anyone looked into housing it at the town garage. The Board has no problem with paying for the insurance. Instead of a letter, Acting Chairman Quirk suggested he could speak with Chief Davidson and ask him to bring it up at the upcoming Monday night meeting and ask for details then. The Board agreed it was a good idea.
- Commissioner Keyser started a discussion on how to recoupe the money that the Board paid out for the purchases of uniform shorts for the career personnel. Acting Chairman Quirk asked if that was part of a clothing allowance and Commissioner Keyser said they don't have a clothing allowance – the Board pays for all uniforms for career personnel. The Acting Chairman read a portion of the minutes from the July 15, 2010 monthly work session in which *“Chief Davidson said that he had spoken with Dr. Manis regarding career personnel wearing shorts underneath their turnout gear as a means of keeping them cool. Dr. Manis said he would be happy to attend a meeting to discuss why it would be important to do that.”* There was further discussion, but it was decided to wait until Chief Davidson was present and/or Dr. Manis.
- Commissioner Pilipie reported that he was still working on keychains as something the Board could give to recognize outstanding efforts from volunteers.

- Commissioner Keyser said he had spoken with Commissioner Hansch after the last Fire Prevention Bureau meeting and had asked Commissioner Hansch what their plan was for having one district and the Commissioner responded that it was 5 to 10 years away. Commissioner Keyser told him that was unacceptable. He also told the Commissioner that a plan needs to be generated because things will be happening, i.e., the 2% that the Board will be held to in the next budget. The Commissioner said they want to build their firehouse first and that would be the main firehouse.
- Because of the 2% limit on the budget, Commissioner Keyser said the Board should consider revisiting billing. Hopefully, Mr. Calise, the Board's new Financial Advisor, will come up with numbers next month for the apparatus, fire house, etc.
- Commissioner Keyser said Giovanni's Landscaping has been paid for everything except the edging and the mulch. Giovanni is supposed to deduct \$200.00 from the next bill and the Commissioner is just waiting for that last invoice.

New Business

Commissioner Pilipie suggested that whenever Chief Davidson cannot make a Board meeting, he should send his Assistant Chief or someone else who is an officer to take his place. The Board agreed and Acting Chairman Quirk said he would speak to the Chief.

Commissioner Keyser indicated that Truck #33 rolls from 6:00 AM – 6:00 PM for any fire alarm to either District #2 or #3. That has been expanded to 11:00 PM because of manpower shortage. Truck #33 is a large truck which requires a lot of maintenance and is expensive to run, but spends more time in District #2 for brakes, the ladder testing, etc. He suggested the two Chiefs talk about that and maybe District #2 could pay a percentage of costs since it is a very expensive piece of equipment to run. Commissioner Pilipie suggested not sending it for calls such as carbon monoxide alarms, elevator problems and false alarms. He feels they can't ask them to pay, but they can discontinue sending such an expensive piece of equipment to District #2 for specific types of calls. Acting Chairman Quirk said he would prefer to cut back on usage and not ask them to contribute financially. He said he would speak with Chief Davidson on this also.

Commissioner Keyser indicated that the Board pays half the cost for the convention for life members, but Chief Davidson pays for his own room. The delegates expense is \$612.00. There was discussion among the Board members and it was decided that they would pay for the Chief's room and \$50.00/day for meals. **Commissioner Keyser made a motion to pay for Chief Davidson's room for two days plus \$50.00/day for expenses or meals, seconded by Commissioner Pilipie, all in favor.**

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Keyser reported that checks # 4118 -- 4162 were paid in the amount of \$75,298.82 for the month of July 2010. **Commissioner Pilipie made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Quirk, all in favor.**

There was no other business to discuss. **A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Keyser at 7:50 PM, seconded by Commissioner Pilipie, all in favor.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Paul Pilipie, Secretary