

May 09, 2016

**FLORENCE TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MAY 09, 2016**

Board Chairman Robert Schoen called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Florence Township Fire District No. 1 to order at 7:03 pm. After saluting the flag, there was a moment of silence for the Berry family. The following statement of compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was read by the chairman:

“This meeting is being held in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting has been sent to and published in the Burlington County Times and the Register News. It has also been posted at the township municipal building and on the fire district’s website.”

ROLL CALL: Present – W. Berry, J. Fratinardo, A. Popso, R. Schoen

Late – C. Bauer

DONATION – Commissioner Popso reported that Animal oxygen masks along with a jump bag were donated to the District by NORTHSTAR VETS to carry on the apparatus to assist us with animal rescues. The District thanked North Star Vets for their donation.

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

1. Michael Warren was sworn in as a Firefighter by Solicitor Robert Gaskill.

(Note: Commissioner Bauer arrived.)

MINUTES

1. Minutes of previous meetings – Open Session April 11, 2016; Closed Sessions November 23, 2015, February 8, 2016, and February 22, 2016.
A motion was made by Commissioner Popso and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to approve the minutes of open session April 11, 2016, and Closed Sessions November 23, 2015, February 8, 2016, and February 22, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

AUDITORS REPORT: (Rob Inverso)

1. The auditor’s report is pending.

SOLICITOR: Robert Gaskill

1. With regards to the new SOPs, it was a bigger job than he thought. He now has them in dictation to his assistant. His part of the job is just about done and he should have them back to the Chief before the next meeting – hopefully within the next week.

CHIEF REPORT: Chief Mullen submitted his report to the Board via email.

BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION/MAINTENANCE: FM Richardson submitted his report via email.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:***Personnel:***

1. We are in the hiring process of EMS Per diem employees.

5-Year Planning:

1. There will be a meeting held in May, 2016.

Building and Grounds:

1. Commissioner Popso reported they are working on a memorial for the 9/11 World Trade Center steel that we have. The project is moving forward and Mershon Concrete will be picking up the steel this week.

Insurance:

1. Nothing at this time.

Purchases:

1. A list was emailed to the Board. Carolyn Taylor reported there is a \$5.00 error on a reimbursement bill that she put in this evening.

Policy:

1. Policies are updated and under review.

Fire Company Liaison:

1. Commissioner Schoen – The tiles for the new meeting room floor are in the engine bay and will be put down in a couple of weeks.

Radio:

1. Nothing at this time.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:

1. None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Commissioner Popso reported that he receive communication from Majestic Firehoods, who provided our purple hoods for Relay for Life two years ago. They wished us good luck with the Relay of Life this year, and to let them know if we needed anything as they look forward to working with us again in the future.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Bauer and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to pay all the bills with the exception of PSE&G and Verizon bills. Motion carried unanimously.
2. A motion was made by Commissioner Popso and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to pay the PSE&G bill. Motion carried unanimously.
3. A motion was made by Commissioner Fratinardo and seconded by Commissioner Popso to pay the Verizon bill. Commissioner Berry abstained. Motion carried 4-0-1.

TREASURERS REPORT:

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Berry and seconded by Commissioner Bauer to approve the treasurer's report as received. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Hiring of EMS Per-diem EMT's Update – Interviews are scheduled.
2. Adopt Resolution 2016-15 Online Auction
A motion was made by Commissioner Bauer and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to adopt Resolution 2016-15 Online Auction. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Bauer – Yes; Commissioner Berry – Yes; Commissioner Fratinardo – Yes; Commissioner Popso – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approval to purchase 4 sets of PPE not to exceed \$10,000.00
A motion was made by Commissioner Bauer and seconded by Commissioner Berry to approve the purchase of 4 sets of PPE not to exceed \$10,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Approval to purchase regulators and hoses for TL 4015 – Transition to new MSA SCBA, not to exceed \$3,200.00.
A motion was made by Commissioner Bauer and seconded by Commissioner Berry to approve the purchase of regulators and hoses for TL 4015 to Transition to the new MSA SCBAs, not to exceed \$3,200.00. Motion carried unanimously.

GOOD OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner Berry thanked the Florence Township Emergency Squad and the Fire Department for making sure the final transport of his father out of Florence was done very professionally. He thanked Carolyn Taylor and Chrystal Barnes, and a few firefighters for making sure his father got out ok, and that he got to the hospital safely, and for helping him in a very trying time. We are very sorry for the loss of your farther.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

A motion was made by Commissioner Bauer, and seconded by Commissioner Berry to open the meeting to the public. Motion carried unanimously.

Deputy Chief Scully: “We would like to do the donations from the NorthStar Vet. I guess about three weeks ago Todd received an email to contact the administrator, I believe, from NorthStar Vet, Mrs. Shook. You can come on up. Since then, he sent it to myself and Chief Mullen. I made contact with Ilene, and this is where we got about donating the animal masks. NorthStar Vet is where Buddy, which is the dog from the Tollgate fire, went to that night. The doctor is here also that assisted Buddy through his life until he passed away. They now started an initiative. Ilene, correct me if I'm wrong, Buddy, what is the initiative's name?”

Ilene: “The Buddy Pet Oxygen Masks Initiative.”

D/C Scully: “They started this initiative, and we are the first ones with this initiative. Next week they are going to Chesterfield Hose Fire Company to give them their kits. Ilene, if you want to come up and say a few words and ...”

Ilene: “Sure.”

D/C Scully: "... how you're going to go about your initiative."

15 **Ilene:** "What I want to say is I think it's great what everybody does here at the fire company and
you guys do an awesome job. It's amazing to me. I actually went over by accident to the
scene of the fire and it was ah, you know, it just put everything together for me. I happened
to... I'll just tell a quick story... meet a little boy April 12th on a Cub Scout tour at my
20 hospital who knew everything about Buddy. And he just told me the story; it gives me
goose bumps just telling you, because play by play his dad is a fireman. He told me how
his dad coordinated the effort with the ladder. The little boy was only probably 7 or 8 years
old, and he told me that four guys were on it. The ladder was placed, they went up, and
Buddy came out onto the balcony. Buddy was a big burly dog and the first guy couldn't lift
25 him over. The second person up took him down. So it was just so amazing to me that one,
the little boy was so proud of his dad, and that you saved him. Then of course, Dr.
Berkowitz got him at the hospital, and that's when I learned about him and his fight to live.
So that I thought with a committed owner, his dad is a combat veteran. And he depended
on him; he was like a service dog for him. So I thought was a better way to honor the dog,
do something great, that you guys can have the appropriate masks for the animals when
30 they come out of fires. So, great job to you. Buddy inspired us. And we think it's just
amazing what all the first responders do at fires. And I will let Dr. Berkowitz hand over
a..."

Dr. Berkowitz: "So there are two things. This is just a picture I'm handing to you guys in
35 commemoration of all that you guys have done and also for Buddy himself, and this will
stay with you guys. And I just want to show you in this bag we'll be providing to this
firehouse as well as several others, like Ilene has said. In here is a couple things; first and
foremost there are the oxygen masks that we talked about. So these will be able to be
attached to your oxygen tanks as you do a human client, a human patient. And the same as
40 with people, the single most important life-saving thing you can do in a fire is to provide
oxygen. So there are multiple masks that will hook up directly to your tanks, three different
sizes. And the patient's snout will go in right through here, and you would provide it the
same way you would for a fellow human. Also in this pack are some first aid materials as
well as a cooling blanket for these patients as well. So most importantly, thank you to
Buddy, and thank you to you guys."

45 **D/C Scully:** "Thank you Mr. Chairman."

Commissioner Schoen: "Anyone else that would like to speak?"

A motion was made by Commissioner Bauer, and seconded by Commissioner Berry to close the meeting to the public. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Bauer asked if there is closed session and the reply was "no". Commissioner Bauer stated that he received a late letter today that ought to be discussed, which was the reason why he was a little late – he was reading it. There was no closed session.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Commissioner Berry and seconded by Commissioner Bauer to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Taylor