

September 12, 2016

FLORENCE TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 12, 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 7:00 pm. After saluting the flag, 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 Trenton Times. It has also been posted at the township municipal building and on the fire district’s website.”

ROLL CALL: Present – C. Bauer, W. Berry, J. Fratinardo, R. Schoen

Absent – A. Popso

Also in attendance were Chief Mullen, B/C Taylor, FM Richardson, IT Spec. Estelow, EMS Chief Taylor, Lt. Reillo, FF Schoen, and Solicitor Gaskill.

MINUTES

1. Minutes of previous meeting – Open Session August 8, 2016

A motion was made by Commissioner Bauer and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to approve the minutes of open session August 8, 2016 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

AUDITORS REPORT: (Rob Inverso)

1. None.

SOLICITOR: Robert Gaskill

1. Solicitor Gaskill reported that his activities will be coming up on other items on the agenda.

CHIEF’S 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: Progress.

5-Year Planning:

1. A meeting will be held in the fall.

Building and Grounds:

1. The 911 memorial in front of the building had block work done this past Saturday morning.

Insurance:

1. There was one worker’s compensation claim submitted.

Purchases:

1. A list was emailed to the Board.

Policy:

1. Policies are on the member's only section of the website. Section 1100 EMS is still under review by EMS Chief Taylor.

Fire Company Liaison:

1. No report.

Radio:

1. Progress

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:

1. William Coulter – Fire Police

A motion was made by Commissioner Bauer and Seconded by Commissioner Berry to approve application for membership. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Chief Mullen reported he received a letter from FEMA and they denied our funding for the Assistance to Firefighter Grant for 2015. We still have two open grants, the SAFER grant, and the Fire Prevention grant.
2. Chief Mullen attended a FEMA workshop on August 23, 2016 sponsored by Congressman MacArthur.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Berry 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 Berry and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to pay the PSE&G bill. Commissioner Bauer abstains. Motion carried 3-0-1.
3. A motion was made by Commissioner Fratinardo and seconded by Commissioner Bauer to pay the Verizon bill. Commissioner Berry abstains. Motion carried 3-0-1.

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. Updated Policies – Chief Mullen was questioning that Commissioner Popso had questions on some of the policies. Solicitor Gaskill reported that Commissioner Popso had requested to table the policies for 1 month. Solicitor Gaskill had requested that he get the questions to them. Solicitor Gaskill emailed Commissioner Popso last week and has received a response that it was only the first reading and if something comes up before the 2nd reading, he could interject. As of now, there are no pending suggestions or complaints. Chief Mullen stated the officers had worked on Policy 225 Membership Participation. B/C Taylor reported that

Policy 225 is not ready as it is printed and recommended to move forward with the rest of the policies and hold that one. They are enhancing that policy to afford better levels of participation.

A motion was made by Commissioner Berry and seconded by Commissioner Bauer to adopt updated and deleted policies in Sections 100, 200, 300, 400, 50, 600, 700, 800, and 1200, with the exception of Policy 225 and Section 1100 EMS – 1st Reading with 2nd Reading in October. Roll call vote: Commissioner Bauer – Y; Commissioner Berry – Y; Commissioner Fratinardo – Y; Commissioner Popso – Absent; Commissioner Schoen – Y. Motion carried 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approve the purchase of helmets – not to exceed \$3,500.00 (Approximately 10 helmets.)
A motion was made by Commissioner Bauer and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to approve the purchase of helmets not to exceed \$3,500.00. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Adopt RESOLUTION 2016-25 APPOINTING A FINANCIAL INSTITUTION FOR FINANCING OF FIRE APPARATUS.
A motion was made by Commissioner Bauer and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to adopt RESOLUTION 2016-25 APPOINTING A FINANCIAL INSTITUTION FOR FINANCING OF FIRE APPARATUS, A Pierce Impel Pumper. Roll call vote: Commissioner Bauer – Y; Commissioner Berry – Y; Commissioner Fratinardo – Y; Commissioner Popso – Absent; Commissioner Schoen – Y. Motion carried 4-0.
3. Approve Ken Cunningham Jr. as Acting Lieutenant to replace Mike Newell.
A motion was made by Commissioner Berry and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo. Roll call vote: Commissioner Bauer – Y; Commissioner Berry – Y; Commissioner Fratinardo – Y; Commissioner Popso – Absent; Commissioner Schoen – Y. Motion carried 4-0.
4. Approve tires for TL 4015 not to exceed \$6,000.00. There are 10 tires and this is under state contract with Good Year Commercial.
A motion was made by Commissioner Berry and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to approve the purchase of 10 tires not to exceed \$6,000.00.
5. Approve flu shots. Same vendor as last year, Boyd's Pharmacy.
A motion was made by Commissioner Berry and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to approve the flu shots.

GOOD OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner Berry reported he had the opportunity to attend a 911 ceremony in Philadelphia, PA this past weekend. Going forward, now that we have this memorial out front, it would be nice if the Fire Department could coordinate with the Township and the Police Department and get something going forward where the community could all come together. He was at the Eagles game yesterday, and when they unrolled the flag and the jets flew over, he could not think of anything else but what our service men have done for us. It would be very fitting to recognize that special day right here and start that tradition, whether the fire department takes the lead and plans something, but involve the Township Council and Police Department. We have a whole year to start some type of tradition for our community to participate in.
2. Commissioner Schoen thanked those members who came out this past Saturday to work on the memorial.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

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

5 **Mr. Albert Jacoby:** “XXX Wallace Avenue. I was wondering if the Commission would revisit the clothing procedure for the career people. We had a real hot summer this year and the guys don’t wear shorts. Most of the volunteers show up with shorts on. And now they are working the 48 hour shifts, you know. I think it would be a little more convenient for them to have shorts on, and be a more relaxed situation for them. Has anybody looked into to that or gone in that direction?”

Commissioner Schoen: “We haven’t looked into it, although I notice a lot of other departments doing it.”

10 **Mr. Jacoby:** “Yeah, I happened to be in New York State last month, and I ran into my cousin’s son. He is a firefighter in New York City, and I asked him ‘you guys wear shorts?’ and he says ‘Oh yeah, shorts are you know, part of the uniform for the day.’ I also polled some other career outfits up in New York, yeah, they are in shorts.”

Commissioner Schoen: “Well there’s a lot, Hamilton Township does it. And there’s a lot...”

Mr. Jacoby: “I think the policy we have is a little out of date for stuff.”

15 **Chief Mullen:** “Yeah, and I started looking into it. But unfortunately it is halfway into the summer. But I did get some other departments in Burlington County policies, and I have been talking with the shop steward as well. We are working on it. We have been talking about shorts.”

20 **Commissioner Berry:** “Can you get something together by the next personnel meeting? You know, get us some prices so we know at least? But I think it is a great idea from Mr. Jacoby, and let’s get some policy. Make sure we get something that we can put in motion – we’ve got plenty of time left on summer –even if we have to put specified dates in there. I know the phone company can wear them from Memorial Day to Labor Day, but I don’t know other days, what other kind of dates are in there.”

25 **Commissioner Bauer:** “Well the phone company sure has changed.”

Commissioner Berry: “Only because you left, Charley.” *(Everyone laughing)*

Commissioner Schoen: “Yes sir.”

30 **Captain Joe Wargo:** “XXX West 4th Street. I’ve got two questions actually. I just saw this unpaid bills. Um, there is a bill here for Johnson & Towers for 12,000 dollars. Was that for the repairs on 13?”

Commissioner Schoen: “It think it would have to be.”

Captain Wargo: “Doesn’t the insurance company cover that?”

Chief Mullen: “Yes they do. They cut us a check for it.”

35 **Captain Wargo:** “Ok, so we pay the bill and then they...ok, alright. Also, I saw that the air conditioning was repaired; number nine air conditioner was repaired. What one was that for?”

FM Richardson: “Nine is the Bunk Rooms”

Captain Wargo: “What was wrong with it?”

40 **FM Richardson:** “Without looking at it, off the top of my head, I think it was a resister or a capacitor in second stage.

Captain Wargo: “Ok. Alright. Thank you.”

Commissioner Schoen: “Anyone else?”

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

CLOSED SESSION:

1. Adopt Resolution 2016-26 – Closed Session

A motion was made by Commissioner Berry and seconded by Commissioner Bauer to adopt Resolution 2016-26 – Closed Session. Roll call vote: Commissioner Bauer – Y; Commissioner Berry – Y; Commissioner Fratinardo – Y; Commissioner Popso – Absent; Commissioner Schoen – Y. Motion carried 4-0.

2. A motion was made by Commissioner Bauer and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to adjourn closed session.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 20:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Taylor