

September 11, 2017

FLORENCE TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 11, 2017

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** – Charles Bauer, William Berry, John Fratinardo, Andrew Popso, and Robert Schoen

Also in attendance were Chief K. Mullen, Battalion Chief S. Taylor, Fire Marshal Brian Richardson, Captain Joe Wargo, and Solicitor Robert Gaskill.

**MINUTES**

1. Minutes of the previous meetings – Open Session July 24, 2017 and August 14, 2017.

A motion was made by Commissioner Popso and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to approve the minutes of the open session July 24 12, 2017 and August 14, 2017 meetings.

Motion carried unanimously.

**SWEARING CEREMONY:**

1. Thomas Marabillas was sworn in as a career Firefighter/EMT.

A moment of silence was held in memory of September 11, 2001.

**AUDITORS REPORT: (Rob Inverso)**

1. No report.

**SOLICITOR: Robert Gaskill**

1. No report.

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

**BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION/MAINTENANCE:** No Report

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

***Personnel:***

1. No report.

***5-Year Planning:***

1. Chief Mullen reported they will meet the end of September 2017.

***Building and Grounds:***

1. No report

***Insurance:***

1. Chief Mullen gave an update on the storm damages. The telephones are operational. He has been in contact with NWN in regards to the phone system. The system is scheduled for installation on September 18, 2017. The televisions have been delivered and installed. The only other outstanding item is the trash enclosure and the scanner which is on order.

***Purchases:***

1. A list was emailed to the Board.

***Policy:***

1. None.

***Fire Company Liaison:***

1. None.

***Radio:***

1. None.

**APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:**

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Bauer, seconded by Commissioner Berry to approve Natalie Houseworth as a junior member pending background check. Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. Chief Mullen reported the District did get a letter of support from Congressman MacArthur for the 2016 SAFER Grant.
2. Chief Mullen reported B&H Photography – Video will be donating three integrated thermal imaging cameras to the Department.

**PRESENTATION OF BILLS**

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

## **TREASURERS REPORT:**

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

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Rescue Engine 4011 – Chief Mullen reported the final inspection is scheduled for September 26, 2017. Chairman Robert Schoen, Captain Joe Wargo, Fire Marshal Brian Richardson and Past Chief Albert J Jacoby will be going to Pierce for the final inspection.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Adopt Resolution 2017-27 Authorizing an Online Auction with GovDeals for the Disposal of District Property.  
A motion was made by Commissioner Bauer and seconded by Commissioner Popso to adopt Resolution 2017-27. Roll Call vote: Charles Bauer – yes, William Berry – yes, John Fratinardo – yes, Andrew Popso – yes, and Robert Schoen – yes. Motion carried 5-0.
2. Approve flu shots for active, per-diem and company active personnel.  
A motion was made by Commissioner Fratinardo and seconded by Commissioner Popso to approve flu shots for active, per-diem and company active personnel. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Chief Mullen told the Board the District should get a cell phone maybe cell phones. The phone would be issued to on-duty fire personnel. He would reach out to Florence Township and see if a phone could be added to their plan. The District was part of the Township's phone plan many years ago and the District would reimburse the Township. Chief Mullen stated it would be a basic phone. Fire Marshal Richardson added an option on the phone system would be to contact on duty personnel. This option can be forwarded to the cell phone.
4. Review proposal for Information Technology (IT) services.  
Chief Mullen reported he met with Ed Mikulski from All Covered to discuss IT services with FF/EMT Estelow and FM Richardson. Chief Mullen added All Covered provides IT services to Florence Township. Chief Mullen reported the cost of the service is \$691 per month and that would be for on-site support every other week for 2 hours each visit. Chief Mullen added the on-site visit would be scheduled when FF/EMT Estelow was on duty to assist him with IT duties/issues. Commissioner Bauer asked the response the District would have if we had an emergency. Chief Mullen stated they have 24 coverage because they have the capabilities to dial into our network offsite. They would charge \$135 an hour which is the same rate they charge Florence Township. A brief discussion was held on the security of accessing the District network off-site. Chief Mullen reported there is a one-time cost of \$1100.00 for documenting our current IT system and hardware. This should take one day to complete.  
  
A motion was made by Commissioner Berry and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to enter into a contract All Covered. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Approve repairs to Radio Room not to exceed \$7700.00  
A motion was made by Commissioner Berry, seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to approve the repairs to the Radio Room, not to exceed \$7700.00. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Approve fire alarm panel repairs and upgrades, not to exceed \$11,500.

A motion was made by Commissioner Berry, seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to approve repairs and upgrades to the fire alarm panel, not to exceed \$11,500. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Approve new wireless access points, not to exceed \$2000.00

A motion was made by Commissioner Fratinardo, seconded by Commissioner Bauer to approve new wireless points, not to exceed \$2000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

### **GOOD OF THE BOARD:**

1. Commissioner Berry thanked Mr. Albert Jacoby for all of his hard work on the 9/11 Memorial. He added the community appreciates it. He also thanked Commissioner Popso for spearheading the project.
2. Commissioner Popso thanked Mr. Jacoby for the work he did on the 9/11 Memorial. He added he (Commissioner Popso) was working with FM Richardson to possibly have the dedication during Fire Prevention Night. Commissioner Popso stated he will be ordering the plaque for the memorial tomorrow.
3. Commissioner Bauer stated the Board would like to thank all the members who helped with the 9/11 project.

### **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

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

1. Joe Wargo – “I have a question regarding the 9/11 Memorial. I remember back in the June meeting, Commissioner Berry asked Commissioner Popso if it was going to be ready for this September 11<sup>th</sup>. Obviously it is ready so why didn't we have a dedication ceremony on September 11? When it comes time for October and Fire Prevention Week, it is not going to mean anything.” Commissioner Popso said “I would like to answer that in two parts? First part, without having the monument, the monument speaks for itself, the plaque solidifies everything and needs to be on there. Second thing, yes I agree September 11<sup>th</sup> is a day of remembrance, it was a tragedy, and quite honestly on a personal level I've been sick to my stomach all day, I've been thinking of that day as I am sure everybody else has. To take away that it is not going to mean anything on Fire Prevention Week when we are going to have the citizens and everyone here is not an appropriate statement to make. That is supposed to be a valuable monument all year round forever. So, my apologies for not stepping up to the plate and getting it done by the 11<sup>th</sup>. As it turned out, we could have had a lot more help. It seems to be there was a shorthanded amount of individuals and more people could have stepped up to the plate however we did the best we could but I will not except the statement of Fire Prevention Week means nothing. Joe, I apologize if that comes off wrong. It is not personal but it stings a little bit to me. Fire Prevention it will be here the citizens will be here, we are going to have dignitaries will be here, people who were not available tonight because they are at other events will be here that night and I think we will have a higher presence. That is where my answer would be. So that is my answer, so if anyone want to go against that I will take any and all blame and I will take that as a man Anyone can feel free

to talk to me outside here or the meeting.” Joe Wargo said “He was not blaming anybody. I was just asking why.”

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

**CLOSED SESSION:**

1. Adopt RESOLUTION 2017-29 – CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Commissioner Bauer and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to adopt RESOLUTION 2017-29 – CLOSED SESSION. Roll call vote: Commissioner Bauer – Yes; Commissioner Berry – Yes; Commissioner Fratinardo – Absent; Commissioner Popso – Yes; and Commissioner Schoen – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

2. A motion was made by Commissioner Bauer and seconded by Commissioner Popso to adjourn closed session. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Kevin Mullen