

July 10, 2023

FLORENCE TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING JULY 10, 2023

Meeting ID: 846 5363 7376

Passcode: 906964

Board Chairman Jason Ryan 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 placed on the department’s website, Facebook account, the Township calendar, and the Township website. Furthermore, it has been published in the Burlington County Times and the Trenton Times.”

ROLL CALL: Present – Andrew Popso, Jason Ryan (Virtual), Robert Schoen, Scott Arnold

Absent: John Fratinardo

Also in attendance: Administrator Robert Tharp, EMS Division Chief Chris Parks, Firefighter Motta, Firefighter Moran, Firefighter Taylor

MINUTES:

Minutes of the previous meeting June 26th, 2023, workshop meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Arnold and seconded by Commissioner Popso to approve the minutes of the previous meeting June 26th, 2023, workshop meeting. Roll call vote: Commissioner Fratinardo – Absent; Commissioner Popso – Yes; Commissioner Ryan – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes; Commissioner Arnold – Yes. The motion carried 4-0-1-0.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

A motion was made by Commissioner Popso and seconded by Commissioner Arnold to approve the Treasurer’s report. Roll call vote: Commissioner Fratinardo – Absent; Commissioner Popso – Yes; Commissioner Ryan – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes; Commissioner Arnold – Yes. The motion carried 4-0-1-0.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

A motion was made by Commissioner Arnold and seconded by Commissioner Popso to pay all the bills as presented. Roll call vote: Commissioner Fratinardo – Absent; Commissioner Popso – Yes; Commissioner Ryan – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes; Commissioner Arnold – Yes. The motion carried 4-0-1-0.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:

1. EMS Division Applicant James Otis scheduled interview.

FIRE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Robert Tharp

1. From the last meeting, we have had 40 fire assignments which brings the total for this year to 460. We have had 95 EMS assignments since the last meeting, which brings the total to 1160 for the year.
2. Rescue Engine 4011 is back from being repaired at Bristol Cummins. It had the turbo actuator repaired and they replaced a valve gasket as well.
3. On Sunday evening and Monday morning, the Fire Department participated in an honor guard and pallbearers for past Chief and Commissioner John Dulo, and it was well attended.
4. The Fire Department participated in the Patriotic Day parade and fireworks standby with our mutual aid partners from Mansfield and Burlington City. We were able to display 3 pieces of apparatus, and the events of that day were well attended.
5. Ambulance 4081 is out for repair for the air conditioner in the patient compartment again. It is now up with our partners at EES to get fixed, they reported that it had a catastrophic failure. So, every time it went to go get fixed, we were getting it fixed intermittently. There were actually particulates of metal flowing through those lines. EES was finally able to identify the problem and make the proper repairs.
6. The candidates for the full-time position completed their physical, practical, and written portions of the hiring process. We have their interviews scheduled for July 11th.
7. I want to commend Chief Parks for coming up with a contingency plan for Patriot Day so that we could have coverage for the parade with the help of Hampton Lakes Emergency Squad. We were able to borrow their ambulance for Saturday, so we could have two rigs in service.
8. 4081, thanks to Commissioner Popso, will be back in service tomorrow.
9. We are also going to be working with our mutual aid partners for the Burlington County Farm Fair on July 19th.
10. The EMS Chiefs Association is on break for the summer, meetings will start back up in September.
11. Our First Aid class is scheduled for the 26th, and it has been well received on social media. Our next community CPR class is scheduled for July 18th, and we have gotten good reviews and attendance for the CPR classes so far.
12. 4012 is currently getting their PM work. We haven't been able to recreate the electrical issue we had. Battalion Chief Schoen has been working on that.
13. July 20th the Youth Emergency Services Camp will be here at the firehouse, and the Fire Department will be assisting with that for the entirety of that camp from July 17th to the 21st.
14. In today's packet, you'll see there's an amendment to the agenda for principal payment for the building bond to the depository Trust Company, which we just received today.
15. Training at the acquired structure we have on 130 is going well. We plan on being out there again on Wednesday night and it has improved the skills of our firefighters.
16. The Fire Districts Audit was last week.
17. The nomination petition has been advertised and posted.
18. The surveillance system upgrade was completed today.
19. In talks with the Fire Officers, Chief Miller, and Chief Schoen, we've been discussing our Class B foam capabilities, and we have come up with a plan, so we are going to be moving some things around on 4011 so we can get some Class B foam on there. We have ordered some equipment- a foam tip that's air aspirating that's not foam creation and a new proportioner.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Close Session from June 26th, 2023, discussed EMT hiring.

2. Close Session from June 26th, 2023, discussed Civil Service PPT candidates

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion made by Commissioner Arnold and seconded by Commissioner Popso for the payment of \$ 251,990.63 principal payment on building bond to Depository Trust Company. Roll call vote: Commissioner Fratinardo – Absent; Commissioner Popso – Yes; Commissioner Ryan – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes; Commissioner Arnold – Yes. The motion carried 4-0-1-0.

GOOD OF THE BOARD:

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

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

Hearing none,

A motion was made by Commissioner Arnold and seconded by Commissioner Popso to close the meeting to the public. Roll call vote: Commissioner Fratinardo – Absent; Commissioner Popso – Yes; Commissioner Ryan – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes; Commissioner Arnold – Yes. The motion carried 4-0-1-0.

CLOSED SESSION:

1. Adopt **RESOLUTION 2023-28 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC FROM MEETING**

A motion was made by Commissioner Popso and seconded by Commissioner Arnold to adopt **RESOLUTION 2023-28 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC FROM MEETING** to discuss personnel and contracts. Roll call vote: Commissioner Fratinardo – Absent; Commissioner Popso – Yes; Commissioner Ryan – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes; Commissioner Arnold – Yes. The motion carried 4-0-1-0.

Note: Action may be taken after closed session.

7:09 pm Closed session began.

7:40 pm Closed session ended.

2. A motion was made by Commissioner Arnold and seconded by Commissioner Popso to come out of closed session. Roll call vote: Commissioner Fratinardo – Absent; Commissioner Popso – Yes; Commissioner Ryan – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes; Commissioner Arnold – Yes. The motion carried 4-0-1-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Commissioner Arnold and seconded by Commissioner Popso to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Tharp
Fire District Administrator