

June 12, 2023

FLORENCE TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING JUNE 12, 2023

Meeting ID: 831 2821 8045

Passcode: 229702

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 – John Fratinardo (Virtual), Jason Ryan, Robert Schoen, Scott Arnold

Absent: Andrew Popso

Also in attendance: Administrator Robert Tharp, EMS Division Chief Chris Parks, Battalion Chief Miller, Firefighter W. Blackwell, Firefighter Estelow, Acting Captain Flyer

MINUTES:

Minutes of the previous meeting May 22nd, 2023, workshop meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Schoen and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to approve the minutes of the previous meeting May 22nd, 2023, workshop meeting. Roll call vote:

Commissioner Fratinardo – Yes; Commissioner Popso – Absent; Commissioner Ryan – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes; Commissioner Arnold – Yes. The motion carried 4-0-0-1.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

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

PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

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

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:

1. EMS Division Applicant James Otis background phase.
2. Fire Division Applicant Julian Arbaugh medical phase.

FIRE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Robert Tharp

1. Reported the Fire Division responded to 64 fire assignments since the last meeting. That brings the total to 382 for the year.
2. We had a total of 139 EMS calls since the last meeting, which brings the total to 965 for the year.
3. On Friday afternoon, there was a structure fire at 141 7th Ave, it was a row of 10. There was damage to 3 buildings, mostly smoke. There were no injuries to any firefighters or civilians. There was excellent work done between our mutual aid and our firefighters. 4011 responded with the crew of three that was on duty, and Tower Ladder 4015 responded as well.
4. Engine 4011 is at the Fire Apparatus Repair for preventative maintenance and to install a compartment for the extrication tool for the new battery.
5. Ambulance 4081 is at VCI for repairs to try to eliminate the floor rattling that is in the patient area. They are going to put on new springs and shocks. It is going to VCI because that is the manufacturer of the ambulance, and they can try to diagnose what is going on with the box of the ambulance.
6. Training has been going very well at 2009 Route 130 with those acquired structures.
7. The full-scale light rail training on 5/20 was well attended and we've had compliments from all the agencies that were involved. We received compliments from one of the 'victims' as to how great the patient care was.
8. Chief Miller made window cutting training prop outside. That is there along with the vertical ventilation on a peak roof and garage door cutting stations.
9. In two weeks, the National Sprinkler Foundation is going to be here with a demo burn trailer.
10. We attended several public outreach events recently, the Township Carnival on June 3rd, the Adopt-a-Cop event on June 6th, and the Bike Rodeo on June 11th.
11. We're going to be involved with the school camps every Thursday from June 19th to August 11th. We are also working on our plans for the Youth Services Academy which is going to be July 9th at the firehouse.
12. The Riverfront Middle School participated in the Division of Fire Safety's Fire Bowl where they came in 3rd out of the whole state.
13. The firefighter position candidates are scheduled to take their physical fitness test on June 21st, which is done by the Civil Service Commission.
14. On June 1st, our Employee Assistance Program went live and a memo was sent out to the members about what it is and how to participate in it.
15. The Burlington County Board of Elections and the county clerk have been notified of our open terms for the November election.
16. Most of the new lockers have been delivered, which is providing our staff with better storage for upstairs.
17. Currently, Dowd Fox HVAC's installing a new unit.
18. The EMS Division has been hosting several classes with great success, like the Child and Babysitter class, CPR, and more to be held soon.
19. The next community CPR Class is on June 20th.
20. The EMS Division provided a second rig for the Roebing Carnival which was a success.
21. We will be meeting with the EMS billing company this week to make sure everything is going well with our billing.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Close Session from May 22nd, 2023 discussed personnel.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion made by Commissioner Fratinardo and seconded by Commissioner Arnold to approve the annual Transportation Billing Agreement with Virtua Health Inc. Roll call vote: Commissioner Fratinardo – Yes; Commissioner Popso – Absent; Commissioner Ryan – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes; Commissioner Arnold – Yes. The motion carried 4-0-0-1.
2. Motion made by Commissioner Arnold and seconded by Commissioner Schoen to approve the payment of \$ 4,040.21 to PSE&G for monthly utilities. Health Inc. Roll call vote: Commissioner Fratinardo – Yes; Commissioner Popso – Absent; Commissioner Ryan – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes; Commissioner Arnold – Yes. The motion carried 4-0-0-1.
3. Motion made by Commissioner Schoen and seconded by Commissioner Arnold approve the payment of \$ 6,509.75 for contract service with Lexipol for policy review and implementation. Roll call vote: Commissioner Fratinardo – Yes; Commissioner Popso – Absent; Commissioner Ryan – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes; Commissioner Arnold – Yes. The motion carried 4-0-0-1.

GOOD OF THE BOARD:

Received thank you for the assistance on duty personnel performed in rescuing a lost dog.
 Received thank you for care given to an abandoned cat left at the firehouse.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

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

Hearing none,

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

CLOSED SESSION:

1. Adopt **RESOLUTION 2023-26 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC FROM MEETING**

A motion was made by Commissioner Schoen and seconded by Commissioner Popso to adopt **RESOLUTION 2023-26 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC FROM MEETING** to discuss personnel and contracts. Roll call vote: Commissioner Fratinardo – Yes; Commissioner Popso – Absent; Commissioner Ryan – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes; Commissioner Arnold – Yes. The motion carried 4-0-0-1.

Note: Action may be taken after closed session.

7:13 pm Closed session began.

7:58 pm Closed session ended.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Commissioner Arnold and seconded by Commissioner Schoen to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Tharp
Fire District Administrator