

June 13, 2022

FLORENCE TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING JUNE 13, 2022

Meeting ID: 871 2374 6505

Passcode: 866736

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 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 – Jason Ryan, Robert Schoen, and Steven Taylor

Absent: John Fratinardo, Andrew Popso

Also in attendance: Administrator Robert Tharp, Jr. and Battalion Chief Brian Richardson

MINUTES:

Minutes of the previous meetings May 9th, 2022 regular meeting and May 23rd, 2022 Workshop meetings

A motion was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Ryan to approve the minutes of the previous meetings May 9th, 2022 regular meeting and May 23rd, 2022 Workshop meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

A motion was made by Commissioner Ryan and seconded by Commissioner Taylor to pay all the bills as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER REPORT:

A motion was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Ryan to approve the treasurer’s report. The motion carried unanimously.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

1. No applications pending.

FIRE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

1. Please see “GOOD OF THE BOARD.”

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Applicant Coble is in the vetting process for membership.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Adopt **RESOLUTION 2022-23, APPOINTMENT OF A FUND COMMISSIONER TO THE FIRST RESPONDER JOINT INSURANCE FUND**

A motion was made by Commissioner Ryan and seconded by Commissioner Taylor to adopt **RESOLUTION 2022-23, APPOINTMENT OF A FUND COMMISSIONER TO THE FIRST RESPONDER JOINT INSURANCE FUND**. Roll call vote: Commissioner Fratinardo – Absent; Commissioner Popso – Absent; Commissioner Ryan – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes; Commissioner Taylor – Yes. The motion carried 3-0-0.

2. Adopt **RESOLUTION 2022-24, RESOLUTION APPOINTING A BANK ACCOUNT CONTROLLER FOR THE ACCOUNT, WHICH THE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1 HOLDS WITH TRUIST BANK.**

A motion was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Fratinardo to adopt **RESOLUTION 2022-24, RESOLUTION APPOINTING A BANK ACCOUNT CONTROLLER FOR THE ACCOUNT, WHICH THE FLORENCE TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1 HOLDS WITH TRUIST BANK**. Roll call vote: Commissioner Fratinardo – Absent; Commissioner Popso – Absent; Commissioner Ryan – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes; Commissioner Taylor – Yes. The motion carried 3-0-0.

3. Adopt **RESOLUTION 2022-25 APPOINTMENT OF A RECORDS CUSTODIAN**

A motion was made by Commissioner Ryan and seconded by Commissioner Taylor to adopt **RESOLUTION 2022-25 APPOINTMENT OF A RECORDS CUSTODIAN**. Roll call vote: Commissioner Fratinardo – Absent; Commissioner Popso – Absent; Commissioner Ryan – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes; Commissioner Taylor – Yes. The motion carried 3-0-0.

4. Discuss station generator transfer switch repair project.
5. Discuss American Rescue Plan Grant program administered through NJ Department of Community Affairs.

GOOD OF THE BOARD:

1. Administrator Robert Tharp along with BC Richardson discussed the problem(s) with the generator's transfer switch. It works when we lose power and the generator turns on, but it doesn't work when the power comes back on, and the generator continues to run. The switch has been repaired three times and is obsolete. The company recommends we replace the entire transfer switch. There is a thirty-two (32) week lead time for a switch gear. They are in the process of getting quotes for the next meeting.
2. Administrator Tharp reported that Governor Murphy has just approved \$10,000,000.00 to be allotted for the American Rescue Plan for fire departments throughout the state in regards to expenditures and grant funding through the COVID program. It is a wide-range grant opportunity from all our PPE to sanitizing equipment and oxygen equipment both on the EMS and Fire ends. He has spoken to Lt. Schoen and BC Richardson about items used during covid and how it impacted us. The maximum opportunity is \$75,000 which is a reimbursement grant. If we were awarded the money, we would expend it and then the state would reimburse us. The deadline to apply is August 13th, 2022. Administrator Tharp feels that it would benefit us to put it in for the maximum amount and move forward with that.

3. Commissioner Ryan reported State of NJ Department of Human services will be providing free Naloxone (Narcan) to First Responder agencies throughout the state. The Overdose Prevention Act of 2021 requires first responders to leave behind a unit of naloxone to individuals in the field when certain criteria are met. Administrator Tharp reported that Captain Schwarz has been appointed to handle the on-line registration and ordering of narcan with the state.
4. Administrator Tharp reported that he and BC Richardson have been attending planning meetings at the Township for Patriotic Day which is on July 9th, 2022. Chief Rzomp attended the first planning meeting. We will have an internal meeting with our officers for Fire and EMS participation commitment.
5. Administrator Tharp reported two (2) new directives were sent out: Directive 2022-20 District Administrator Duties, passed through the Board of Fire Commissioners; and Directive 2022-21 Line of Authority, to bring order to some of the things we are doing – meeting with the members, evaluating all the divisions and operations – moving forward with that.
6. Lt. Schoen has supplied the preliminary information to Aladtec, and there will be a virtual implementation and training with the staff.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

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

Hearing none,

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

CLOSED SESSION:

1. Adopt **RESOLUTION 2022-26 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC FROM MEETING**

A motion was made by Commissioner Ryan and seconded by Commissioner Taylor to adopt **RESOLUTION 2022-26 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC FROM MEETING** to discuss Personnel and Contracts. Roll call vote: Commissioner Fratinardo – Absent; Commissioner Popso – Absent; Commissioner Ryan – Yes; Commissioner Schoen – Yes; Commissioner Taylor – Yes. The motion carried 3-0-0.

Note: Action may be taken after closed session.

7:14pm Closed session began.

7:58pm Closed session ended.

2. A motion was made by Commissioner Taylor and seconded by Commissioner Ryan to come out of closed session. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Taylor