

Montgomery Township District No. 1
Board of Fire Commissioner's Meeting
35 Belle Mead-Griggstown Road
PO Box 130
Belle Mead, NJ 08502

Minutes of October 9, 2018

Call To Order -- The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Spohn, following proof of publication in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. The Annual Meeting Notice was published in the official newspaper of the district and provided to two other newspapers, filed with the municipal clerk, posted at the municipal building, the Board's office and on the fire district website, and provided to any person requesting same in advance of the meeting.

Roll Call -- Upon Roll Call the following Commissioners were present: W. Spohn, T. Karsay, J. Kessler, M. Parise, W. Hyncik. Absent: None. Also present: Chief Huxley, Deputy Chief Schroeck, Engineer Fedun, L. Franchino.

Approval of Minutes – The Board reviewed the minutes of the September 11, 2018 regular meeting. *A motion was made to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2018 board meeting as presented.*
Motion made by Spohn. 2nd by Hyncik. Motion passed without objection.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Monthly Bills/Financial Statement Review -- A copy of the Treasurer's report was made available to each Commissioner with a list and description of the bills to be paid. One invoice was added to the list of bills to be paid: Verizon (\$92.67), chargeable to the 2018 Utilities appropriation. *A Motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report and to approve payment of the bills as presented and supplemented.*
Motion made by Hyncik. 2nd by Kessler. Motion passed without objection

RESOLUTION 2018-41 – Payment of Bills

The Chief Financial Officer having certified there are sufficient encumbered and unencumbered funds in the 2018 budget to pay the bills as presented and supplemented, and having designated the accounts to which each should be charged, a Resolution passed authorizing payment of the bills in the total amount of \$17,381.04.

Resolution Ayes: Spohn, Karsay, Kessler, Hyncik, Parise. Nays: None. Absent: None.
Cmsr. Spohn abstained from voting on reimbursement to Sunrise Office Systems.

PUBLIC COMMENT- None.

MEETING UPDATES - Emergency Services – No meeting.
Fire Prevention – No meeting.

COMMITTEES-

Tower 45 replacement – Deputy Chief Schroeck provided and update and shared the most recent drawings of the proposed apparatus (dated 9/19/18). Pierce's H-GAC cost estimate of \$1,497,423.17 provides leeway for change orders, contingencies and some appurtenant equipment. Prepayment/deposit discounts are available, as is a trade-in option for the apparatus being replaced. Should the board take advantage of any of these alternatives the actual cost will be less than the estimate.

OLD BUSINESS

Boat and trailer – The inflatable rescue boat and motor have been ordered. The Commissioners of Franklin Township Fire District #2 donated that district's old boat trailer to the board at no cost. It may require some work, but is much appreciated and is expected to serve the fire district's needs well.

CHIEF'S REPORT

The fire company responded to 15 calls during September, 2018.

Activities – Fire Prevention open house at Station 46. A number of members attended NJ Firemen's Convention in Wildwood.

Drills/Work Sessions – Extrication drill; various members attended a pump operations class; truck & equipment checks.

E Dispatch – The system is being tested on a free 30-day trial. It captures incoming calls from county dispatch and sends them directly to registered cell phones (firefighters) via audio file. To date the assistant chief reports he is regularly receiving notices faster through this system than through county dispatch. It may be a viable alternative to replacing pagers in the future. The cost is \$150.00 per month for up to 50 registered users.

Firefighter Physicals – Will be conducted at the end of this month. There has been no increase in price.

A Motion was made to approve purchases and reimbursements presented to the board.

Motion by Hyncik.

2nd by Karsay.

Motion passed without objection.

RESOLUTION 2018-42 Approval of Purchases and Reimbursements

The Chief Financial Officer having certified there are sufficient unencumbered funds available in the 2018 budget, a Resolution passed authorizing the following expenditures:

- 1. Firefighter annual physical exams and FIT testing by Access Health Systems, pursuant to written quote and total cost dependent on the number of physicals provided, not to exceed \$10,000.00, chargeable to the 2018 General Operating appropriation.*
- 2. One (1) Pelican 1600 case for air bag air controllers, pursuant to lowest quote from Pelican at a cost of \$136.95, including shipping, chargeable to the 2018 General Operating appropriation.*
- 3. Two (2) ea. elevator key sets, pursuant to lowest quote from Continental Fire & Safety, Inc., at a cost of \$335.90, chargeable to the 2018 General Operating appropriation.*
- 4. Two (2) ea. ice rescue responder packages, pursuant to quote of Firefighter One unless a lower quote can be obtained, at a cost not to exceed \$1,898.00, chargeable in part to the 2018 Supplemental Fire Services Grant (\$1,779.50) and the balance to the 2018 Supplies appropriation.*
- 5. Encumber \$7,000.00 for the purchase of water rescue PPE packages, pursuant to the lowest of 3 quotes to be received, chargeable to the 2018 Turn-Out Gear appropriation.*
- 6. One (1) Roof Operation Safety Platform, pursuant to lowest quote from Rapid Action Gear Equipment Co. at a cost of \$500.00, chargeable to the 2018 Supplies appropriation.*
- 7. One (1) Flare/Baton Combo kit for Rescue 45, pursuant to lowest quote from Amazon at a cost of \$44.49, chargeable to the 2018 General Operation appropriation.*
- 8. Three (3) ea. V Watch Personal Voltage Detectors w/ case, pursuant to lowest quote from Firefighter One at a cost of \$1,578.96, including shipping, chargeable to the 2018 Supplies appropriation.*
- 9. One (1) APX 8000 XE All Band portable radio, pursuant to NJ State Purchasing Contract #83909 from Motorola Solutions at a cost not to exceed \$8,000.00, chargeable to the 2018 Supplies appropriation.*
- 10. Batteries for Minotor pagers and truck radios, pursuant to NJ State Purchasing Contract #83909 from Motorola Solutions at a cost not to exceed \$1,537.20, chargeable to the 2018 General Operating appropriation.*

Resolution Ayes: Spohn, Karsay, Hyncik, Kessler, Parise.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – None.

NEW BUSINESS

Emergency Vehicle Lighting – The assistant chief most often responds directly to emergency scenes in his personal vehicle. The board discussed paying a portion of the cost for the retrofit installation of emergency lights/sirens on his vehicle.

A Motion was made to approve the purchase and installation of some emergency lights for the assistant chief's vehicle.

Motion by Kessler.

2nd by Karsay.

Motion passed without objection.

RESOLUTION 2018-43 Approval of Vehicle Lighting Purchases and Installation

The Chief Financial Officer having certified there are sufficient unencumbered funds available in the 2018 budget, authorization to purchase and install two (2) each brake lights and reverse lights and a grill light for the assistant chief's vehicle, or to reimburse the assistant chief for same, pursuant to lowest quote from Specialized Vehicle Installations, Inc. at a cost not to exceed \$1,401.50, chargeable to the 2018 General Operating appropriation.

Resolution Ayes: Spohn, Karsay, Hyncik, Kessler, Parise.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Capital Purchase Proposal 2019 – The board has determined that it is in the best interests of the residents and businesses whom the district serves and the volunteer firefighters who provide emergency services in the district to replace its 20 year-old aerial apparatus. This is in accord with the district's long-range plan; the total cost of the proposed purchase will be paid from the district's Restricted Capital Fund (funds set aside over the years and designated for future capital purchases). The project will have no effect on the amount to be raised by taxation or the tax rate in the 2019 budget. Voter approval of these purchases will be sought through a statutorily allowed special vote of taxpayers to authorize the purchase and the inclusion of the cost thereof in the fire district's 2019 budget. The special meeting of the board is to be held November 13, 2018 at which district taxpayers may cast their votes between 6-9 p.m.

Motion to authorize a special meeting of the board and special vote of taxpayers for approval to purchase and equip as much as possible an aerial fire apparatus, to include its cost in the 2019 fire district budget, to transfer funds from the Restricted Capital Fund to the Capital Outlay section of the budget to pay for the purchase, and in the board's discretion to make a down payment on the apparatus.

Motion made by Hyncik.

2nd by Karsay.

Passed without objection.

RESOLUTION 2018-44 – Authorizing Special Meeting and Vote of Taxpayers to Approve Purchase and Equipping of an Aerial Fire Apparatus. (Resolution attached).

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm. The next meeting of the board, at which a special vote of taxpayers to approve proposed capital purchases will be held, will begin at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, November 13, 2018.

Motion made by Hyncik.

2nd by Kessler.

Motion passed without objection.

**Board of Fire Commissioners
Montgomery Township District No. 1**

Resolution # 2018 – 44

**Authorizing Special Meeting and Vote of Taxpayers to Approve Purchase and
Equipping of an Aerial Fire Apparatus.**

WHEREAS, The Board of Fire Commissioners has determined that it is in the best interests of the residents and businesses whom the fire district serves and the volunteer firefighters who provide emergency services to the fire district to replace a 1999 aerial apparatus which is becoming obsolete and is lacking performance capabilities and important safety features included in newer apparatus; and **WHEREAS**, the project would be a capital expense requiring taxpayer approval prior to its inclusion in the fire district's 2019 budget; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:14-84 authorizes the commissioners of the fire district to call a special meeting at which the legal voters of the fire district may vote to approve the purchase and to determine the amount of which shall be included in the next succeeding annual budget of the fire district, and

WHEREAS, the entire cost of this project will be paid for from the Restricted Capital Fund of the fire district (funds set aside over the years and designated for future capital purchases) and will not be included in or increase the amount proposed to be raised by taxation in the 2019 budget.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that a special meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners for the purpose of conducting a vote of the taxpayers of the fire district, among other items of business, shall be held on November 13, 2018 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., at the Montgomery Township Fire Company #1 firehouse at 35 Griggstown Road, Belle Mead, New Jersey 08502; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the purpose of the vote shall be to ask voter approval to purchase and equip as much as possible an aerial fire apparatus (to replace a 20-year old apparatus) at a cost not to exceed \$1,497,500.00; to transfer from the fire district's Restricted Capital Fund (savings) and to include as a capital expenditure in the fire district's 2019 annual budget a sum not to exceed \$1,497,500.00 to pay for the purchase and, in the board's discretion to make a down payment on the apparatus - the entire cost of the project to be paid from the district's Restricted Capital Fund.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that notice of the meeting and its purposes shall be provided in such a manner as complies with New Jersey statutes.

CERTIFICATION

I, Michael Parise, Clerk of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District No. 1, Township of Montgomery, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true conformed and compared copy of an original Resolution now on file and of record in the Board office which was duly adopted at a public meeting held on the 9th day of October, 2018.

I do further certify that the said Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District No. 1, Township of Montgomery, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, is composed of - 5 - members, and that - 5 - members were present and - 5 - members voted affirmatively for the adoption of the Resolution and - 0 - members voted against the adoption of the Resolution.

The undersigned further certifies that the above Resolution has not been repealed or amended and remains in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of said Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District No. 1, Township of Montgomery, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, on this 9th day of October, 2018.

s/ Michael Parise
_____, CLERK
Board of Fire Commissioners
Fire District No.1
Township of Montgomery

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Chairperson Spohn	X			
Commissioner Karsay	X			
Commissioner Kessler	X			
Commissioner Parise	X			
Commissioner Hyncik	X			

s/ Michael Parise
Michael Ruppert, Clerk of the Board