

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1
35 Belle Mead-Griggstown Road, P.O. Box 130
Belle Mead, N.J. 08502**

Meeting Minutes of August 11th, 2026

Call to Order – The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at the firehouse at 7:30 p.m. by Commissioner Spohn, following proof of publication in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. The Annual Meeting Notice was published in the Courier News (official newspaper of the district) and provided to the Montgomery News and Packet Publications, filed with the municipal clerk, posted at the Montgomery Township municipal building, the Board's website, offices and provided to any person requesting same prior to the meeting.

Roll Call – Upon Roll Call the following commissioners were present: Commissioners William Hyncik , Michael Parise, Ricky Puleio Jr. and William Spohn. Absent: Commissioner Phillip Adams

Also present: Chief Rich Kennedy, Bookkeeper Lynn Franchino, Attorney Eric Perkins and Engineer Frank Wendling III.

Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the July 14th 2026 meeting were presented.

Motion to approve the minutes of the July 14th board meeting was made by Commissioner Hyncik; 2nd by Commissioner Parise . Motion passed without objection.

Public Comment – None

Meeting Updates –

Emergency Services- no meeting

Fire Prevention – No meeting.

Rescue Task Force- No report.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Monthly Bills/ Financial Statement Review – A copy of the Treasurer's report, attached hereto and incorporated as part of these minutes, was made available to each Commissioner with a listing and description of bills to be paid.

Administration: None

TOTAL ADMINISTRATION: \$0.00

Operations: General Operating Expenses/Medical: \$986.00; General Operating Expenses/Other: \$6,853.00; Rental Charges/Apparatus Housing: \$13,619.00; Maintenance and Repairs: \$3,394.70; General Operating Expenses/Supplies: \$8,856.94; Training and Education: \$780.00; Utilities: \$3,024.62.

TOTAL OPERATIONS: \$37,514.26.

TOTAL ADMINISTRATION and OPERATIONS: \$37,514.26.

(Additional detail regarding accounts charged and vendors is contained in the Treasurers Report)

RESOLUTION 2026-20 Payment of Bills

Upon certification that there are sufficient encumbered and unencumbered funds in the FY 2026 budget to pay the bills as presented and having designated the accounts to which each should be charged, authorization is granted to pay the bills as set forth in the Treasurer's report and FY2026 Encumbered Check Detail, allocated to the various administration, operating and capital accounts. Total bills to be paid in the amount of \$37,514.26.

Motion to approve accept the Treasurer's report and approve payment of the bills by Commissioner Hyncik, 2nd by Commissioner Parise. Resolution Ayes: Hyncik, Parise, Puleio and Spohn. Nays: None

No transfer of funds into the operating account is necessary.

Ms. Franchino noted that the fire company has reimbursed the BOFC for the fire company share of annual insurance premiums in the amount of \$10,879.00.

OLD BUSINESS

Training Facility: Commissioner Puleio reported that the contractor is ready to begin work on or about September 1st. He will work with Republic Services to obtain and place the necessary dumpster on the site. Chairman Spohn noted that the process for obtaining a contractor to install the concrete floor should begin so that the floor can be installed as soon as the building is secure. He will provide the names of a couple of contractors who may be interested in the work.

LOSAP: Commissioner Parise reported that a second letter is ready to be sent to inactive members who have not vested. He has received two responses thus far. Commissioner Hyncik made a motion to request reimbursement from Corebridge

for the monies in the accounts of the non-vested individuals who have acknowledged the letters. Chairman Spohn seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

New Apparatus: No update.

Generator Replacement: Commissioner Hyncik has provided information on contractors and consultants to Chief Kennedy.

Brush Truck: No update.

NEW BUSINESS:

QPA Contract: Chair Spohn indicated that he has been in discussions with the Bill Newberry, the former BOFC QPA. Mr. Newberry's schedule has changed and he is now able to accept a contract with the BOFC. Employment of a QPA will allow the BOFC to enter no bid contracts in amounts up to \$53,000. The proposed contract with Mr. Newberry will have him review purchases between \$2,625 and to \$7,550. For contracts in excess of that amount, he will handle the entire purchasing process. This will reduce the burden on the bookkeeper and attorney. The proposed fee for the contract is \$7,500 annually. The contract would include attendance at five meetings if necessary. The QPA will prepare a monthly report on all outstanding purchases exceeding \$7,950. The contract will be pro-rated to the end of the year and would begin on September 1st. Commissioner Hyncik moved approval of the proposed QPA contract. Commissioner Puleio seconded the resolution and it was unanimously approved.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Kennedy reported that there were 32 calls for service in the month of July.

Drills included the monthly meeting, truck checks, pumping supply lines and roof operations. The Chief noted that a new member currently in fire school has indicated that he might like to complete EMT training as well. It was agreed that approval for such training would be considered after fire school is completed.

The installation of lights, sirens, a command box, radios and a KNOX box are complete on C45-1. The BOFC has received delivery of the 5 previously approved SEEK cameras from N.J. Fire Equipment. The RIT packs were delivered today.

The Chief requested approval to purchase a Turtle Fire System to combat EV fires. The cost of the system which is sole source from the manufacturer is \$2,635.00. The device forces water up underneath a burning EV where the batteries are located.

Approval was also requested for six sets of turnout gear from N.J. Fire Equipment the State contract vendor. The total cost will be \$4,870.00 each for a total of

\$29,220.00. The Chief indicated that he does not anticipate needing to replace large amounts of turnout gear in the coming years. Replacement of five sets a year should be anticipated.

The Chief also requested approval to purchase two 25' lengths of 5" supply hose from Firefighter 1 the State contract vendor. The cost of these pony lengths is \$542.75 each for a total of \$1,085.50.

Commissioner Puleio made a motion to approve all of the above purchases. Commissioner Parise seconded the motion and it was approved by a unanimous vote.

Engineers Report

Engineer Frank Wendling Jr. reported all pump PMs are complete as is the aerial PM. One tire was replaced on the aerial. The ladder, hose and apparatus PMs are scheduled for September.

B45 has had issues with a loss of engine power. It will go out for repair.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m. The date for the next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, September 7th, 2026 is conflicted. The meeting will be rescheduled for Tuesday, September 15th.