

**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 October 8, 2024

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 Eric Lemon.

Also present: Chief Kevin Schroeck, Bookkeeper Lynn Francino and Attorney Eric Perkins.
Absent: Deputy Chief Rich Kennedy

Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the September 10th, 2024 meeting were presented.

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 10th, 2024 board meeting was made by Commissioner Parise; 2nd by Chairman Spohn. Motion passed without objection.

Public Comment – None

Meeting Updates –

Emergency Services –No meeting last month.

Fire Prevention – An open house will be held on October 24th in connection with fire prevention month.

Rescue Task Force- A drill scheduled to take place in October has been rescheduled for November.

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: \$0

TOTAL ADMINISTRATION: \$0.

Operations: General Operating Expenses/Medical: \$503.00; General Operating Expenses/Other: \$7,336.54; Rental Charges/Apparatus Housing: \$13,090.00; Maintenance and Repairs: \$13,189.28; Supplies: \$874.21; Training and Education: \$4,588.88; Turn Out Gear: \$14,604.00; Utilities: \$3,816.46.

TOTAL OPERATIONS: \$58,745.55.

Capital: Command vehicle lettering \$1,050.00

TOTAL OPERATIONS AND CAPITAL OUTLAY: \$59,795.55.

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

RESOLUTION 2024-20 Payment of Bills

Upon certification that there are sufficient encumbered and unencumbered funds in the FY 2024 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 FY 2024 Encumbered Check Detail in the total amount of \$59,795.55, allocated to the various administration, operating and capital accounts.

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

Chairman Spohn moved the transfer of \$70,000 from the investment account to the checking account. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hyncik and approved by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Francino noted that the invoice for swift water training includes \$2,250.00 for District 2 firefighters. An invoice will be sent to District 2 requesting payment in this amount. An invoice will also be sent to Franklin for reimbursement of the cost of training for their personnel.

The audit papers have been delivered to the auditor. The audit should be available in early December.

It was noted that the fire company has not been invoiced for its share of the insurance premium. Chairman Spohn will follow up on this issue.

OLD BUSINESS

Training Facility: The contractor who bid on the project has not been able to complete the certifications required to permit the BOFC to award a contract. The BOFC discussed various alternatives. Commissioner Puleio will follow up and present recommendations to the Board at the next meeting.

New Apparatus: No update on the delivery date.

Generator Replacement: A discussion took place as to the possibility of load testing the current generator before proceeding with replacement. It was agreed that replacement would be a better alternative. Commissioner Hyncik will provide Commissioner Parise information on a contractor who may be able to provide testing and design services.

Hamlet Court Tank – Chief Schroeck reported that he visited the tank and that the meter had no reading. In the absence of Deputy Chief Kennedy there was no further update.

LOSAP – Ms. Franchino distributed a report which indicated that there was a balance in the LOSASP account of more than \$15,000. This balance does not include the monies appropriated for this purpose in the current budget. Chairman Spohn made a motion to transfer \$15,000 of the excess funds in the account to the general operating account. Commissioner Parise seconded the motion, and it was unanimously adopted.

Boat Registration – Registration has been completed.

2024 EMS Allocation – No response from the EMS representatives as of this date. Follow up will be made.

2024 Supplemental Fire Service Grant – Funds to be applied to the purchase of the Holmatro Pentheon combination tool listed under the Chief's report below.

NEW BUSINESS

FY 2025 Budget - Chairman Spohn distributed an initial draft which was discussed by the full board. Revisions will continue and the document should be available for approval at the December meeting.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Schroeck reported that there were 16 calls for service in the month of September. Average response time was 11 minutes with 9 members and three apparatus. Training activities included the monthly business meeting, a skills test, a function drill and an extrication drill.

The Motorola grant radios remain at Wireless Solutions for programming.

The graphics have been installed on the new command vehicles.

Chief Schroeck requested approval for the following purchase requisitions:

- 1) Purchase and installation of two Knox Boxes in the Chief and Deputy Chief command vehicles. \$1,728.00 to Wireless Solutions
- 2) One minitor pager for testing. \$540.75 to Wireless Solutions
- 3) Accessories for portable radios (microphones etc). \$776.40 to Wireless Solutions
- 4) One Holmatro Pentheon electric combination tool. Estimated \$14,000.00 to ESI Equipment under State contract. This purchase will begin the process of replacing the existing hydraulic tools with electric tools. The replacement process will take place over several years.

Chairmen Spohn moved approval of the listed requisitions. Commissioner Parise seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

The following items previously approved and ordered have not been delivered;

Two multigas meters; helmet fronts (first order); two sets of PPE fire gear (second order); two gear racks; one Stihl 16"bar chainsaw with battery and charger. The first order of PPE fire gear has been received. Chief Schroeck noted that the approved purchase of foam has not been processed. He requested that the order be held while he investigated alternatives.

Engineers Report

45-2: PM completed, and various repairs made by Absolute. The engine will need to be placed out of service for the installation of a new pump governor when the new part is received in approximately two weeks.

Milspray has completed the application of the rust prevention coating to the underside of all apparatus.

Redline completed installation of new LED box lights on the Utility. Tablet holders have been installed in the tower and R45. End caps have been installed on the

breakdown boat trailer. The LED box lights will be installed when the apparatus is returned.

The tablets for T45 and R45 are being reconfigured prior to instillation in the apparatus.

Tanker45: The front wheel hubcaps have been received and installed.

SS45: Will be scheduled with Raritan Garage for repair of the front axle seal.

T45: Horn pull chains were replaced.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, November 12th, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.