

**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 June 8, 2021

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: W. Spohn, M. Parise, Wm. Hyncik and Ricky Puleio Jr. Absent: E. Lemon. Also present: QPA W. Newberry, Attorney E. Perkins, Treasurer Lynn Franchino, Chief Kevin Schroeck and Deputy Chief R. Kennedy

Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the May 11, 2021 meeting were presented.

Motion to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2021 board meeting was made by Commissioner Parise; 2nd by Commissioner Puleio. Motion passed without objection. Commissioner Hyncik abstained as he was not present at the meeting.

Public Comment – None

Meeting Updates –

Emergency Services –No meeting last month.

Fire Prevention – No meeting last month.

Rescue Task Force- No meeting last month.

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: Office Expenses: \$4,453.54.; Legal \$3,400.00

TOTAL ADMINISTRATION: \$7,853.54.

Operations: General Operating: Other \$973.00; Insurance: \$5,228.00; Rental Charges/Apparatus Housing: \$12,333.33; Maintenance and Repairs: \$1,307.72; Training and Education: \$1,820.83; Utilities: \$1,925.99.

TOTAL OPERATIONS: \$23,588.87.

TOTAL OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION: \$31,442.41.

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

RESOLUTION 2021-18 Payment of Bills

Upon certification that there are sufficient encumbered and unencumbered funds in the 2021 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 2020 Encumbered Check Detail in the total amount of \$31,442.41 and \$8,045.46 respectively, allocated to the various 2021 and 2020 operating accounts.

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

Abstention noted for Chairman Spohn for items for Sunrise Office Systems pursuant to annual notice.

PURCHASING OFFICER'S REPORT

QPA Newberry reported that the items ordered at the May meeting were ordered.

The rescue task force equipment has been received from Bound Tree. The helmets remain on back order.

Requisition requests are included in the Chief's report.

Two quotes were obtained for hose, ground ladder and pump testing. The quote from Fireflow was \$5,540. The quote from Failsafe was \$6,440.00 but included the amount of \$360.00 for appliance testing. Commissioner Hyncik moved awarding the contract to Failsafe, seconded by Commissioner Puleio and unanimously adopted.

Mr. Newberry noted that the BOFC minutes have been posted on the website through April. He has also updated the commissioners' titles and email addresses to include the changes made at last months reorganization meeting.

Mr. Newberry reported that the Department of Community Affairs has extended the date for the receipt of the 2020 BOFC audit to September 30, 2021.

The Chief is following up on the replacement TFT valve for the tower. The original was returned to Continental as it was the wrong size.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Excess Equipment: The excess items have been removed from the firehouse and placed in the pod for transfer to the volunteer companies impacted by the tornados.

LOSAP: Commissioner Parise noted that he had corrected an error in the transmission to VALIC/AIG due to an incorrect social security number. He pointed out the difficulty in determining the eligibility of new members for LOSAP as he does not regularly receive information on any prior LOSAP records of incoming members. The Chief agreed to provide this information as new members join the department.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Schroeck reported that there were 17 calls in the month of May. In addition to the normal business meeting and truck cleaning, a number of drills were conducted including an extrication drill on May 10, a drill at the Lower Middle School on May 24th and a SCESTRA drill on May 24th. The company also participated in the Memorial day activities on May 31st.

The Chief requested approval to purchase a number of items of equipment detailed in quotes provided the BOFC from Grainger: two packs of reciprocating saw blades \$237.44; two biohazard bags \$60.72 and 100 pairs of safety glasses \$136.00.

Additionally the Chief requested reimbursement to the Chief's Account for \$110.00 for CPR/AED training for S. Jain and in the amount of \$985.83 for hotel fees for the July conference. (These items were approved and included in the bills paid at tonight's meeting.)

PURCHASE OF NEW UTILITY VEHICLE

Chief Schroeck presented the BOFC with specifications for a new utility vehicle. The proposed vehicle is a 2022 FORD 350. The vehicle would be equipped with a snowplow and painted in the fire department color scheme. The vehicle is available under State Contract for \$98,935.00. After reviewing the specifications the Board

considered the following resolution which was moved by Commissioner Hyncik and seconded by Chair Spohn and unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTION 2021-19 APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF A FORD 2022 F250 UTILITY VEHICLE

Whereas: the BOFC requires a utility vehicle to provide support for the fire department at fire calls and other emergency events; and

Whereas: the BOFC received voter approval for the purchase of the utility vehicle in 2020 and said vehicle was also included in the 2021 budget which was approved by the voters and the State Division of Local Government Service; and

Whereas: the chief and officers of the fire company have selected a 2022 Ford F350 as suitable as a utility vehicle and presented the BOFC with a specifications sheet indicating all features to be included on the vehicle; and

Whereas: the 2022 Ford F350 containing all the required features is available under State Contract #A88214 from Beyer Ford in Morristown, N.J., now therefore be it

Resolved: That the Board of Fire Commissioners approves the purchase of the 2022 Ford 350 vehicle as outlined on the specifications sheet from Beyer Ford in the amount of \$85,850.68

Engineers Report

Engine 45-2: Apparatus was OOS at the Elizabeth Truck Center for repairs from the accident. Parts were removed and sent to vendors. During the removal operation it was noted that the apparatus had no air pressure. Absolute was contacted but they were unable to determine the problem at that location, so the apparatus was towed to the Absolute facility. The apparatus remains OOS at that the Absolute facility while trouble shooting for the source of the problem.

Tower 45: Red Line continues to mount the equipment and make alterations as required.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, July 13th, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.