

Pittsgrove Township District 3 Board of Fire  
Commissioners Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2022

The October 2022 meeting was called to order at 19:30 by Chairman Smith. Chairman Smith opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance and acknowledging the Open Public Meetings Act (Sunshine Law)

**Roll Call**

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| Richard Smith        | Present |
| Christopher McDowell | Present |
| Sean Henderson       | Absent  |
| Brandon Mathews      | Present |
| George Cousin        | Present |

**Rob Conley Architect presentation**

Ed Myers Jr. introduced the architect Mr. Rob Conley and asked him if Brooks Garrison had explained to him what the boards situation was and what we were looking for. Mr. Conley said that he was given a brief overview but not much detail. Ed Myers Jr. explained the history with Garrison Architects and briefly explained that the board is essentially wanting to create a study on the firehouse regarding safety, longevity, expansion, etc. Garrison architects was going to work with us to create a plan that would be in the best interest of the firefighters and the taxpayers. Mr. Conley gave a brief history of his firm and explained that his expertise is in firehouse architecture, in fact, he had worked with the board previously and already had a study that he created years ago. He said that he could absolutely do what the board needed, and he generally would provide three options in situations like this that may include renovation, expansion and a complete rebuild. His fee is usually \$8500 for a study like this but since he has been here before he may be able to use the previous study as a basis, which may lower the price of this study to around \$5000. He said he would research his files to see what he had from the previous study and would get back to the board via email about potential costs. The board thanked him for his time and Mr. Conley left at 20:00.

Resolution 2022-10-1-1 to appoint Robbie Conley Architects as the boards Architect of record, replacing Brooks Garrison who stepped down. Roll call: Smith – Yes, McDowell – Yes, Cousin – Yes, Mathews – Yes

**Approval of the previous meetings minutes**

On a motion by Cousin and a second by McDowell the minutes were approved as read. Vote: All in Favor.

Pittsgrove Township District 3 Board of Fire  
Commissioners Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2022

**Bills**

On a motion by Mathews and a second by Cousin the bills were approved to be paid. Vote: All on Favor.

|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Associated Fire Protection   | 235.00     |
| AT&T Mobility                | 94.94      |
| Atlantic City Electric       | 493.76     |
| C&H Disposal Service Inc.    | 90.00      |
| Comcast                      | 478.88     |
| D'Agostino's Water Solutions | 1,780.00   |
| Ed Myers Jr.                 | 270.16     |
| FD Testing Services          | 1,409.95   |
| Hartford Steam Boiler        | 315.00     |
| Richard Braslow              | 21.50      |
| South Jersey Gas             | 57.66      |
| Steve's Auto Supply          | 425.97     |
| Straight Eye Construction    | 1,375.00   |
| Weber's Power Equipment      | 92.28      |
| William A Schmidt Jr.        | 146.29     |
| TOTAL                        | \$7,286.39 |

**Chief's Report**

Chief Morse gave the fire report.

He asked about approving the SOG's that were presented to the board on February 24<sup>th</sup>. A brief discussion followed. On a motion by Cousin and a second by McDowell the SOG's were approved as presented. Vote: AIF

Chief Morse asked about the status of purchasing re-lettering for the Chief vehicle. The low quote was \$1050 and he'd like to get it done. On a motion by Cousin and a second by McDowell he was approved to get it done. Vote: AIF

Testing was complete, the UL testing of the aerial was very in-depth, but everything passed. There was a discussion on 23-6, it'll be 25 years old in 3 years.

NFIRS software pricing will be coming soon, we'll need to replace the existing software to remain compliant.

The Chief is looking for prices on a specialized nozzle for electric vehicle fires.

The Chief is getting prices for a second combination tool that will be placed in 23-6 to ensure a tool is always available when needed.

The truck committee will be meeting next week.

He said the gas meter needs batteries, it is \$58 per battery and he needs four for \$240 total. He also needs 5 five-gallon buckets of foam that will cost \$855. On a motion by Mathews and a second by Cousin he was approved to get the items he needs. Vote: AIF

Chief Morse said the company would like to respond to ALS calls in our local. He will be adding a set of tones to the pagers that is designated for the ALS responses to be assigned as extra credit, they will not be counted as a regular call to prevent harming members who have no interest in ALS calls. The company would like to do this on a 6-month trial basis. To make this happen, he needs to order some EMS supplies, he presented a potential list of items that are needed. On a motion by Mathews and a second by Cousin he was approved to spend up to \$500 on the needed supplies. Vote: AIF

The Chief asked about the sale of 23-1, the commissioners said they would still like to sell it for a minimum bid of \$9000 on GovDeals.

Chief Morse said that two members wanted to attend some classes at the Gloucester County Fire Academy, I-200 and I-300. On a motion by Cousin and a second by McDowell the training was approved. Vote: AIF

### **Company Report**

Larkin asked about the status of the well. Dave W said that there were some parts that were taken when they removed the pump that we need back. Cousin said he would call and take care of it.

### **Old Business**

Dave W submitted a quote to replace the HVAC system for the kitchen and meeting room from DPH Mechanical for a total of \$9000. There was a brief discussion about the warranty, Dave W called DPH and verified the warranty was the same length as the competitor offered. One-year labor and 5 years compressor. On a motion by Mathews and a second by Cousin he was approved to get the unit replaced by DPH Mechanical. Vote: AIF

Dave W said that DPH mechanical offered to come check out the other units to see exactly what they needed. He estimated two hours of labor to look into the units. On a motion by McDowell and a second by Cousin he was approved to look at the other units and bill as necessary. Vote: AIF

Dave W said the four air reels he would like to purchase are \$139.99 each on Amazon. On a motion by Mathews and a second by Cousin he was approved to order them. Vote: AIF

**New Business**

Kris Myers said there are some bad spots in the pad that he would like to take care of. He'll reach out to the township to see if they can help.

Ed Myers Jr. brought up the LOSAP points system and how it would benefit the members if we adjusted the points to allow more members to qualify. He suggested lowering the percentage required to 35% down from 50%. He presented the documentation that he found that seemed to allow the change with minimal difficulties. The board asked him to reach out to Mr. Braslow to verify the method required to change the points system. The board also asked him to bring the percentages from last year to the next meeting to help them decide on the proper percentage level.

Dave W spoke about his LOSAP situation and asked for an update from the board. Chairman Smith said that he thought Dave W would have had to be in good standing with the company to qualify. Dave disagreed and said that from how he read the online FAQ that his Exempt Firefighter status should have exempted him from the regular vesting requirements. Discussion followed on LOSAP vesting. The board asked Ed Myers Jr. to ask Braslow about the situation and to get some clarity on vesting requirements.

Ed Myers Jr. brought up the stipend program from December of 2021 where the board approved the stipend program but needed to reach out to Bowman for clarity on initiating and maintaining the program. Chairman Smith did not remember requesting information from Bowman. The board asked Ed Myers Jr. to reach out to Bowman to check on what needed to be done.

**Adjournment**

Mathews motioned for adjournment at 21:50, Cousin seconds. Vote: All in Favor.