

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No. 2 was held on the above date at the Lenola Fire House. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Wesolowski. Four Commissioners were in attendance, Commissioner Gifford is absent due to a work schedule conflict. Also, in attendance were Chief Grant, F.O/DC Orsini and FI/BC DiPaolo.

Wesolowski opened the meeting by reading the following statement in accordance with the “Open Public Meetings Act”:

This meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No. 2 of The Township of Moorestown is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975. Pursuant to the “Act”, on November 9th, 2023 the required notice was transmitted to the *Burlington County Times*.

Additionally, the required notice was posted on the bulletin board, reserved for such notices, in the lobby of the Town Hall, 111 West Second Street, Moorestown, NJ 08057, on the bulletin board of the Moorestown Municipal Library, 111 West Second Street, Moorestown, NJ 08057 and on the bulletin board of the Lenola Fire House, 229 North Lenola Road, Moorestown, NJ 08057 and filed with the Clerk of the Township of Moorestown on this date.

Lastly, written notice was posted on the official website, MoorestownFireDistrict2.com on November 9th, 2023 and mailed to each person who has requested copies of the schedule of meetings.

An affidavit certifying that the aforesaid delivery and posting of notices was prepared and signed by the Administrator.

Wesolowski called for a salute to the flag and a moment of silence for our departed members as well as the persons who perished on 9/11/2001 and those who continue to die from the effects of that day.

Minutes:

On a motion by Commissioner Mann, seconded by Commissioner Grant, the minutes of the September 11, 2024 regular meeting were approved 4-0.

On a motion by Commissioner Mann, seconded by Commissioner Grant, the minutes of the September 11, 2024 Executive Session were approved 4-0.

Chief's Report:

The Chief's report was filed and available for review in the Commissioners Drop Box. Chief Grant reviewed the highlights of the report. Chief also reported that he has ordered 43 air bottles from Scott, and the budget requests for 2025 have been submitted to the administrator.

Chief's Assistant

Chief's Assistant report is in the Dropbox, report was reviewed by President Wesolowski.

Captain's Report:

The written report is available for review in the drop box. It was reviewed by BC DiPaolo.

Fire Official's Report:

The written report is in the drop box. F.O. Orsini reviewed the following highlights.

1. Provided the inspection totals.
2. Penalty totals for the month were provided as well as False Fire Alarm Notices issued.
3. Zoning & Planning review totals.

Orsini noted that Fire Prevention Open House is Friday October 11th, and that school visits are ongoing.

Rental Manager's Report:

The report was in the drop box. Hall Manager Orsini noted that there were 7 affairs during the month and 2 bookings for 2024 and 1 for 2025.

Bills:

The Statement of Expenditures, listing of bills to be paid in October were provided to the Board members for review prior to the meeting. Administrator Knobbs discussed the bills highlighted on said Statement and reported on bills received after the report was published. Knobbs noted there are still regular bills outstanding.

There being no further questions or comments on the bills, a motion by Commissioner Grant, seconded by Commissioner Mann to pay the September bills and any regular bills that come in was approved by the four commissioners present. Commissioner Clark abstained on all bills for Donna Clark.

Communications:

President Wesolowski read a letter from Lawrence Niedermayer requesting to use the hall on January 19, 2025 for a baby shower for his granddaughter. Motion by Commissioner Mann, seconded by Commissioner Clark to allow the use of the hall was approved by the four commissioners present.

Old Business:

2023 Audit: President Wesolowski directed the commissioners to the letter between Holt McNally and the Board concerning the attached Audit Report. No Commissioners had any questions concerning the letters, or the Audit Report. President Wesolowski then introduced and read *Resolution 2024-12 "Accepting Auditor's Report"*. Motion by Commissioner Grant, seconded by Commissioner Mann to approve the resolution. On a roll call vote the resolution was approved 4-0 with Commissioner Gifford being Absent.

Recruitment/Retention: President Wesolowski opened the floor to anyone present to participate. BC DiPaolo noted that the two individuals currently in fire school are doing well and have been passing on all of their tests so far.

225 Parking Lot Repaving: Administrator Knobbs reported that the lot has been reopened after the infrared repairs, seal coating and striping. We are awaiting a date for the concrete repairs.

F.O. Vehicle: Administrator Knobbs reported that the installation of the lights and accessories are scheduled to begin this weekend.

2025 Budget: Administrator Knobbs reported that the 2025 Budget is well underway. He noted that the budget will be increasing substantially with the purchase of the training prop, salaries and the addition of the Duty Crew Program. He did note that we had been conscientious and frugal in our spending and have put away funds in our reserves so hopefully we will be able to fund most of the additions with funds from the reserves and keep the tax rate down. He also spoke about the upcoming purchase of new air packs with an approximate cost of \$10,000 each. He advised the board of their options for paying for the purchase by spreading the replacement over three years, or using the Restricted Reserves. If the Restricted Reserves were used, a question would have to be put on the ballot in 2025. The commissioners should be prepared to discuss this at the budget workshop meeting.

Disposing of Blazer: Administrator Knobbs reported that the 1999 Chevrolet Blazer will need to be sold. As per Title 40, due to the approximate value, we can advertise and sell the vehicle without having to go through an auction. We can discuss at the November meeting to dispose of the vehicle with persons interested submitting a sealed bid in writing to President Wesolowski and the advertisement will state that the vehicle is being sold "As Is" with no warranty. The commissioners set a minimum bid of \$250.00.

Hall Sliding Doors: Administrator Knobbs stated that the sliding panels in the hall need repair. He stated that the doors will need to be cut down to work appropriately with the new tile, and that all of the doors are in poor condition with the safety stops being inoperable on all of the doors as well as the mechanisms that work the raising and lowering of the stops. Modernfold, who are the manufacturers of the doors came out and did an assessment of the doors, and have provided a quote of \$5,687.00. After discussion, on a motion by Commissioner Mann, seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the work on the doors. Motion was approved by the four commissioners present.

Meeting opened to the public:

BC DiPaolo asked if it would be possible to hire a company to write a grant to purchase the packs. He stated that Moorestown District 1 has received a grant to purchase new packs. After discussion, the commissioners agreed to look into the cost and company to write the grant prior to the budget workshop.

President Wesolowski announced that there was no need for an Executive Session and that the next meeting will be October 16th, 2024 and it is a Budget Workshop meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board, by Proper Action, meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen W. Knobbs
Board Administration