

Minutes

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 present (Commissioner Niedermayer will be late). Also, in attendance were Chief Grant, F.O. Orsini, B.C./FI DiPaolo, and FI/FF J Carruthers.

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 February 22nd, 2022 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 February 22nd, 2022 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.

Minutes:

On a motion by Commissioner Mann, seconded by Commissioner Humes, the minutes of the June 1, 2022 meeting were approved 4-0.

Chief's Report:

The Chief's report was filed and available for review in the Commissioners Drop Box. In addition, he is working on scheduling the hose testing for October.

Chief's Assistant

Chief's Assistant reported that the written report is in the drop box. Chief Grant stated that in addition to his regular duties, the assistant has been working on a State Grant for PPE Equipment.

Captain's Report:

The written report is available for review in the drop box. B.C. DiPaolo listed the repairs done to apparatus for the month and the total fuel used.

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.

Rental Manager's Report:

Hall Manager Orsini noted that the report was in the drop box. He noted that there were six affairs during the past month, and five new bookings for 2022 and one for 2023.

Orsini stated that as a continuation of last month's discussion, he wants to increase the bartenders by \$25.00 to \$175. Their rate has not been changed in 10 years. As far as the cleaners are concerned, he wants to be able to be flexible and negotiate a fee not to exceed \$150. Their rate has not been changed in 15 years. A discussion was held concerning the problem of keeping cleaners and possible solutions. Orsini stated that part of the problem is the late-night early morning requirements to have the hall cleaned in the case of back-to-back affairs. Orsini stated that they are covering the cleanings for now, but wants to be able to find a long-term solution. President Wesolowski stated that there is no need to come back for approval, he can use his discretion in hiring and negotiating the rate. Knobbs stated that there is room in the budget to absorb the increases.

Squad Report:

Administrator Knobbs stated that the April, May and June reports are in the Drop-box.

Bills:

The Statement of Expenditures, listing of bills to be paid in July 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.

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

Old Business:

Audit: Administrator Knobbs stated that the 2021 Audit is under way. No problems have arisen thus far. He is scheduled to meet with Ed Paul this month.

Promotion Announcement: Administrator Knobbs stated that the DiPaolo promotion application period was from 6/1 to 6/28/2022. Knobbs did not receive any other applications for the position other than DiPaolo's. He submitted the paperwork to the State to forego the "test" and proceed with the promotion.

He is expecting to hear the decision shortly.

*** Commissioner Niedermayer arrived at 7:22 p.m.***

Recruitment/Retention: President Wesolowski opened the floor to anyone present to participate. FF Carruthers stated that the Recruitment/Retention committee had their first meeting and discussed the various ideas for getting members in the door and how to keep them. He further stated that they have 2 new members in the pipeline. One has already submitted his application and the second he will be meeting with

him and his parents in the coming days. Carruthers went on to state that the application has been reworked. They attended Moorestown Day and spoke with many in attendance as well as distributed handouts. They received many positive comments on the 100th anniversary. He also noted that the tent and table cover have been received and he has photos of them set up if anyone wants to see them. They spoke with the Rotary Club and have been invited to set up at the Food Tent Festival on the Town Hall/Rec center lot.

Carruthers stated that on the Retention side, they are looking to bring back the “Big Brother” program, whereby a new member is assigned a mentor to help and guide them. They are also looking at creating an objective based process (Success Program) that would recognize and reward achievements to keep the new members involved.

They will be working on making the application process on-line, pamphlets and branded materials to hand out and a “road-map” for how the entire process would work.

A discussion was held on the junior members and how to keep them involved. Carruthers stated that this is part of the “Success Program” and is looking forward to being able to help the juniors be able to have the knowledge/skills to be successful when they do attend fire school.

Capital Projects: Administrator Knobbs reported that they are working on getting quotes on the generator projects. He stated that on “tentative price” was \$41,000. This does not include the electricians cost to make the final hook-up. The reason they will not quote a firm price at this point is that the prices have been changing regularly and the production times are a long wait to receive the final product. The parking lot project is awaiting a quote, Bill Ruggiano met with American Asphalt. Knobbs reviewed the scope of the repaving and additions. President Wesolowski asked if both projects would need to be bid, and would they require ballot questions. Knobbs replied yes to both. Knobbs stated that there is a question before the Assembly now that would do away with the ballot question requirement.

New LVFC Member Class: President Wesolowski stated that continuing the question from last month about the possible Hall Rental, the policy was distributed to the board by the administrator to review. Wesolowski stated that looking at the requirements of the Contributing Member, he does not feel that they should be eligible for a free rental. Maybe they would consider a reduced rate. Commissioner Humes stated that he felt that was fair. Administrator Knobbs stated that the current status is that these contributing members are wives/significant others of a current member and as such would be receiving the hall through the active member. He further stated that if that changed in the future, the board could consider the rentals on a case-by-case basis or look to change the policy at that time. Orsini stated that currently, all members must ask for permission to use the hall and is voted on by the board. Under the policy, the board has the right to look at status/eligibility at that time. Wesolowski agreed to let the current policy stand at this time.

New Business:

Orsini stated that he received a message from Firefighter Sterling that his grandfather passed away and he was looking to use the hall for a funeral repast. Motion by Commissioner Grant, seconded by Humes to approve the use. Motion was approved by the five commissioners present.

Meeting opened to the public:

There were no comments from the public.

President Wesolowski announced the next meeting will be August 3, 2022.

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

July 6, 2022

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen W. Knobbs
Board Administration