

## Minutes

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No. 2 was held on the above date in the Fireman's Memorial Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Wesolowski.

Five Commissioners were present, Also, in attendance were Chief Grant and Chief's Asst. B. Wesolowski and Fire Official Orsini.

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 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 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 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 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, especially our recently departed members, Ted Horan and Robert Plym.

## **Minutes:**

Due to technical difficulties at last month's meeting due to a storm, the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were held for approval until this month's meeting.

On a motion by Commissioner Grant, seconded by Commissioner Humes, the minutes of the May 6, 2020 regular meeting were approved 5-0.

On a motion by Commissioner Niedermayer, seconded by Commissioner Humes, the minutes of the June 3, 2020 regular meeting were approved 5-0.

**Chief's Report:**

The Chief's report was filed and available for review in the Commissioners Drop Box. Chief Grant advised the board that he is attending weekly meetings dealing with the COVID issues. He reviewed the steps the department is taking to limit exposure, and stated that there are no reported COVID symptoms among the members. The chief also discussed the drill schedule. He will continue to sanitize the trucks on a weekly basis. The Chief and Training Officer attended training on the new radios and have conducted a drill with department members on use of same. The chief discussed problems with the radio identifiers and how it can delay response in the case of a mayday being called on one of the duplicated identifiers radio. States that he is working with the county to try to resolve same. In the mean time a cross reference list of identifiers has been compiled.

**Chief's Assistant Report:**

Chief's Assistant Wesolowski reported that in addition to his regular duties, he has been working with the new radios to inventory same and compiled the identifier list that the chief had mentioned in his report. Also took the chief's vehicle to have new tires installed.

**Captain's Report:**

Chief Grant gave the following report for the month of June:

1. All apparatus and equipment were checked regularly throughout the month and are operational.
2. Reported on the maintenance and/or repairs performed throughout the month.
3. Report was submitted and filed.

**Fire Official's Report:**

1. Provided the inspection totals.
2. Penalty totals for the month were provided as well as False Fire Alarm Notices issued.
3. Home inspections have returned to in person inspections.
4. Office will be back to full strength with the return of Inspector Askenstedt and Mann.
5. Office is still closed to the public, but this has not been a problem since all of the applications that previously had the public visiting the office are now online.

Orsini also discussed the ongoing resolution of outstanding violations. Stated that most of the penalties have been waved due to the problems for businesses from the pandemic. He also discussed the order from the Division of Fire Safety relaxing the timeline for compliance on violations to "30 days after the end of the public health emergency". The current order has an end date of December 31, 2020. Unknown exactly when this will be lifted. Stated that he has also been working on the Mall outdoor seating plan for restaurants as well as other restaurants in the town since town council passed the ordinance granting same.

**Rental Manager's Report:**

1. No affairs were held due to COVID closure.
2. There were approximately twenty-five inquiries via email and telephone.
3. Started hall showings again on 6/29/2020.

Orsini discussed the procedure in place for changing the dates of currently booked affairs to future open dates due to the COVID issues. He also discussed that they are monitoring the Governor's orders for reopening. The current capacity limitation is 25% of occupancy/not to exceed 100 persons. There are several affairs coming up in August that will be able to proceed with that number, with others having to postpone. A discussion was held on the reopening of the hall. Orsini stated that signs have been ordered with CDC recommendations printed on them. Also, they have ordered hand sanitizing stations to be placed around the facility. Commissioner Niedermayer asked if we could be held liable if someone were to get sick after attending an event in the hall. Orsini stated that we have done our due diligence in applying the recommendations. Also, we are not the host of the party, we are merely supplying the venue. After discussion it was determined that we will proceed with the recommendations of the hall managers.

**Squad Report:**

Administrator Knobbs reported that there are reports for the months of March through June 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. He further noted that there were routine bills that were due to be paid but not yet received.

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

Commissioner Grant abstained on bills relating to Chief Grant.

**Communications:**

Administrator Knobbs stated that he has received a check from the insurance company for the damaged bay door replacement less a \$500.00 deductible. He has spoken with Chief Shield's and the squad will be issuing a check to the board for the \$500.00.

**Old Business:**

1. Fire Official, UFD Appeal- Administrator Knobbs reports that there is nothing new, still waiting for Pension Board action. No progress due to State personnel working remotely and now the furloughing of pension board employees.
2. 2019 Audit- Administrator Knobbs reported that this is still ongoing. He has been in communication with Ed Paul who is also working remotely.
3. Roof Project- Administrator Knobbs reported that the project has been completed and the bill was approved tonight for payment.

**New Business:**

1. Resolution 2020-08 - President Wesolowski introduced the resolution for the "County Mutual Aid Agreement". Chief Grant asked to be able to comment prior to the reading of the resolution. Chief stated that he believes the board should not sign the agreement. States that the County Fire Chief's and Police were against the signing of the agreement. Stated that he has spoken to surrounding departments and none are signing the agreement. Stated that the Fire Chief's were unhappy with the way they have been treated by the Freeholders by not allowing them a seat at the Emergency Services Advisory Board, and the handling of the new radio and CAD systems. A discussion was held and it was decided to table the resolution at this time and seek the advice of the board's attorney. This will be readdressed at the August meeting.
2. iPad for Chief's Vehicle- Chief Grant discussed the purchase of an iPad and necessary mounting hardware for the chief's vehicle to replace the current computer. Stated that the software for IamResponding and others is designed to run on a tablet application. Stated that there is \$2,000 in the equipment budget this year to purchase hose. He would like to use dedicated penalty money to purchase the hose and use that allotted money in the budget for the purchase of the iPad. On a motion by Commissioner Humes, seconded by Commissioner Niedermayer to purchase an iPad and hardware not to exceed \$2,000.00 was approved by the five commissioners present.

**Meeting opened to the public:**

There being no further questions or comments from the public, this portion of the meeting was closed.

**There being no further business to come before the Board, by Proper Action, meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen W. Knobbs  
Board Administration