

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
Pennington Borough Fire District No. 1  
P.O. Box 387  
Pennington, NJ 08534

MINUTES January 19, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Blackwell at 7:35 p.m. at the Pennington Firehouse, following adequate notice under the Open Public Meetings Law (notice provided to the municipal clerk, posted at the Pennington Borough Municipal Building and Board offices, and provided and published in the official newspaper of the district and the Hopewell Valley News.

**ROLL CALL**

Present by roll call were Commissioners Mark Blackwell, Tom Timperman, Bill Meytrott, and Gene Schooley. Absent: Bill Naylor. Also present were Chief DeForte, Deputy Chief Gaudioso, President Abey, LOSAP representative Peter Hallock, and accountant J. Carducci, and attorney Griswold.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a Motion by Cmsr. Schooley and seconded by Cmsr. Meytrott and passed, the minutes of December 16, 2015 were approved as presented.

**LOSAP**

Mr. Hallock reported that 48 volunteers earned LOSAP awards in 2015. He presented the certified list of volunteers indicating those who qualified and the amount each earned. The total contribution for 2015 (Borough and Township) is \$66,966.18.

On a motion by Cmsr. Schooley and seconded by Cmsr. Timperman and passed, **Resolution 2016- 10** - Approving the 2015 certified LOSAP participation list and authorizing its posting for review was passed.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

There were 34 calls in December, 2015: 8 of them in Pennington Borough, 16 in the Township, 2 in Hopewell Borough, 8 other. The fire department responded to 462 calls for the year ended 12/31/15. There have been 27 calls already in January.

5 members have enrolled in fire school in Somerset County, as the Mercer County classes have already been filled.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Siren:** Cmsr. Blackwell is researching alternatives and seeking quotes for work required to ensure the electrical wiring for the siren installation is in place.

**2016 Election and Budget Referendum:** Voting will take place on February 20, 2016. Three petitions were filed by candidates for the two 3-year terms and one 2-year term open on the board. The chairman will appoint poll watchers and Cmsr. Meytrott will secure the voter list and will open and close the polls.

**Insurance:** The workers' compensation policy will remain with VFIS; the account is too small for the new vendor in the state to be interested in.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Annual Resolutions:** On a motion by Cmsr. Meytrott, seconded by Cmsr. Schooley and passed, **Resolutions 2016-01 through 2016-08** were approved by roll call vote as follow:

**2016-01:** Adoption of a cash management plan and designating PNC Bank as depository.

**2016-02:** Adoption of a temporary budget of \$49,037.00.

**2016-03:** Designation of the Times of Trenton as the official newspaper of the fire district and the Hopewell Valley News and/or Princeton Packet as secondary publications.

**2016-04:** Adoption of the annual meeting notice for the fire district – meetings to be held on the third Thursday of each month, at 7:30 pm, at the Pennington firehouse.

**2016-05:** Appointment of Barbara S. Griswold as fire district attorney for 2016, at a fee of \$11,000.00, without competitive bidding.

**2016-06:** Appointment of Joseph Carducci of Bedard, Kurowicki & Co., as fire district accountant/auditor for 2016, at a fee not to exceed \$17,500.00, without competitive bidding.

**2016-07:** Appointment of Nottingham Insurance as the fire district's insurance broker of record.

**2016-08:** Authorizing the 2016 budget be read by title at the public hearing thereon.

### **PUBLIC HEARING ON 2016 APPROVED BUDGET**

On a motion by Cmsr. Blackwell, seconded by Cmsr. Schooley and passed, the public hearing on the 2016 approved budget was opened. After taxpayers of the fire district and all persons having an interest in the budget were given an opportunity to speak, and there being no comment, the public hearing was closed. On a motion by Cmsr. Meytrott, seconded by Cmsr. Schooley and passed, **Resolution 2016-09** – Adopting the 2016 Fire District Budget without amendments, was passed.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

A copy of the treasurer's report was made available to each Commissioner with a list and description of the bills to be paid. The Chief Financial Officer certified there were sufficient encumbered and unencumbered funds to pay the bills as presented.

On a Motion by Cmsr. Schooley, seconded by Cmsr. Meytrott and passed, **Resolution 2016-11** - Paying bills in the amount of \$20,511.88, was approved by roll call vote.

The treasurer will recommend transfers between line items in the 2015 budget, if necessary, at the next meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

On a Motion by Cmsr. Meytrott and seconded by Cmsr. Schooley, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held at 7:30 p.m. on February 16, 2016.