

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

MINUTES August 15, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting was called to order by Chairman Blackwell at 7:37 p.m. at the Pennington Firehouse, following adequate notice under the Open Public Meetings Law (annual notice provided to the municipal clerk, posted at the Pennington Borough Municipal Building and Board offices, posted on the fire district's web site and published in the official newspaper of the district and the Hopewell Valley News).

ROLL CALL

Present by roll call were Commissioners Mark Blackwell, Bob DiFalco and Brian Hofacker. Absent: Commissioners Bill Meytrott and Gene Schooley. Also present were Chief DeForte, Ass't. Chief Bainbridge, President Abey, J. Carducci and Attorney Griswold.

Commissioner Hofacker was appointed Acting Secretary for the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July 19, 2017 meeting will be presented for approval at the next meeting.

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. Payment for bookkeeping services included in the list of bills will be held over for approval at the next meeting. The Chief Financial Officer certified there were sufficient previously encumbered and unencumbered funds in the 2017 budget to pay the other bills as presented. On a Motion by Cmsr. Hofacker, seconded by Cmsr. DiFalco and passed, **Resolution 2017-25** – Paying bills in the amount of \$22,915.12 was approved by roll call vote.

CHIEF'S REPORT

There were 37 calls in July, 2017: 4 of them in Pennington Borough, 28 in the Township, 1 in Hopewell Borough and 4 other. Calls included 3 residential, 1 brush, 1 motor vehicle incident, 3 wires down/transformer, 2 hazmat and 1 gas leak. The alarm calls at the high school most likely resulted from all the construction being done. Three drills were held during the month.

I-Chiefs Conference – The chief and Deputy Chief Gaudioso attended the International Association of Fire Chiefs' Hazardous Materials conference in Charlotte and participated in classroom and hands-on training, particularly focused on rail tank car incidents. They also had an opportunity to speak with various exhibitors of rescue/extrication tools and apparatus. They will further research at the Wildwood Expo.

INSURANCE PRESENTATION – The Board’s insurance representative from Nottingham Insurance Agency presented and overview of the workers’ compensation and accident and sickness policies and answered questions.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

OLD BUSINESS

Truck Housing and Aerial Dedication – The celebration to dedicate the firehouse addition and to “wet down” the new aerial will be held October 8th at 1 pm at the firehouse.

Firehouse Exhaust Removal System – Progressing.

Siren – Up, but not yet in service. The “all-call” tone is not functioning properly - the county is working to repair. Thereafter there will be minor conduit work to be done.

Aerial Repayment Agreement with Township – The board presented repayment options to the township for its share of the cost of the apparatus. No word yet as to action taken on the township’s part.

Hand Tools – Cmsr. Blackwell is dealing with purchase options.

Apparatus Cord Reels – Existing are fraying and need replacement. Cmsr. Blackwell will look into this.

Old Aerial – Cmsr. Blackwell has been in contact with the GovDeals auction representative. Disposition decisions and contracts terms will be further addressed at next month’s meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioners’ Computer – The 8 year-old Dell computer died. Cmsr. Blackwell will research replacement options.

Membership - A new member was accepted into the fire company. He is 1st aid qualified but will have to attend FF1 classes. On a Motion by Cmsr. Blackwell, seconded by Cmsr. DiFalco and passed, his membership was approved by the board.

CLOSED SESSION – On a Motion by Cmsr. Hofacker, seconded by Cmsr. DiFalco and passed, **Resolution 2017-26**, authorizing the board to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues passed. (9:00 pm)

OPEN SESSION - (9:36 pm) The board took no formal action with regard to matters discussed in closed session but will review existing or proposed GOG’s and fire company by-laws as they may or may not pertain thereto.

ADJOURNMENT

On a Motion by Cmsr. DiFalco and seconded by Cmsr. Hofacker, the meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held at 7:30 p.m. on September 19, 2017.