

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

MINUTES September 18, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting was called to order by Chairman Blackwell at 7:36 p.m. at the Pennington Firehouse, following adequate notice under the Open Public Meetings Law (annual notice published in the official newspaper of the district and the Hopewell Valley News, filed with the municipal clerk, posted at the Pennington Borough Municipal Building and Board offices, posted on the fire district's web site and provided to any person requesting same in advance of the meeting).

ROLL CALL

Present by roll call were Commissioners Mark Blackwell, Wayne Blauth, Bob DiFalco, Bill Meytrott. Absent: Brian Hofacker. Also present were Chief Gaudioso and Attorney Griswold.

CHIEF'S REPORT

There were 33 calls in August, 2018: 9 of them in Pennington Borough, 20 in the Township, 0 in Hopewell Borough and 4 other. Calls included 3 residential, 1 motor vehicle/rescue and 1 CO call. There were 21 accidental alarm activations. 4 scheduled drills were held.

- Activities:

- Members participated in the 9/11 Remembrance, including delivery of a piece of steel from the World Trade Centers to Timberlane Middle School in a ceremony led by Hopewell Valley First Responders.
- Some members attended the Wildwood Firemen's Convention this past weekend.
- The chief has been asked to attend a personnel meeting to be held by the Township Board later this month.

- Annual Testing:

- Pump Test –
 - Engine stand-still idling issue has been repaired.
 - Rescue valve issues will be expensive and time-consuming to repair. Reconfiguration and replacement will be necessary at an estimated cost of about \$7,500.00.
- Truck Lights – Cmsr. Blackwell will install on the Rescue.
- Shipping Costs - The accountant will be asked the best way of paying for/reimbursing miscellaneous costs incurred between meetings for shipping gear or radios for repair, etc.
- Complaint Received – Cmsr. Meytrott asked the chief to remind members to use caution, and when possible to reduce blue light use during their response to the firehouse for emergency calls.

-SCESTA – The chief inquired as to the status of research into invoices submitted by Somerset County Emergency Services Training Academy for payment. The treasurer has concluded that \$3,300.00 is due for classes taken by members in 2016 and 2017 but not previously billed by SCESTA.

On a Motion by Cmsr. Meytrott, seconded by Cmsr. DiFalco and passed, payment to SCESTA for training classes in the amount of \$3,300.00 will be added to, and approved with the list of bills to be paid at this meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the August 21, 2018 meeting were presented for approval. On a motion by Cmsr. Meytrott, and seconded by Cmsr. Blauth and passed, the minutes were approved as presented.

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. Two payments were added to the list of bills being paid at this meeting: SCESTA (\$3,300.00) payment to SCESTA for training sessions, chargeable to the 2018 Training appropriation; and European Plus (\$91.82) for a battery for the chief's vehicle, chargeable to the 2018 Truck Repair appropriation. The Chief Financial Officer certified there were sufficient encumbered and unencumbered funds in the 2018 budget to pay the bills as presented and supplemented. On a Motion by Cmsr. Meytrott, seconded by Cmsr. Blauth and passed, **Resolution 2018-26** - Paying bills in the amount of \$26,670.07 was approved by roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

OLD BUSINESS

- Sale of Old Aerial – Cmsr. Blackwell is coordinating the sale of the apparatus.
- Lease with Fire Company – Discussion between the parties underway.
- SOG's – Progress is being made in updating the document.
- Vehicle Registrations – Cmsr. Meytrott to pursue replacement registrations for 2 vehicles.

NEW BUSINESS –

Siren Complaint – The mayor received a letter of complaint from a resident of Green Street regarding the frequency and volume of the emergency siren at the firehouse.

Outstanding Pagers – Efforts are underway to secure the return of pagers from members who have left the fire company and have yet to turn them in.

Pre-Plan Software – The chief would like to obtain either the software or license necessary to enable the fire department to access emergency services data that the fire marshal and inspector collect and store and which provides invaluable real-time information to firefighters at emergency scenes.

2019 Budget – The board discussed the 2019 proposed fire district budget – adjustments will be made and distributed to board members in advance of their budget meeting with the township.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held at 7:30 p.m. on October 16, 2018.