

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

MINUTES February 19, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting was called to order by Chairman Blackwell at 7:43 p.m. at the Pennington Firehouse, following adequate notice under the Open Public Meetings Law (annual notice published in the Times of Trenton 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, Bob DiFalco, Bill Meytrott, Wayne Blauth. Absent: Brian Hofacker. Also present were Chief Gaudio, Ass't Chief Demareski, Peter Hallock, Joe Carducci and Attorney Griswold.

CHIEF'S REPORT

There were 36 calls in January, 2019: 8 of them in Pennington Borough, 20 in the Township, 4 in Hopewell Borough and 4 other. Calls included 2 residential, 1 non-residential, 3 gas leaks, 4 CO calls and 8 mutual aid. 4 scheduled drills were held.

- On February 3rd a row house fire in Wellington Manor was contained to only one unit.
- On February 14th the fire company joined a number of neighboring companies and spent over 4 hours fighting a fire in a 2 ½ story older construction structure in Titusville.
- Activities:
 - The fire company installation dinner was held earlier this month.

- Bridge Closing: Pennington – Rocky Hill Road bridge will be closed soon for 3 days.

- Risk Assessment Survey – VFIS has requested a status report on actions taken or planned to address recommendations submitted as a result of the site visit the insurer made late last year.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the December 18, 2019 meeting will be presented for approval at the next meeting. On a motion by Cmsr. DiFalco, seconded by Cmsr. Meytrott and passed, the minutes of the January 15, 2019 meeting 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. The Chief Financial Officer certified there were sufficient encumbered funds from the 2018 budget and unencumbered funds in the 2019 temporary budget to pay the bills as presented. On a Motion by Cmsr. Meytrott, seconded by Cmsr. Blauth and passed, **Resolution 2019-16** - Paying bills in the amount of \$10,886.75 was approved by roll call vote.

Cmsr. Blackwell abstained from voting to approve payments to Joanne Blackwell and to Metal Fab Pro Racing.

The 2018 tax payments (Q's 1-4) were received from Pennington Borough (\$248,193.00).

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

OLD BUSINESS

- LOSAP - 2018

The certified list of volunteers indicating those who qualified for LOSAP contributions in 2018 has been posted for member review for at least 30 days with no objection thereto. 62 volunteers qualified for contributions.

On a motion by Cmsr. Meytrott, seconded by Cmsr. DiFalco and passed, **Resolution 2019-14** – Authorizing a periodic cost of living adjustment (0.49%) and payment to the LOSAP Plan Provider of the board's share of the 2018 LOSAP contribution in the amount of \$19,610.60 was passed.

2019 Election and Budget Referendum: Two candidates filed petitions for the two 3-year terms on the Board of Fire Commissioners. Voting will take place on February 16, 2019 at the Pennington Fire Company firehouse from 2-9 pm.

- **Sale of Old Aerial** – No update; awaiting word from the township board as to its intent.

- **Lease with Fire Company** – Discussion between the parties underway.

- **SOG's** – Copies have been distributed to committee members for review. There are some provisions that need to be included.

- **Outstanding Pagers** – Cmsr. Meytrott is coordinating effort to get outstanding pagers returned.

- **LOSAP** – Efforts continuing to recoup funds from inactive members with money in LOSAP accounts. One unvested member has submitted his resignation from the fire company.

- **Rescue** - Lights awaiting installation on the bumper.

- **Fidelity Bond:** In connection with proposed amendments and new rules for the NJ Administrative Code, Cmsr. Blackwell will look into the costs for a fidelity bond covering the individual holding overall management responsibility for the authority's finances, as well as costs for increasing the coverage of the blanket fidelity bond.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget Line Item Transfers (2018 Budget): On a Motion by Cmsr. DiFalco, seconded by Cmsr. Meytrott and passed, **Resolution 2019-15** – Authorizing a transfer of funds between line items in the 2018 budget was passed.

Requisitions: On a motion by Cmsr. DiFalco, seconded by Cmsr. Blauth passed, requisitions were approved; purchase orders will be issued.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held at 7:30 p.m. on March 19, 2019.