

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

**MINUTES July 16, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regularly scheduled meeting was called to order by Commissioner Blackwell at 7:30 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, Bill Meytrott, Bob DiFalco, Wayne Blauth. Absent: Brian Hofacker. Also present were Chief Gaudio, Joe Carducci and Attorney Griswold.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

There were 47 calls in June, 2019: 11 of them in Pennington Borough, 23 in the Township, 5 in Hopewell Borough and 8 other. Calls included 1 residential, 1 motor vehicle incident, 1 cellar/building pump, 1 CO call. There were 20 accidental alarm calls. 3 scheduled drills were held.

Mr. Carducci asked if there is a policy to charge for false/accidental alarms. Per agreement with the borough the township fire inspector's office has been given the authority to bill and to collect the receipts from charges and fines.

The fire company participated in a number of Independence Day fireworks celebrations. Duty crews are working well; efforts to revamp and improve the system are continuing.

Dispatch issues continue; changes in county protocols and equipment, particularly affecting the district's newer radios, are making traffic on some channels so busy that it is hard for the fire company to get through in some cases. The chief is attending meetings trying to address this issue.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the June 18, 2019 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. After certification that there are sufficient encumbered and unencumbered funds in the 2019 budget to pay the bills as presented, on a Motion by Cmsr. Meytrott, seconded by Cmsr. DiFalco and passed, **Resolution 2019-25** - Paying bills in the amount of \$22,307.02, was passed on roll call vote.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Q interlocal service agreement payment (\$51,065.39) and the air pack payment (\$11,167.42) were received from the township board.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- 2018 Audit – Nearly completed; draft copy should be distributed in the next couple weeks.
- Sale of Old Aerial – No update; Somerset County Training Academy may be interested in it.
- Lease with Fire Company – Pending.
- SOG's – Awaiting comment by fire company officers and board officials.
- Outstanding Pagers – No update.
- Truck registrations – No update.
- Insurance - Cmsr. Hofacker will prepare a draft policy addressing criteria for off-duty insurance benefits. Criteria and standards for review must be established
- DMV Abstracts – Awaiting update from Cmsr. Hofacker. Criteria and standards for review must be established.
- Tanker – Cmsr. Blackwell is pursuing whether damage to the manifold could have been caused by the engine room exhaust system.
  
- Truck Committee – Extended warranty options and costs were addressed. A PFD of the specifications will be circulated for Board review.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Requisitions: On a motion by Cmsr. Meytrott, seconded by Cmsr. DiFalco and passed, Purchase Order 2019-44, issued to Lang's (\$80.00) on June 18, 2019, was cancelled because the dry suit cannot be repaired. The chief will research the cost of replacing the suit.
  
- Business Registration Certificates – Review and management of filing system discussed.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held at 7:30 p.m. on August 20, 2019.