

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

MINUTES November 19, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting was called to order by Chairman Blackwell at 7:35 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, Wayne Blauth, Bob DiFalco, Brian Hofacker. Absent: Commissioner Bill Meytrott. Also present were Chief Gaudioso, Ass't. Chief Demaraski, Joe Carducci and Attorney Griswold.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

CHIEF'S REPORT

There were 35 calls in October, 2019: 10 of them in Pennington Borough, 21 in the Township, 1 in Hopewell Borough and 3 other. Calls included 2 residential, 2 non-residential; 1 brush fire, 2 motor vehicle incidents, 1 downed wires, 1 gas leak and 4 CO calls. There were 11 accidental alarms. Four scheduled drills were held.

There was a large residential fire in the borough resulting from a gas explosion. The structure was a total loss. 2 firefighters were checked out at the hospital but are OK.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Cmsr. Hofacker, seconded by Cmsr. DiFalco and passed, the minutes of the October 15, 2019 meeting were approved.

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 general and capital budgets to pay the bills as presented, on a Motion by Cmsr. DiFalco, seconded by Cmsr. Hofacker and passed, **Resolution 2019-38** - Paying bills in the amount of \$312,549.51 (including \$300.00 payment for bookkeeping services held over from last month and \$300,000.00 payment toward the Pumper), was passed on roll call vote.

OLD BUSINESS

- Pumper Truck
 - Financing – Paperwork submitted to Municipal Asset Management, Inc. for the lease-purchase financing.
 - Progress – The preconstruction meeting went well.
- Sale of Old Aerial – Conversation with an interested party continues.
- SOG's – Under review and awaiting comments.
- Outstanding Pagers – No update.
- Truck registrations – Cmsr. Meytrott to follow up.
- Insurance - Cmsr. Hofacker will prepare a draft policy addressing criteria for off-duty insurance benefits.

- DMV Abstracts – Will be addressed in closed session.

- LOSAP Review – Year end 12-31-18 review was distributed and discussed. On a motion by Cmsr. Hofacker, seconded by Cmsr. DiFalco and passed, **Resolution 2019-39** - Accepting the 2018 LOSAP review was approved by a roll call vote.

2020 BUDGET – The proposed budget shows revenue of \$634,581.00, which includes an amount to be raised by taxation of \$216,923.00, and appropriations of \$634,581.00. The amount to be raised by taxation is within the allowable levy cap and the estimated tax rate is \$0.043, the same as last year. There are no capital expenditures in the budget. The public hearing on the approved 2020 fire district budget will be held at 8 pm at the December 17, 2019 board meeting, after which the budget will be presented for adoption.

On a motion by Cmsr. Hofacker, seconded by Cmsr. DiFalco and passed, the 2020 Fire District Budget was presented for approval.

Resolution 2019-40 – Approval of 2020 Fire District Budget

Aye: Blackwell, Blauth, DiFalco, Hofacker.

Nay: None.

Absent: Meytrott.

NEW BUSINESS

- Rescue Truck : The district will be reimbursed for the cost of repairing the hose bed (lids, angle mount, etc.) by the company that did the hose testing.

 - Requisitions: On a motion by Cmsr. Hofacker, seconded by Cmsr. DiFalco and passed, the following Purchase Orders were ratified and/or approved:
- | | | | | |
|----------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| #2019-80 | Hopewell Township | Fuel | \$ 592.23 | Gas & Oil |
| #2019-81 | 4 Lanes End | Repairs - engine | \$ 401.19 | 05 Truck Repair |
| #2019-82 | European Plus | Battery | \$ 126.95 | 05 Truck Repair |
| #2019-83 | NAPA | Washer fluid,etc. | \$ 30.95 | 05 Truck Repair |
| #2019-84 | NAPA | Speedy Dry | \$ 99.90 | 12 Hazmat |
| #2019-85 | Somerset Cty Training | Pump Ops | \$ 400.00 | 06 Training & Educ |
| #2019-86 | NAPA | Bulbs – tower | \$ 62.46 | 05 Truck Repair |
| #2019-87 | Witmer Public Safety | SCBA flow test | \$1830.00 | 03 FF Equip Repair |

#2019-88	MES	Hurst Tool service	\$3175.00	03 FF Equip Repair
#2019-89	AirPower Int'l.	Cascade service	\$1800.00	03 FF Equip Repair
#2019-90	Continental F&S	2 ea. turnout gear	\$7200.00	02 Turn Out Gear
#2019-91	FireSmart	Children's fire educ. materials	\$ 381.08	01 FF Equipment
#2019-92	Fire Store	LED traffic wands	\$ 190.00	01 FF Equipment
#2019-93	Continental F&S	Hose adapters	\$ 635.00	01 FF Equipment
#2019-94	Witmer Public Safety	Spill kits	\$ 375.00	12 Hazmat
#2019-95	Continental F&S	Hose carry cases	\$ 187.00	01 FF Equipment
#2019-96	Witmer Public Safety	Strainer w/ siphon	\$ 815.00	01 FF Equipment
#2019-97	ASI	Milwaukee tool kit	\$1793.00	01 FF Equipment
#2019-98	Grainger	Storage cabinets	\$1214.00	01 FF Equipment
#2019-99	Grainger	Storage Cabinet	\$ 692.00	01 FF Equipment
#2019-100	Dura-wear Glove&Safety	Hip boots	\$ 894.00	01 FF Equipment

CLOSED SESSION (9:28 p.m.)

On a motion by Cmsr. Hofacker, seconded by Cmsr. DiFalco and passed, **Resolution 2019 - 41** - Authorizing a closed session of the board was approved by roll call vote. The board will reconvene at the conclusion of its closed session.

There was no formal action to be taken at the conclusion of the closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting adjourned at 9:51 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board, including the public hearing on the 2020 budget, will be held at 7:30 p.m. on December 17, 2019.