

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

MINUTES February 21, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Blackwell at 7:42 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, Bill Meytrott and Gene Schooley. Absent: Brian Hofacker. Also present were Chief DeForte, J. Carducci and Attorney Griswold.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a Motion by Cmsr. Meytrott and seconded by Cmsr. DiFalco and passed, the minutes of the January 17, 2017 Regular Meeting and of the January 23, 2017 Special Meeting and public hearing on the 2017 amended budget were approved as presented.

LOSAP Report

The certified list of volunteers indicating those who qualified for LOSAP contributions in 2016 has been posted for member review for at least 30 days with no objection thereto. 63 volunteers earned contributions.

On a motion by Cmsr. Meytrott, seconded by Cmsr. Schooley and passed, **Resolution 2017-12** – Authorizing a periodic cost of living adjustment (0.3%) and payment to the LOSAP Plan Provider of the board's share of the 2016 LOSAP contribution in the amount of \$19,151.87 was passed. (Cmsr's. Blackwell and Schooley each abstained from voting only as to the portion of the payment attributable to each of their individual LOSAP awards).

The board will actively undertake to recoup LOSAP contributions held on account for unvested and inactive members.

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 2016 budget and unencumbered funds in the 2017 budget to pay the bills as presented. The \$19,151.87 LOSAP contribution will be added to the list of bills being paid at this meeting.

On a Motion by Cmsr. Schooley, seconded by Cmsr. Meytrott and passed, **Resolution 2017-13** – Paying total bills in the amount of \$70,667.17 was approved by roll call vote.

CHIEF'S REPORT

There were 40 calls in January, 2017: 9 of them in Pennington Borough, 17 in the Township, 0 in Hopewell Borough and 14 other. Calls included 2 residential, 2 automobile/machinery, 2 gas leaks, 1 CO alarm, and 14 mutual aid calls.

Engine 51 – Repairs completed. Back in service.

Aerial Truck – At Campbell Supply (manufacturer's NJ representative) for testing, prepping, installing radios and equipment, lettering, etc. After delivery to the firehouse at least 2 weeks will be needed for training purposes before it can be put into service.

SCBA Hydro-testing - The bottles require testing at this time. The chief is securing competitive quotes.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

OLD BUSINESS

2017 Election and Budget Referendum: Commissioners Blackwell (18 votes) and Meytrott (17 votes) were re-elected to 3-year seats on the board. Commissioners DiFalco (17 votes) and Holfacker (18 votes) were elected for 2-year terms on the board. There were no write-in ballots cast. The budget passed with 19 'YES' and 0 'NO' votes.

Aerial Truck – Cmsr. Blackwell will finalize the financing.

NEW BUSINESS

I am Responding – The current contract is expiring. This program has been used by the fire department for a number of years and it is a valuable tool for managing volunteer response. On a motion by Cmsr. Schooley, seconded by Cmsr. Meytrott and passed, **Resolution 2017-14** – Authorizing renewal of the I am Responding contract for 5 years, payable annually, was approved by roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

On a Motion by Cmsr. Meytrott and seconded by Cmsr. Schooley, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held at 7:30 p.m. on March 21, 2017.