

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

WALL FIRE DISTRICT NO.1

1612 ROUTE 71

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AUGUST 20, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of Wall Fire District No.1, Board of Fire Commissioner was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with the salute to the flag followed by the announcement of emergency exits by President Davenport.

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, N.J.S.A.10-4-6 et seq. Was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No.1 of the Township of Wall, has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, place and agenda to the extent known thereof posted as follows:

- *Published in the Asbury Park Press December 19, 2019*
- *Published in the Coast Star December 26, 2019*
- *Filed written notice with the Township Clerk on December 17, 2019*
- *Posted written notice on the Official Bulletin Board at the Township Municipal Building Dec. 17, 2019*

ROLL CALL:

President Davenport – Present

Vice President – Hendrickson- Present

Secretary – Stelling – Present

Treasurer – Miles – Present

Commissioner – Curtis – Present

Administrator Newberry and Solicitor Sendzik also in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Commissioner Curtis and second by Commissioner Miles to accept the minutes for approval as submitted. The motion was carried and approved, with all members voting YES.

APPROVAL OF REQUISITIONS, VOUCHERS AND BILLS: Administrator Newberry presented Requisitions for approval; (2) EMS Jump Bags first aid kits at a cost of \$821.50, (2) Defibrillators for a total of \$1,528.00, (1) Akron Intake Valve \$1,622.04, (1) nozzle \$731.95. A motion was made by Commissioner Curtis and second by Commissioner Hendrickson to approve the Requisitions and the bills for payment as submitted. The motion was moved and approved, with all members voting YES.

TREASURER' REPORT: It was reported that the balance in the Ocean First account is \$227,432.69, and the balance in the Investor's account is \$4,731.15. There will a transfer of \$25,000.00 from Ocean First to Investor's Bank. A motion was made by Commissioner Miles and second by Commissioner Stelling to accept the report as submitted. The motion was moved and approved with all members voting YES.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrator Newberry will report to the Board under the New Business portion of the meeting.

COMMITTEES:

1. House Report: There is still an ongoing problem with water drainage in the rear of the Route 71 firehouse. The pit in the rear of the parking lot will have to be pumped out and cleaned.
2. Equipment: A new type of microphone mount was ordered for truck 1-89.
3. Fire Bureau: Administrator Newberry reported that the Bureau is back to full staffing and is looking to hire another administrative assistant. The Bureau is still operating at an \$20,000.00 deficit. The Bureau will resume smoke detector inspections starting on September 9. Year to date the Bureau is at \$221,000 in collected fees.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A.** Capital Improvements – 18th Ave Station = Apron & Building Route 71 = Garage Wall – Administrator Newberry, Commissioner Stelling and Commissioner Hendrickson met and discussed the two projects. It was decided that we should finish one project before undertaking another. All efforts will be put toward completing the new building. The Board has funds available and will cover the labor cost of completing the electrical connection between the new building and the 18th avenue firehouse. All material costs will be covered by the fire company. Once the back building is completed, we will move forward on getting the apron project started. We are looking to go out to bid on the apron project in February and start in April. Administrator Newberry reported that we have architectural drawings for the new file room, and asked the Board for approval to move forward in getting quotations for the work. A motion was made by Commissioner Miles and second by Commissioner Curtis to let Administrator Newberry go out for quotations. The motion was moved and approved with all members voting **YES.**
- B.** NFIRS – Administrator Newberry reported that because the additional work load with taking on District No. 2, he is no longer has the time to continue to process the NFIRS. It was decided by the Board that the responsibility of filing the reports will be turned over to the Chief. It means who ever is Chief it will be their responsibility not a specific individual. They will be given a \$1000 a year stipend and will be required to turn in a monthly report the first Thursday of the month to the Board. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson and second by Commissioner Curtis to moved forward with having the Chief of the fire company complete the NFIRS reports at an annual stipend of \$1000 a year. The motion was moved and approved with all members voting **YES.**
- C.** Vehicle Auction – The auction went well; all vehicles were sold. The 2007 Ford f-150 was high bid at \$9,100. The ambulance went for \$3,500, and the Ford Expedition went for \$2000.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A.** 2021 Election and Budget (Including Capital Projects) – There have been changes to the election process by the New Jersey Governor that has a direct impact on our February election. All general elections will be done by mail in ballots. The Governor has required that the Fire District Election in February, they must send a mail in ballot to everyone that received a mail in ballot in November, and the cost of this is transferred over to us to cover the printing and the mailing. One of the things the State has approved this year, we have the option to move our votes from February to the November General Election. By doing that you are no longer voting on the Budget. Our Budget will be approved by our Board, and as long as long as we stay under the 2% Cap were fine. Solicitor Sendzik explained to the Board in great detail how the whole process would work if our Board decided to move to November. There will be a meeting consisting of 2 Commissioners from each fire district on August 31 to discuss this issue. The results of this meeting will be discussed at the Boards next meeting. Administrator Newberry submitted a preliminary list of Capital Projects to be included in up coming Budget. There will be further discussion and possible adjustments to the numbers and allocation of funds before anything is made final.

- B.** Apparatus Replacement Schedule – The Board discussed the possibility of the possibility of the purchase of a small mini attach pumper. We are not able to go out on a lease purchase project for a new full-size pumper. Our present lease is not up until 2025 and we would not be able to get another lease until then. One option is the sale of truck 1-77 and 1-88 and put the funds from there sale towards a small attack vehicle. These two vehicles very seldom respond to alarms, so they would be the logical one to be sold. The discussion by the Board presented good and bad results for the sale of the 2 vehicles. A Resolution will need to be passed that the 2 apparatus are no longer need for cover purpose and that the Board is going to put them up for sale on Govdeals. A motion was made by Commissioner Hendrickson and second by Commissioner Stelling to approve the Resolution. The motion was moved and approved with all members voting **YES**.
- C.** 2021 Line Officer Requirements – We have a policy in place that requires our Line Officers to have continuing education credits. The policy is very clear that it has to be in person instruction, not on line. The Fire Academy has been closed since March so that has been an impossible achievement. The Board decided to forego the requirement for this year, but it will be back in full effect for next year. A motion was made by Commissioner Curtis and second by Commissioner Miles to forego the policy for this year. The motion was moved and approved with all members voting **YES**.

MISCELLANEOUS: Nothing to report.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

GOOD OF THE BOARD: Nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board at this time the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Norman R. Stelling
Secretary/ Clerk of the Board