

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
WALL FIRE DISTRICT NO.1
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January 21, 2021**

The regular monthly workshop meeting of Wall Fire District No.1, Board of Fire Commissioner was called to order at 7:00 p.m. 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 Sendzek also in attendance.

The meeting was turned over to Administrator Newberry who reported on the following items.

House – the Route 71 garage wall is on track to be constructed. Materials have to be ordered and construction will start shortly after.

Fire Bureau – not much going on there. Progress.

Capital Improvements – it was to be discussed tonight, there was discussion from members of the fire company that they wanted to look at alternatives. They felt there were other ways to take care of the apron project. Administrator Newberry nor the Board should be in the middle of a fire company disagreement, so it was suggested that the fire company settle it at their meeting.

NFIRS – Reports are being taken care of.

Engineer Training Requests: some of the training requests have been completed.

Communications Upgrades – there was a meeting 2 weeks ago with the Police Department, the radio vendor and the 3 Districts. There is progress there and the time frame looks to be 18 months.

Recruitment and Retention Initiates = LOSAP vs. Stipend – The Board had intended on increasing its annual contribution, for this year to the maximum allowed by the State to \$1770. We had far more individuals qualify for the LOSAP program this year. We Budgeted \$22,000, because there was a much larger number of members qualifying, the \$22,000 was not nearly enough. Because of State Regulations, you cannot increase the amount

that was budgeted. Which means we cannot transfer in or out of the LOSAP Line Item. Taking the amount budgeted and the number of qualifiers, we are still able to award the same amount that we have contributed in the past, \$1450.00 per qualifier. Administrator Newberry will announce at the company meeting what is going to take place. Administrator Newberry's proposal is, we ensure the funds are available, when we issue out our clothing allowance check at the end of the year, perhaps the people who qualify for LOSAP and didn't get the full amount, maybe we give an extra \$100 or \$150 on top of the clothing allowance to close up the difference. One option is to put into place a Stipend Program and do away with the LOSAP program or have both and give the members the option of which they want to participate. The advantage of having a Stipend Program is that if the situation happens again, we are permitted to transfer monies into the Stipend Line. Administrator Newberry was given permission by the Board to look into details of a Stipend Program and report back to the Board.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman R. Stelling
Secretary/ Clerk of the Board