

The January 7, 2016 Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners

District #3 in the Township of Hanover

County of Morris, Cedar Knolls, New Jersey

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM on January 7, 2015 in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act of 1975, Chapter 31.

Attendance: Commissioners Robert Callas, Peter DeNigris, Michael Dugan, Maria Florio and Thomas Quirk

Public Participation: There was none.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Commissioner Florio made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Callas to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2015 meeting, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report: There was nothing to report.

Report of the Chief & Board Committees:

- **Chief's Report:** Chief DiGiorgio reviewed his written report with the Commissioners highlighting different activities. The Chief noted, that for the year 2015, the department responded to exactly 2,000 calls.
- **Budget:** Commissioner DeNigris reported that the budget was approved by the State. He reported that the numbers for 2015 should prevent no issues. Commissioner DeNigris commented on several of the line items explaining why they exceeded the budget amount. He expects to have the final report at the next meeting.
- **Labor Relations:** There was lengthy discussion about grammatical errors in the MOA and how to best proceed to correct them for the 2017 contract. The prevailing thought was to highlight grammatical errors and omissions so that everyone looking at the document, going forward, would know where the corrections needed to be.

- **Buildings & Grounds:** Chairman Dugan reported that the roof project was substantially completed with several minor things that needed to be attended to. He noted that the scaffolding company has been paid and it should be coming down in the very near future. Commissioner Dugan outlined the steps that would be needed to conclude the whole project including interaction with the bonding company. There was discussion regarding the bonding company and how much potential exposure still exists and possible remedies on how to handle that.

Chief DiGiorgio reported that the Township Engineering Department has a grant to pave Ridgedale Avenue from Route 10 to Cedar Knolls Road which includes curbing and sidewalks as needed. There was discussion on how best to integrate the Township project and the Fire Department driveway project. There was also discussion on the bidding process. There was also brief discussion on the concept of a short term solution/patch for the driveway apron.

Old Business: There was lengthy discussion regarding the publication of the hiring process. There was much discussion about the time frame in the notification. There was much back and forth as to keeping it as presented versus extending the deadline for submission and how this could or would impact interested candidates. It was decided to leave the time frame at January 18th and see if there were enough responses to comprise “a list” of 3 or more candidates. If there are less than 3 candidates, the Board can extend the date or re-post with other provisions. **A motion was made by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner DeNigris to leave the posting as is -- Four Commissioners in favor, Commissioner Quirk against.**

Chief O’Hare brought up the recruiting incentive program. He noted that member Shirley Bergen would now be entitled to \$100.00 due to the fact that her recruit now satisfies the 6 month criteria. There was discussion that the Board approved the payout as soon as the eligible requirements were met.

The new member, Stefan Schuele, achieved 6 months in January, 2016 making Shirley Bergen eligible for part 1 of the incentive program.

New Business: There was no new business to discuss.

Resolutions: Commissioner Callas read **Resolutions 16-01-07-03, 04, 05** appointing volunteer members, James Davidson, Adriana Gomez, and Mikael Policastro. **A motion was made by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Florio to adopt the resolutions, all in favor.**

Commissioner Callas read **Resolution 16-01-07-06** authorizing the creation of the paid position of Medical Direction/Health and Safety officer – SECOND READING. **A motion was made by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner Florio.** There was no public comment. All Commissioners voted in favor of adopting the resolution.

Commissioner Callas read **Resolution 16-01-07-07** appointing Medical Director – Health & Safety Officer, George Manis. **A motion was made by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner DeNigris to adopt the resolution, all in favor.**

Commissioner Callas read **Resolution 16-01-07-08** assigning 2016 salaries and rates for certain employees. **A motion was made by Commissioner Callas, seconded by Commissioner Dugan to adopt the resolution, all in favor.**

Commissioner Callas read **Resolution 16-01-07-09** authorizing the closing of the meeting pursuant to Open Public Meetings Act to discuss personnel matters. **A motion was made by Commissioner Dugan, seconded by Commissioner DeNigris to adopt the resolution, all in favor.**

The Board came out of Executive Session. There was no action taken as a result of Executive Session.

The Board resumed the regular meeting. There was no other business to discuss and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Robert Callas, Secretary

The above minutes were approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners at a Board Meeting on January 21, 2016.