

March 18, 2021 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 p.m. on March 18, 2021 in accordance with the Public Meeting Act of 1975, Chapter 231. This meeting was held on the Zoom.com platform. The Board observed a moment of silence for all those who have given their lives in service of their communities and nation.

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners Robert Callas, Michael Dugan Sr., Michael Dugan Jr., and Robert O'Hare were present.

Chief DiGiorgio, Administrator Schultz, Lt. Belott, FF Gilson, Fire Co. President Hark Jr., and Thomas Quirk were also in attendance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: Administrator Schultz reported that he received an email this morning from the County Clerk's Office requesting the names and addresses of anyone running for commissioner be sent to the Election Law Enforcement Commission once the petitions have been submitted.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

The minutes from the March 4, 2021 Regular Meeting were reviewed.

Amendments to Previous Minutes: None.

Commissioner Dugan Sr. made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 4, 2021 Regular Meeting. Commissioner Dugan Jr. seconded the motion. All were in favor.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER: Commissioner Dugan Sr. reported that everything is status quo. Commissioner Callas made a motion to approve the Treasurers Report, seconded by Commissioner Dugan Jr. All were in favor.

Report of Fire Commissioner Board Committees and Chief of Department:

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief DiGiorgio submitted his Bi-Monthly on March 16, 2021 and asked if there were any questions. Commissioner O'Hare asked about the comment in the report that advised looking into painting the gables. Chief

DiGiorgio reported that the paint on the gables of the original firehouse appears to be peeling and he feels the Building & Grounds Committee should look into maintaining them.

Chief DiGiorgio noted the following additions to his report:

Chief DiGiorgio reported that this past Monday evening at around 8:45 p.m. Whippany, Cedar Knolls and Morris Township were dispatched to a motor vehicle accident with entrapment and rollover on Rt. 24. Chief DiGiorgio reported that the District had a very good turnout that evening and there were a lot of challenges presented with the incident. Chief DiGiorgio reported that the challenges were the location of the vehicle, the way the vehicle was positioned, two patients that were heavily entrapped, along with other varied concerns. Chief DiGiorgio thanked all the Department members that attended and noted that they did an excellent job with what they were presented with. Chief DiGiorgio noted that it took about 40 minutes to extricate the first patient and another 10 minutes to extricate the second patient. Chief DiGiorgio felt that both patients arrived at the hospital within the golden hour. Chief DiGiorgio reported that he contacted Battalion Chief Perillo and Chief Nunn from the Township to extend his thanks to them. Chief DiGiorgio reported that both patients were still at the hospital in critical condition.

Chief DiGiorgio reported that on Friday the District had to extricate a patient from a vehicle on its side and that on Sunday there was another entrapment / extrication on Rt. 24. Chief DiGiorgio extended his thanks to everyone who responded to these incidents as well.

Chief DiGiorgio reported that the District received an acknowledgement from Millennium that the District will be receiving 100% reimbursement from FEMA for the approximately \$83,000 for the COVID-19 expenses that were submitted.

Chief DiGiorgio reported that he has been working with Commissioner O'Hare to schedule Workplace Conduct Training. Chief DiGiorgio reported that he spoke to Cristina of EnformHR and settled on two manage/officer training sessions along with two other sessions for the remainder of the membership. Chief DiGiorgio reported that the sessions would be held remotely and that Cristina would like to survey the officers prior to the training so that she can tailor the training to

specific needs. Chief DiGiorgio reported that the training should start about mid-April.

EMS: Commissioner O'Hare reported that the Board has received a hardship application. Administrator Schultz reported that the application stated that the individual's husband had died suddenly and that the individual then lost her job due to COVID-19. Administrator Schultz reported that insurance paid a portion of the EMS bill and that paying the remainder would create a hardship for the individual. The EMS Committee recommended approving the application. Commissioner O'Hare made a motion to accept the hardship application, seconded by Commissioner Dugan Sr. All were in favor. Administrator Schultz reported that he would contact the individual and Revenue Guard.

BUDGET: Commissioner Dugan Sr. reported that the District is waiting on the April election to see if the voters approve the 2021 Budget.

PERSONNEL: Commissioner O'Hare reported that need for a brief Executive Session.

NEGOTIATIONS: Commissioner Dugan Sr. reported that the committee met with the FMBA today. Commissioner Dugan Sr. reported that the committee would answer any questions during Executive Session.

LIAISON TO THE VOLUNTEERS: Nothing to report.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Commissioner O'Hare reported that the Board would look at the gables on the firehouse.

Administrator Schultz reported that the District has sent out three bids for landscapers in the past and has received only one reply each year. Administrator Schultz reported that the current landscaper is willing to extend the contract. Administrator Schultz asked if the Board would like to extend the current contract or elicit quotes from other landscapers. Commissioner O'Hare felt that as long as it was proper to do so, the current contract should be extended. Commissioner Dugan Jr. wanted to get a quote from a landscaper in Whippany.

APPARATUS/EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE: Chief DiGiorgio reported that there was nothing beyond what was included in his report.

INSURANCE: Nothing to report.

COMMUNICATIONS: Commissioner O'Hare asked Chief DiGiorgio where the District stood on getting new radios from the county. Chief DiGiorgio reported that the County hoped to start replacing the radios by the end of March but that it will depend on how quickly Motorola, the vendor, and other sub-vendors can start the process. Chief DiGiorgio noted that the current radio system is currently working for the District.

BY-LAWS: Nothing to report.

WEBSITE: Up to date.

PLANNING COMMITTEE: Commissioner Dugan Sr. reported no progress. Administrator Schultz reported that he will send out an email tonight to schedule a meeting.

LIASON TO EXEMPTS: Nothing to report.

RECORDS RETENTION: Commissioner Dugan Sr. reported that there is still one project in progress.

LIAISON TO HANOVER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE: Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner O'Hare reported that at the last meeting Chief DiGiorgio had commented on the swearing in of officers and bringing back the Inspection Dinner on the Friday of Memorial Day weekend. Commissioner O'Hare reported that he contacted the vendor that the District used for the last Inspection Dinner and secured him for that date this May. Commissioner O'Hare noted that he is waiting for a contract and some particulars. Commissioner Dugan Sr. reminded the Board that the 2021 Budget included only \$3,000 for Inspection Day / Public Events. Commissioner O'Hare reported that the bill last time was \$2,700. Chief DiGiorgio noted that in prior years, other refreshments were provided by the Fire Co.

Administrator Schultz asked if the Board would consider holding the BFC meetings in the firehouse bays beginning with the April 1 meeting. Commissioner O'Hare had no problem with returning to in person meetings.

Administrator Schultz reported that the District will need two poll workers for the April 20 election and said he would work with Commissioner Dugan Jr. to find two

people. Chief DiGiorgio asked if the election would be held in the bays this year. Administrator Schultz felt this was a good idea.

REMINDERS:

The next regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners will be held on Thursday, April 1, 2021 at 7:00 P.M at the firehouse.

The next Joint Fire Prevention Board Meeting is to be determined.

Fire District Elections will be held on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 from 2 P.M. until 9 P.M. Administrator Schultz noted that they are to be held in person at the fire station.

The Board's Reorganization Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. at the firehouse.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

RESOLUTIONS: Administrator Schultz asked if there were any objections to approving the resolutions by consent agenda. Commissioner Dugan Jr. made a motion to approve the resolutions by consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner O'Hare. All were in favor.

Administrator Schultz read Resolution 21-03-18-26 authorizing a conditional offer of employment be extended to Volunteer Ficchi.

Administrator Schultz read Resolution 21-03-18-27 appointing P/T EMT Dorman.

Commissioner Dugan Sr. made a motion to introduce the resolutions, seconded by Commissioner Dugan Jr. All were in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Administrator Schultz read Resolution 21-03-18-28 to enter into executive session. Commissioner Callas made a motion to introduce the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Dugan Sr. All were in favor. The Board went into closed session at 7:30 p.m.

Personnel and legal matters were discussed. Action will not be taken.

The Board came out of closed session at 8:08 p.m.

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Commissioner Dugan Sr., seconded by Commissioner O'Hare, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Karen Calabrese, Bookkeeper