

**TOWNSHIP OF PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1
REGULAR MEETING
October 25th, 2023, 7:30 p.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No.1 was called to order at 7:40 PM by Commissioner Berry at the Tarn Drive Firehouse at 909 Tabor Road, Morris Plains, New Jersey.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Berry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. STATEMENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting of October 25, 2023 was included in a list of meetings notice sent to The Daily Record and advertised in said newspaper on December 9, 2022, posted on the bulletin board in the Parsippany-Troy Hills Municipal Building, 1001 Parsippany Boulevard, Parsippany, New Jersey, and the Mount Tabor Firehouse, 909 Tarn Road on December 9, 2022, and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the statute. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Township Clerk and at the Mount Tabor Fire House.

4. ROLL CALL

Commissioners present: Berry, Hazel, Jamieson, Ferdinandi

Commissioners absent: Masker

5. AGENDA REVIEW

President Berry reviewed the agenda for this meeting.

6. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Minutes from the regular September meeting were distributed by Commissioner Hazel to all Commissioners to review prior to this meeting. Minutes from the regular September meeting were approved via a motion by Commissioner Ferdinandi, seconded by Commissioner Jamieson, and carried by unanimous vote.

7. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

No communications were received at this meeting.

8. RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION 2023-03

RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR HOSTED IP PHONE SYSTEM, OVERHEAD PA SOLUTION, AND 2N ACCESS INTERCOM PHONE SYSTEM INTEGRATION TO QUICK COPPER COMMUNICATIONS

This resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Commissioner Berry, Commissioner Ferdinandi, Commissioner Jamieson

Nay: Hazel

RESOLUTION 2023-04

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR AN AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FIREFIGHTER GRANT FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF PROPER PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND CLEANING EQUIPMENT

This resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Commissioner Berry, Commissioner Ferdinandi, Commissioner Hazel, Commissioner Jamieson

Nay: --

RESOLUTION 2023-05

RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF FIRE DISTRICT #1 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PARSIPPANY TROY-HILLS IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING A PROPERTY TAX CAP LEVY REFERENDUM

This resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Commissioner Berry, Commissioner Hazel, Commissioner Jamieson

Nay: Commissioner Ferdinandi

It is noted that the commissioners will want to pursue legal counsel to obtain clarity regarding restrictions placed on members of the Mount Tabor Volunteer Fire Department who would wish to seek part-time employment as per diem firefighters with respect to this property tax cap levy referendum and still volunteer their time as members of the Mount Tabor Volunteer Fire Department.

Also, while all dollar values are accurate, percentage values are subject to revision pending analysis.

9. REPORTS

i. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's monthly report for September 2023 declaring operating expenses of \$84,824.61 was read and distributed for all Commissioners to review.

Significant expenses included \$11,385.00 to the Morris County Treasurers Office for the dispatching services; \$11,293.18 to Phoenix for lighting upgrades and repairs; and \$10,796.69 to FF1 for turnout gear and new truck supplies.

The Treasurer's monthly report was approved via a motion by Commissioner Hazel, seconded by Commissioner Jamieson, and carried by unanimous vote.

ii. Truck Report

Tower 11 - 1995 truck is gone as of 10/24, new Tower coming June/July 2024.

Engine 13 - Camera system was fixed.

Rescue 14 – Lights have been upgraded by Deputy 1. Phoenix will be looking at the truck in November for the air leak.

iii. Radio Report

No assigned PD Dispatch supervisor assigned.

iv. Insurance Report

We received the Risk assessment report from the insurance company. It includes several recommendations including checking driver records through the NJ MVC and formal accident reviews to discuss how to avoid future accidents.

Tower 11 is now off the insurance policy. We will receive a credit for old Car 19 which was sold.

v. Purchasing Report

No report.

vi. Fire Prevention

The MTVFD's open house did not see a large turnout.

vii. Joint Board Meeting Report

There have been efforts to engage the Town Council to assist with supporting emergency service volunteers.

viii. Chief's Report

342 Calls to date; 84 have been mutual aid given.

Upcoming events: 10/26 - Elevator Awareness, 10/29 - Elevator Ops, 11/6 - Elevator Ops, 11/2 - Cancer Prevention (Capt DeStefano), 11/16 - Class A Burn (Morris Academy)

Three members are currently in the Fire Inspector Class. NFIRS will be transitioning to ESO – online training required. Chiefs are interested in attending ESO Wave Conference in April 2024.

Chief Crawford met with a grant writer. A resolution was drafted to formally pursue the grant which will seek to obtain turnout gear, a gear washer, and SCBA masks.

Manpower: Member average of calls is 29% (not including still alarms). Member average overall is 36%. Averaging 8 members per call (not all interior). Averaging 5.7 members on apparatus per call. Averaging 2.3 members per apparatus (not including Chief Vehicles). Averaging 3 members at the building per call (not on apparatus)

Biggest Hurdles right now: Inconsistent response from members. Lacking interior firefighters on apparatus. Spread out due to geographical difficulties. Recruitment results are inadequate despite expanding and increasing efforts – no new applications.

New shift schedule criteria will be in effect for November:

Shifts will consist of 4 hour blocks from Monday through Friday 06:00 - 22:00, ending at 18:00 on Thursdays. Members must be at the Tarn drive firehouse. Crews will consist of 1 Driver, 1 Officer (acting), and 1 FF at a minimum with a 2nd firefighter and/or exterior position allowed in addition. The incentive scale will be 1 credit per every 2 hours.

Tasks will be assigned each shift with a junior officer responsible for the administration of each day's shifts. Chiefs will not sign up unless deemed necessary based on manpower. The uniform for each shift member will be department shirt.

Personnel on shift will not receive call/event credit for calls/events while on shift. No-shows will not get credit.

10. INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments presented.

11. APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE

A motion to pay pending bills was made by Commissioner Hazel, seconded by Commissioner Jamieson, and carried by unanimous vote.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session took place at this meeting.

13. OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Jamieson makes a motion to spend \$642.20, the state contract rate, on the replacement of a radio speaker mic if deemed necessary by the officers. The motion is seconded by commissioner Ferdinandi and passed via unanimous vote.

14. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed at this meeting.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, a motion to close was made by Commissioner Jamieson, seconded by Commissioner Jamieson, and carried by unanimous vote at 8:48 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gerard Hazel

Commissioner