

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING VIA ZOOM  
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO.1  
THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was held on June 25, 2020 remotely via Zoom at 6:00 PM.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER / STATEMENT OF NOTICE**

Vice-Chairman Burd called the meeting to order and stated that the notice of the meeting had been posted on the Hopewell Township Municipal Bulletin Board and forwarded to the Hopewell Valley News and Times of Trenton, and had been posted on the Hopewell Township Fire District Web-Site in accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meeting Act.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice-Chairman Burd.

**ROLL CALL**

Vice-Chairman Burd - Present  
 Treasurer Lynch - Present  
 Commissioner Tackacs - Present

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION 2020-36: A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF MICHAEL CHIPOWSKY FROM THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

**WHEREAS**, Michael Chipowsky was duly elected to the Board of Fire Commissioners; and  
**WHEREAS**, Michael Chipowsky elected to resign his term as of June 11, 2020.  
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Fire Commissioners, Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1, accepts the resignation of Michael Chipowsky as of June 11, 2020.

**RECORD OF BOARD VOTE ON PASSAGE**

Commissioner	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Tackacs		X	X			
Lynch	X		X			
Burd			X			

**RESOLUTION 2020-37: A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF MICHAEL CSEREMSAK FROM THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

**WHEREAS**, Michael Cseremsak was duly elected to the Board of Fire Commissioners; and  
**WHEREAS**, Michael Cseremsak elected to resign his term as of June 17, 2020.  
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Fire Commissioners, Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1, accepts the resignation of Michael Cseremsak as of June 17, 2020.

**RECORD OF BOARD VOTE ON PASSAGE**

Commissioner	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Tackacs		X	X			
Lynch	X		X			
Burd			X			

**EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION 2020-38**

Treasurer Lynch moved and Commissioner Tackacs seconded to enter executive session at 6:04 PM to discuss personnel and hold interviews for the open commissioner positions.

The Board re-entered open session at 7:09 PM.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION 2020-39: A RESOLUTION APPOINTING INTERIM FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

**WHEREAS**, Fire Commissioner and Board Chairman Michael Chipowsky resigned from the Board of Fire Commissioners effective June 11, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, Fire Commissioner and Board Secretary Michael Cseremsak resigned from the Board of Fire Commissioners effective June 17, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:14-70, any vacancy in the membership shall be filled by the remaining members until the next succeeding annual election, held at the time of the general election, at which time a resident of the district shall be elected for the unexpired term; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board advertised for interested residents to fill the vacancies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board conducted interviews on June 25, 2020 to fill the vacancies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has selected Bryan Malkiewicz and Cosmo Tomaro to serve as interim Fire Commissioner with terms expiring December 1, 2020.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Fire Commissioners in the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, New Jersey, that the following are appointed to serve as interim fire commissioners until the next succeeding election, with terms ending on December 1, 2020.

- A. Bryan Malkiewicz
- B. Cosmo Tomaro

**RECORD OF BOARD VOTE ON PASSAGE**

Commissioner	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Tackacs		X	X			
Lynch	X		X			
Burd			X			

Attorney Kevin Hart swore in Bryan Malkiewicz and Cosmo Tomaro as commissioners for the Board of Fire Commissioners, Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1.

**REORGANIZATION OF BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

Vice-Chairman Burd moved and Commissioner Tackacs seconded to nominate Tim Lynch for the position of Chairman.

Chairman Lynch moved and Commissioner Malkiewicz seconded to nominate Erick Burd for the position of Vice-Chairman.

Chairman Lynch moved and Erick Burd seconded to nominate Bryan Malkiewicz for the position of Treasurer.

Vice-Chairman Burd moved and Treasurer Malkiewicz seconded to nominate Cosmo Tomaro for the position of Secretary.

Vice-Chairman Burd moved and Chairman Lynch seconded to nominate Augustine Tackacs for the position of Commissioner at Large.

Burd moved minutes from 1/2/20.

The Board discussed that there is no quorum of the Board that was present at any of the meetings for which minutes have been presented. Attorney Hart and the Board discussed the matter and decided to add a disclaimer to each set of meeting minutes indicating that due to the resignation of two Board Members, the minutes were reviewed and approved by the existing Board members even if they were not present at the meeting.

Vice Chairman Burd moved and Chairman Lynch seconded to approve all the minutes presented with such a disclaimer. Chairman Lynch held a roll call and the motion passed with two abstentions from Secretary Tomaro and Treasurer Malkiewicz.

**RESOLUTION 2020-40: A RESOLUTION INCREASING THE BID THRESHOLD TO \$44,000**

**WHEREAS**, effective July 1, 2020, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3(c) the Governor has authorized an adjustment to bid thresholds for contracting units subject to the Local Public Contracts Law which allows local governments with a qualified purchasing agent to increase their bid threshold to a maximum of \$44,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1 passed Resolution 2015-37 appointing Sarah Ocicki to serve as the qualified purchasing agent on August 27, 2015;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Fire Commissioners, Hopewell Township, Mercer County, New Jersey that the Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1's bid threshold for award of public contracts without public bidding has been increased to \$44,000.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the quote threshold shall be increased to \$6,600, or 15% of the bid threshold.

**RECORD OF BOARD VOTE ON PASSAGE**

Commissioner	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Burd	X		X			
Tackacs		X	X			
Malkiewicz			X			
Tomaro			X			
Lynch			X			

The Board discussed the bid threshold law.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Malkiewicz read the summary of the Bills and Claims dated June 25, 2020 and was seconded by Secretary Tomaro. Vice-Chairman Burd reported on the notable bills. A roll call vote was held and the following amounts were authorized:

Bill List:		\$32,800.41
Payroll Ending:	June 20, 2020	\$50,844.21
Total Disbursements:		\$83,644.62

**PUBLIC COMMENT (NON AGENDA)**

Chief Pedersen congratulated the new commissioners. Chairman Lynch reported that he and Chief Pedersen had a meeting scheduled with the tanker vendor to discuss the tanker issues.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION 2020-41**

Vice-Chairman Burd moved and was seconded by Treasurer Malkiewicz to enter Executive Session at 7:24 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Vice-Chairman Burd motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Treasurer Malkiewicz at 8:25 PM. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Sarah Ocicki  
Purchasing Agent