

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO.1
THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was held on June 25, 2015 at the Hopewell Township Municipal Services Building Titusville New Jersey at 7:02 PM.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER / STATEMENT OF NOTICE

Chairman Chipowsky 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, Times of Trenton, and had been placed 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 Chairman Chipowsky.

ROLL CALL BY CHAIRMAN

Present:

Chairman Chipowsky, Vice-Chairman Lenarski, Treasurer Cseremsak, Secretary Lynch

Absent:

Commissioner Kintzel

Also Present:

Clerk Heather Varrasse, Captain Jack Ferrara, Trustee Matthew Pollock, Chief Matthew Martin, Specialist Andrew Fosina

MINUTES SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL

None

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA)

None

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 2015-32

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE APPLICATION FOR ASHLEY R. COBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP INTO THE N.J. STATE FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1 wishes to accept the application of Ashley R. Coble for membership into the N.J. Fireman's Association; and

WHEREAS, Ashley R. Coble, 762 River Rd, Apt 2, Ewing, New Jersey 08628, has applied for membership in the N.J. Fireman's Association; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to accept this application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Fire Commissioners of Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1 authorizes the District Secretary to execute the application of Ashley R. Coble for membership into the N.J. Fireman's Association.

The resolution was moved by Vice-Chairman Lenarski and seconded by Treasurer Cseremsak. The motion to pass the resolution carried.

RESOLUTION 2015-33

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS TO SIGN A CONFIDENTIAL SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND MUTUAL RELEASE WITH MUMFORD-BJORKMAN ASSOCIATES, INC.

WHEREAS, a confidential settlement agreement and mutual release has been submitted to Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1 by Mumford-Bjorkman Associates, Inc; and

WHEREAS, legal counsel has reviewed the agreement and recommends that the Board execute the contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Fire Commissioners of Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1, County of Mercer, authorizes the Chairman to execute the Settlement Agreement.

The resolution was moved by Secretary Lynch and seconded by Treasurer Cseremsak. The motion to pass the resolution carried.

RESOLUTION 2015-34

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CERTIFIED LIST OF ELIGIBLE VOLUNTEERS FROM THE PENNINGTON FIRST AID SQUAD FOR THE LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2014

WHEREAS, the board is in receipt of a certified list of eligible volunteers from the Pennington First Aid Squad for the Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) for the calendar year 2014; and,

WHEREAS, the board finds the list acceptable and approves the list to be posted for thirty days; and,

WHEREAS, after the 30-day posting, contributions shall be deposited in the LOSAP accounts for the eligible volunteers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Fire District No. 1 in the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer that the certified list of eligible volunteers from the Pennington First Aid Squad for the Length of Service Award Program for the calendar year 2014 is acceptable and approved; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the approved list be posted at the Pennington First Aid Squad for thirty days; after such time, the individual volunteer accounts shall be funded as indicated on the approved list.

The resolution was moved by Secretary Lynch and seconded by Treasurer Cseremsak. The motion to pass the resolution carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Cseremsak read the summary of the Bills and Claims dated June 25, 2015 and was seconded by Secretary Lynch. Chief of Emergency Services Martin provided a report on the disbursements for consideration by the Board. A roll call vote was held and the following amounts were authorized:

Bill List:		\$18,219.40
Payroll Ending:	June 13, 2015	\$36,877.60
Total Disbursements:		\$55,097.00

UNFINISHED BUSINESS**A. EMS BILLING:**

Secretary Lynch provided the Board with a memorandum related to the establishing of a billing program for emergency medical services calls for the Hopewell Valley Emergency Services Unit and the Union Fire Company & Rescue. The Board and Chief Martin discussed emergency medical services billing.

B. WATER STUDY:

Chief Martin reported on the repair of a stand pipe. The Board and Chief Martin discussed the pond located off of Mercer County Route 546.

C. FIRE DISTRICT BUILDING PROJECT:

The Board discussed the current accommodations for the Hopewell Valley Emergency Services Unit located in the basement of the Hopewell Township Municipal Building. Secretary Lynch will follow up on the feasibility of hiring a professional to look into improvements to the work spaces for the Hopewell Valley Emergency Services Unit located at the Hopewell Township Municipal Services Building.

E. COMMUNICATIONS:

No report.

F. UFCRS SPRINKLER SYSTEM:

Chief Martin asked the Board to review documents pertaining to the hiring of a professional engineer for work related to the sprinkler tank at the Union Fire Company & Rescue Squad.

G. VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT:

Chief Martin reported on social media postings. Chief Martin also reported that the Hopewell Fire Department and Emergency Medical Unit would be attempting recruiting at a food truck program in Hopewell Borough. The Board, Chief Martin, and Trustee Pollock discussed options for the recruitment program.

H. REPLACEMENT AMBULANCE:

Chief Martin reported on the status of joining the cooperative purchasing program and the closing on the loan for the ambulance. Chief Martin answered questions from the Board regarding the specifications for the ambulance.

I. PENNINGTON FIRE COMPANY REPLACEMENT LADDER TRUCK:

Chief Martin reported on information gathered at the request of the Board from the Pennington Borough Fire District related to the replacement ladder truck.

HOPEWELL VALLEY EMERGENCY SERVICES UNIT REPORT

Chief of Emergency Services Martin reported on the annual safety stand down day and extrication training completed by the Hopewell Valley Emergency Services Unit. Chief Martin reported on a public relations event and graduation ceremony attended by the Hopewell Valley Emergency Services Unit.

UNION FIRE COMPANY AND RESCUE SQUAD REPORT

Chief of Emergency Services Martin reported on fleet maintenance on behalf of the Union Fire Company & Rescue Squad.

PENNINGTON FIRST AID SQUAD

A report was provided by Pennington First Aid Squad member Heather Varrasse that the Squad would be attending the annual Hopewell Township fireworks show.

HOPEWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT AND EMU REPORT

Clerk Varrasse reported on a public relations event and fleet maintenance.

PENNINGTON FIRE COMPANY REPORT

No report.

PUBLIC COMMENT (NON AGENDA)

Trustee Pollock, the Board, Clerk Varrasse and Chief Martin discussed a communications matter. Trustee Pollock asked questions of the Board related to emergency medical services billing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION:

The resolution was moved by Treasurer Cseremsak and seconded by Vice-Chairman Lenarski. The motion to pass the resolution carried. Chairman Chipowsky advised the Board would be entering Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

ADJOURNMENT:

Treasurer Cseremsak motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Secretary Lynch at 7:49 PM. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew G. Martin
Chief of Emergency Services