

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO.1
THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was held on April 9, 2015 at the Hopewell Township Municipal Services Building Titusville New Jersey at 7:00 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, Secretary Lynch, Commissioner Kintzel

Absent: Treasurer Cseremsak

Also Present: Chief Morehouse (Hopewell Fire Department and Emergency Medical Unit), President Schafer, Vice President Fosina, Treasurer Williams (Hopewell Valley Uniformed Firefighters Association Local 3897), Captain Ferrara (Pennington First Aid Squad) Trustee Pollock (Pennington Fire Company), Chief Martin, Lieutenant Moore, Administrative Assistant Ocicki (Hopewell Township Fire District No.1) Attorney Hart

MINUTES SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL

Secretary Lynch motioned to accept the November 6, 2014 Regular Session Minutes, and was seconded by Vice-Chairman Lenarski. The motion carried and the minutes were accepted.

Secretary Lynch motioned to accept the November 13, 2014 Regular and Executive Session Minutes, and was seconded by Vice-Chairman Lenarski. The motion carried and the minutes were accepted.

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA)

None

Chairman Chipowsky advised that the Board would be entering an Executive Session upon the arrival of the Fire District Attorney to discuss a bargaining unit contract.

NEW BUSINESS

A resolution will be presented after the Executive Session.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Kintzel read the summary of the Bills and Claims dated April 9, 2015 and was seconded by Vice-Chairman Lenarski. 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:		\$74,729.46
Payroll Ending:	April 4, 2015	\$36,315.28
Total Disbursements:		\$111,044.74

UNFINISHED BUISNESS

A. EMS BILLING:

Secretary Lynch reported on progress related to EMS billing.

B. WATER STUDY:

Chief Martin reported that a meeting scheduled with the Township Administrator/Engineer to discuss the installation of stand pipes was cancelled and will need to be rescheduled.

C. FIRE DISTRICT BUILDING PROJECT:

No report.

E. COMMUNICATIONS:

Chief Martin reported on testing of dispatching of F1 with the Union Fire Company & Rescue Squad and Mercer County Communications. Chief Martin reported on the possibility of patching of North Response 1 with the Hopewell Ops Frequency. Discussion occurred with Board Members, Chief Martin, Trustee Pollock and Captain Ferrara related to the communications system.

F. UFCRS SPRINKER SYSTEM:

Chief Martin asked that discussion occur when Attorney Hart is present to discuss the bid for the repairs to the sprinkler tank.

G. VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT:

Chief Martin reported on social media posting, a recruitment opportunity at the Hopewell Valley Central High School, and a Mothers Day campaign related to mothers who volunteer in Hopewell Valley.

H. REPLACEMENT AMBULANCE:

Discussion on the Local Finance Board Application and the upcoming Local Finance Board Meeting. Chief Martin reported on an upcoming meeting with interested parties related to the specifications for the ambulance. The Board and Chief Martin discussed the new ambulance and its use by career personnel and volunteer personnel.

I. PENNINGTON FIRE COMPANY REPLACEMENT LADDER TRUCK:

Trustee Pollock reported on the status of the development of specifications for the replacement ladder truck. Concern was raised from the Board related to communication between the Pennington Fire Company, Pennington Borough Fire District, and the Hopewell Township Board of Fire Commissioners regarding the involvement of the Township Board on the specifications of the replacement ladder truck.

HOPEWELL VALLEY EMERGENCY SERVICES UNIT REPORT

Chief of Emergency Services Martin provided a report on the activities of the Hopewell Valley Emergency Services Unit. Chief Martin reminded the Board Members that the annual requirement for the completion of financial disclosure notices were required. Chief Martin reported that the financial audit was complete and was in an internal review with the auditing firm, and work was continuing on the LOSAP review. Chief Martin provided a brief report on the audit, surplus position of the fire district. Chief Martin reported on a district bank account and the receipt of the quarter 1 tax funds from Hopewell Township. Chief Martin and Administrative Assistant Ocicki were thanked by the Board for their efforts related to the audit and LOSAP review.

Chairman Chipowsky advised that the Board would be entering Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION:

The Board entered Executive Session to discuss a contactual matter. Secretary Lynch motioned to enter Executive Session and was seconded by Vice-Chairman Lenarski at 7:15 PM. Motion Carried.

The Board re-entered open session 7:21 PM.

RESOLUTION 2015-24

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD CHAIRMAN AND TO
ENTER INTO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE HOPEWELL
VALLEY UNIFORMED FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION LOCAL 3897 OF THE
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS AFL-CIO-CLC**

WHEREAS, the Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1, Board of Fire Commissioners recognizes the Hopewell Valley Uniformed Firefighters Association Local 3897 of the International Association of Firefighters AFL-CIO-CLC as the bargaining unit for certain employees of the Hopewell Township Fire District No.1; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners and the Hopewell Valley Uniformed Firefighters Association Local 3897 of the International Association of Firefighters AFL-CIO-CIC agreed to certain terms and conditions as part of the Collective Bargaining Agreement; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners and the Hopewell Valley Uniformed Firefighters Association Local 3897 of the International Association of Firefighters AFL-CIO-CLC now desire to enter into a formal Collective Bargaining Agreement for the period January 1, 2015 until December 31, 2017; and,

WHEREAS, the Collective Bargaining Agreement has been reviewed by the Hopewell Township Board of Fire Commissioner’s attorney;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1 Board of Fire Commissioners that the Chairman and Vice -Chairman of the Board, be hereby authorized to execute said Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Hopewell Valley Uniformed Firefighters Association Local 3897 of the International Association of Firefighters AFL-CIO-CLC.

The resolution was moved by Commissioner Kintzel and seconded by Vice-Chairman Lenarski. The motion to pass the resolution carried. The Chairman expressed his appreciation to the officers of the Hopewell Valley Uniformed Firefighters Association Local 3897 for the work on the contract.

UNION FIRE COMPANY AND RESCUE SQUAD REPORT

No report.

PENNINGTON FIRST AID SQUAD

Captain of the Pennington First Aid Squad Ferrara provide the Squad's latest calls for service statistics. Captain Ferrara reported on an out of service ambulance and mutual aid. Captain Ferrara answered questions from the Board on call volume. Captain Ferrara, Specialist Fosina, and the Board discussed a faculty within the Township.

HOPEWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT AND EMU REPORT

Chief Morehouse reported on the most recent call statistics and a concern over a communications issue. Chief Morehouse also reported on the fire department, pancake breakfast, and the Hopewell Borough Fire District meeting. Vice-Chairman Lenarski asked that the communications issue is reported in the proper manner to the Mercer County Communications Center.

PENNINGTON FIRE COMPANY REPORT

Trustee Pollock reported that the building addition was approved. Vice-Chairman Lenarski reported that Pennington Borough received an award from New Jersey Family Magazine.

PUBLIC COMMENT (NON AGENDA)

None

Chief Martin asked that Administrative Assistant Ocicki discuss the bid for the repairs to the sprinkler tank at the Union Fire Company & Rescue Squad. Administrative Assistant Ocicki and Chief Martin provided a detailed background and requested permission to utilize the purchasing regulation to negotiate with a vendor to perform the work. Attorney Hart discussed the matter and indicated that he would follow up with Administrative Assistant Ocicki.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Kintzel motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Secretary Lynch at 7:37 PM. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew G. Martin
Chief of Emergency Services