

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING  
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO.1  
THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was held on April 23, 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,

Absent: Commissioner Kintzel

Also Present: Clerk Varrasse (Hopewell Fire Department and Emergency Medical Unit), Captain Ferrara (Pennington First Aid Squad) Chief Deforte, Trustee Pollock (Pennington Fire Company), Chief Martin, Administrative Assistant Ocicki (Hopewell Township Fire District No.1) Attorney Hart

**MINUTES SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA)**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION 2015-25**

**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING EMERGENCY SERVICES WEEK**

**WHEREAS**, emergency medical services, or EMS, is a vital public service; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of EMS teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

**WHEREAS**, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

**WHEREAS**, the EMS system consists of emergency physicians, emergency nurses, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, first responders, emergency medical dispatchers, educators, administrators and others; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of EMS teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

**WHEREAS**, emergency medical services are provided to the residents of the Township of Hopewell by the Union Fire Company and Rescue Squad, Pennington First Aid Squad, Pennington Fire Company, Hopewell Fire Department and Emergency Medical Unit, Hopewell Valley Emergency Services, Capital Health Emergency Medical Services, and Hopewell Township Police Department; and

**WHEREAS**, it is appropriate to recognize the value and accomplishments of EMS providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Commissioners of Fire District No. 1 in the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, that May 17, 2015, through May 23, 2015, be recognized as Emergency Medical Services Week, with the theme “EMS Strong”.

The resolution was moved by Treasurer Cseremsak and seconded by Vice-Chairman Lenarski. The motion to pass the resolution carried. The Chairman expressed his appreciation to all who provide emergency medical services care in Hopewell Valley.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Treasurer Cseremsak read the summary of the Bills and Claims dated April 23, 2015 and was seconded by Vice-Chairman Lenarski. Chief of Emergency Services Martin provided a report on the disbursements for consideration by the Board. Chief Martin answered a question from Vice-Chairman Lenarski related to an AED maintenance contract and a tire issue. A roll call vote was held and the following amounts were authorized:

Bill List:		\$13,049.26
Payroll Ending:	April 18, 2015	\$46,918.03
Total Disbursements:		\$59,967.29

**UNFINISHED BUISNESS**

**A. EMS BILLING:**

Secretary Lynch reported on progress related to EMS billing.

**B. WATER STUDY:**

Chief Martin reported on standpipe inspections, a meeting with the Township Administrator/Engineer that is being rescheduled and answered questions from Chairman Chipowsky related to an out of service fire hydrant.

**C. FIRE DISTRICT BUILDING PROJECT:**

The Board discussed the building project. Chief Martin reported on a generator that is available via a grant for the proposed building.

**E. COMMUNICATIONS:**

Chief Martin reported on the simulcasting of NR 1 on the Hopewell Ops frequency and answered questions on the simulcasting. The Board discussed the new radio system and questioned officers present.

**F. UFCRS SPRINKLER SYSTEM:**

Administrative Assistant Ocicki and Attorney Hart discussed the bid for the repairs of the sprinkler tank. The Board discussed with Attorney Hart, Assistant Ocicki, and Chief Martin the repairs to the sprinkler tank, method of completing the repairs, and the professional assistance needed to re-bid the project. After a discussion it was decided that a professional engineer is hired to assist with the technical aspects of the repairs and assistance needed with the formulation of a new bid for the repairs.

**G. VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT:**

Chief Martin reported on social media posting, a mothers day campaign, and materials being provided by the Pennington Fire Company at Pennington Day. Discussion occurred on feedback from the volunteer companies on the success of the program and interest from another community in the recruitment program.

**H. REPLACEMENT AMBULANCE:**

Chief Martin reported on his attendance at the Local Finance Board Meeting and its approval of the ambulance loan.

**I. PENNINGTON FIRE COMPANY REPLACEMENT LADDER TRUCK:**

Vice-Chairman Lenarski reported that he had received a copy of the specifications from Chief Deforte. Chief Deforte and the Board discussed the specifications and the replacement of the ladder truck. The Board and Chief Deforte also discussed the use of the apparatus.

**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 reported that staff attended a meeting of the Mercer County Youth Firesetters Meeting, the Mercer County Fire Protection and Prevention Association Meeting, and the Mercer County Regional Emergency Medical Services Association Meeting. There is a meeting with Ewing Township that has been scheduled to discuss emergency medical services and the audit exit conference has been scheduled. Chief Martin also reported that the Pennington Fire Company has requested that a member of its company perform a student internship with the Hopewell Valley Emergency Services Unit.

**UNION FIRE COMPANY AND RESCUE SQUAD REPORT**

Discussion occurred on attendance at the Fire Department Instructors Conference.

**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 mutual aid and a CPR save. Captain Ferrara answered questions from the Board on call volume and the CPR save. Captain Ferrara reported on a recent wide area search and answered a question from the Board on the replacement ambulance.

**HOPEWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT AND EMU REPORT**

No report.

**PENNINGTON FIRE COMPANY REPORT**

Chief Deforte reported on the Pennington Fire Companies most recent calls for service statistics and answered questions from the Board on mutual aid calls.

Captain Ferrara reported on the Pennington First Aid Squad EMT class graduation.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (NON AGENDA)**

Vice-Chairman Lenarski reported on the upcoming Mercer County Fireman's Association Memorial Service held on May 6, 2015. Chief Martin was asked to make sure notice was provided of the Memorial services.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION:**

The Board entered Executive Session to discuss a contactual matter. Secretary Lynch motioned to enter Executive Session and was seconded by Treasurer Cseremsak. Motion Carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Secretary Lynch motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Treasurer Cseremsak at 7:57 PM. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew G. Martin  
Chief of Emergency Services