

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING  
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO.1  
THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was held on April 27, 2023 in person and via Zoom at 7:00 PM.

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

Chairperson 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 Chairperson Burd.

**ROLL CALL**

Chairperson Burd-	Present
Vice-Chairperson Novak-	Present
Secretary Jones-	Present
Treasurer Tomaro-	Present
Commissioner Rodriguez-	Present

**MINUTES SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL**

Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes for 4/13/2023 attended by all Commissioners were submitted and approved. Commissioner Jones made the motion and Commissioner Novak seconded.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA):** None

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

**BILLS & CLAIMS**

April 27, 2023

Authorized cash disbursements requiring approval for payment of bills in the following amounts:

Bill List		\$82,609.24
Pay Date	April 27, 2023	\$56,614.97
Total Disbursements:		\$139,224.21

Commissioner Tomaro mentioned the notable bills.

**RECORD OF BOARD VOTE ON PASSAGE**

Commissioner	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Tomaro	X		X			
Jones			X			
Rodriguez			X			
Novak		X	X			
Burd			X			

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS | WORK SESSION | SUB COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS**

- A. **Volunteer Recruitment:** Commissioner Jones has received access to website and will update.
- B. **EMS Billing & Department of Health Licensing:** Ordinance was submitted to the Township Committee, they have a few questions.
- C. **EMS – Hopewell Valley:** Working on hosting an Operations meeting with Central to continue to address issues that arise and include Count Commissioner, Capital Health and Valley EMS Chiefs.
- D. **Development in Hopewell Valley:** no report
- E. **Shared Services Agreements:** no report
- F. **Future Tax Referendum:** Commissioners would like to receive a report for a 5-year projection of career staff.
- G. **American Recovery Act Funds | Funding from Hopewell Township:** no report
- H. **TS-53 Replacement | Vehicle Replacement:** Can not be purchased in 2023, Truck from Rocky Hill is now listed on GovDeals. Working on MOU for the three Valley Districts regarding an easier transition of equipment needed to be borrowed between the municipalities.
- I. **Tanker 53-1:** Resolution has been drafted and under review by Mr. Hart
- J. **Fire Safety Trailer:** no report
- K. **Fire/EMS Study:** Commissioners will advise the Township they do not have the funds available to outlay to be reimbursed for the study.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION 2023-39  
A RESOLUTION CANCELLING CERTAIN CAPITAL APPROPRIATION  
BALANCES OF PROJECTS LISTED BELOW**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1 has determined that certain Capital Improvement appropriation balances remain dedicated for the fire sprinkler project; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to formally cancel said balances so that the unexpended balances may be returned to Surplus.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1 that the following unexpended and dedicated balances of Capital Improvement Appropriations are hereby cancelled to the respective fund balances as listed below:

2018 Special Improvement Authorization:

\$647.55 cancelled to General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance

2021 Special Improvement Authorization:

\$579,000.00 cancelled to General Fund Restricted Fund Balance - Capital Projects

\$196,842.67 cancelled to General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1 that the amount of such unexpended Capital Improvements be cancelled from the Capital Projects Fund.

**RECORD OF BOARD VOTE ON PASSAGE**

Commissioner	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Tomaro			X			
Jones	X		X			
Rodriguez, Jr.			X			
Novak		X	X			
Burd			X			

**RESOLUTION 2023-40**

**A RESOLUTION URGING CAPITAL HEALTH TO STAGE A STAFFED ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT UNIT AT THEIR FACILITIES LOCATED AT 2480 PENNINGTON ROAD, HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP, NJ**

**WHEREAS**, Capital Health currently stages a 911 24 hour staffed Basic Life Support (BLS) Ambulance at their facility located at 2480 Pennington Road, Hopewell Township, Mercer County, New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, current locations of Capital Health’s Advanced Life Support (ALS) Units have an over 20-minute response time to the residents of Hopewell Township, Mercer County, New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, without quick onsite ALS response times, patient outcomes could be diminished; and lives could be jeopardized; and

**WHEREAS**, staging an ALS Unit at 2480 Pennington Road, Hopewell Township, Mercer County, New Jersey would drastically reduce emergency response times to the residents of Hopewell Township, Mercer County, New Jersey.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1 have made a formal urgent request to Capital Health to locate a Staffed Advanced Life Support Unit at 2480 Pennington Road, Hopewell Township, Mercer County, New Jersey to better protect the lives of the residents of Hopewell Township, Mercer County, New Jersey.

**RECORD OF BOARD VOTE ON PASSAGE**

Commissioner	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Tomaro		X	X			
Jones	X		X			
Rodriguez, Jr.			X			
Novak			X			
Burd			X			

**PUBLIC COMMENT (NON AGENDA):**

Commissioner Jones discussed the Swiftwater equipment purchased by Station 52 through a donation received. Discussed hosting a Valley-wide Swiftwater meeting with all departments. The next step is to work on preventing water rescues through installing gates and other preventive measures to stop vehicles from traveling in flooded roadways. Involve Township Committee, OEM Coordinator and Engineer to begin process of evaluating roads and gates/barriers. Federal funding may be available from FEMA to assist with costs, grants are listed on the Mercer County website.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board of Fire Commissioners went into closed session at 7:32 pm.

**RESOLUTION 2023-41  
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**WHEREAS** the Open Public Meetings Act permits the Board of Fire Commissioners of Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1 to exclude the public from a portion of the meeting in order to discuss matters requiring confidentiality per N.J.S.A. 10:4-12; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Commissioners of Fire District No. 1 in the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer as follows:

1. The Board intends to discuss certain matters which are deemed confidential pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 in Executive Session.
2. The scope of the aforesaid executive session will be limited to the following:
  - A. Personnel
3. Minutes of the Executive Session will be disclosed to the public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

**RECORD OF BOARD VOTE ON PASSAGE**

Commissioner	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Tomaro			X			
Jones	X		X			
Rodriguez, Jr.		X	X			
Novak			X			
Burd			X			

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Board of Fire Commissioners returned to open session at 8:43 pm after checking the vestibule and virtual waiting room for meeting attendees. Commissioner Tomaro motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Burd at 8:44 pm. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Randi Malkiewicz  
Admin Clerk

<b>Title</b>	4/27/23 Regular Session Meeting Minutes
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### Document History



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**05 / 22 / 2023**  
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IP: 173.61.41.5



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**05 / 22 / 2023**  
17:20:34 UTC

Viewed by Randi Malkiewicz (rmalkiewicz@hopewelltpfire.org)  
IP: 71.245.112.193



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**05 / 22 / 2023**  
17:21:07 UTC

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