

Board of Fire Commissioners

District # 5

P.O. Box 527

Howell, New Jersey 07731

9/11/2018

The monthly meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners District # 5 was called to order at 8:00 PM at the Freewood Acres Fire Company, 17 East 5th Street, Howell, New Jersey by Chairman James Donahue. Chairman J. Donahue led the Pledge to the flag. In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act of the State of New Jersey. Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Asbury Park Press, Tri-town News, and the Township of Howell. The yearly meeting schedule published in the Asbury Park Press, Tri town News, January 2018 and posted at town hall.

Roll Call: J. Donahue, R. Donahue, Harper, Hodges, Jager.

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as read with a resolution by J Hodges, 2nd by R Donahue; roll call vote: All Yes.

CORRESPONDENCE: We received an email from Fire Bureau Chief Lewis about the authorization for 24 hydrants for the Freewood Acres road project which the Board approved and will be sent back.. Stanley Tvaroha's annuity increase authorization form for Losap has been completed and sent to VFIS which they have acknowledged receipt of.

COMMITTEE REPORT: R. Donahue after attending the Executive Board meeting, stated we are still waiting on the battery backup system to be completed and two replacement repeaters that didn't work because they are on the wrong frequency so they had to be sent back and we have been advised by Chief Lewis to hold the check by for \$1,470.00 until we know the system is completed and operational.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR: None

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Barnes was absent during the meeting. Chief R Donahue mentioned that the annual maintenance is due on all vehicles and appointments are being made. Chief Donahue

also mentioned that the tip on truck on 591 is bent and won't pass the annual test. Chief Barnes is getting a quote for replacement. Commissioner Hodges questioned if the fuel pump system has been repaired. R Donahue responded that DeMaio's was coming out to repair the pumps.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Hodges stated he has not heard from the Monmouth County Prosecutor's office yet with regards to our computers / servers. J. Hodges brought up about purchasing a Fit Test machine which is required for members to be tested which he opposes purchasing due to the expense and would prefer shared services with Squankum Fire Co. Hodges suggest that the money be spent on other equipment that is needed. It's been argued by R. Donahue and Harper that if we borrow from Squankum we run into the situation of availability when needed and the probability of a malfunction while in our care, custody and control. It's more practical to have our own device. J. Hodges also brought up about the four cell phones that the Board is paying for and that it is not necessary to have all four phones with the exception of the Chief having one. R. Donahue mentioned that he is canceling three of the phones and we should implement a stipend for the ones that need a phone. Hodges suggested getting rid of the whole Government plan.

NEW BUSINESS: Motion to pay bills J Hodges 2nd by R Donahue. Second reading of the proposed By-Law change about the distance the Chief must live within two miles of the District boundaries. R Jager made the first motion and it was 2nd by J Hodges. All was in favor. This By-Law change will be voted on at the next meeting. The Board agreed to cancel the Government Verizon cell phone program and give stipends to necessary members in the amount of \$60.00 each. Motion was made by R Donahue, 2nd by R Jager. All in favor, yes. Also note there will be a monthly meeting of Commissioners from Oct 9 to Oct 16 and I the Clerk will notify the Board attorney so he can notify the Township and newspapers due to it being a public meeting and required by law. A motion by R Donahue, 2nd by J Donahue to purchase a Portacount Fit Tester model 8040 for a total price of \$9,295.00. Roll call vote all yes except Hodges who voted no. There will also be additional discussion of purchasing a five-year warranty.

MEMBERSHIP: Sean Koubek

FINANCIAL REPORT: Previous Balance: \$110,006.99 spent: \$24,531.27. Monies on hand as of 8/14/2018, \$85,475.72. Motion by J Hodges, 2nd by R Jager to accept treasurer's report. All were in favor.

With no other business being brought before the Board, with a motion by R Donahue 2nd by Hodges, the meeting was adjourned at 2028 hrs.

Respectfully Submitted:



Randolph W. Jager
Clerk