

September 12, 2023

The combined monthly Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of District 9, 1222 Green Street, Iselin, New Jersey, was called to order at 7:31 p.m. by the Chairman under Chapter 231 of the Laws of 1975 with notices posted in the Home News Tribune, on the bulletin board at Fire Company #1 and #2, and at Town Hall as prescribed by law. A salute to the flag was led by the Chairman followed by a moment of silence.

Roll Call of Commissioners: M. Rudy, K. Williams, D. Thaker, S. Burrows and E.A. Mullen. Also In attendance were E.R. Mullen, W. Kenney, Attorney Mike Burns, the Fire Official, the Chief, and the Auditor, Laura Atwell.

Copies of the 2019 Audit Report were previously submitted to the Board by the Auditor who discussed it in length, and she submitted her recommendations which are stated in the Report and include staying in compliance with the Standard Operations Procedures Manual. She requested that her recommendations be implemented, which include hiring a part-time CPA.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted with a motion made by K. Williams and seconded by D. Thaker with everyone in favor (M. Rudy, K. Williams, D. Thaker, S. Burrows and E.A. Mullen).

Reports of Committees:

Fire Prevention:

The report was submitted by the Fire Official, Stewart Schmalenberger. He went over his investigations and complaints, then stated that the current Board Resolution on Fire Watches be amended. He submitted a Draft of a Resolution and FEMA Equipment Rate Schedule. He requested payment of \$65.00 to the NAFL for Inspector Mary Wertz an a request to purchase a case of 8"x12" Fire Wipes. A motion was made by E.A. Mullen and seconded by K. William with everyone in favor (M. Rudy, K. Williams, D. Thaker and E.A. Mullen) to accept the Fire Official's report and his requests.

Fire Equipment & Apparatus:

MK completed miscellaneous repairs to the apparatus. Refurb meeting update. Waiting for parts to repair the oil leak on 9-3-3. Hose Testing has been re-scheduled for October 20th. The Radio Company removed the remaining equipment from the old 9-3-1. Don Draper will try to fit striping for new chief's car in his schedule. EES to check decon hose on 9-5. 9-2-4 cooling valve hose was replaced. EES to move hydrant assist valve on 9-2. EES moved the hydrant assist valve on 9-2. Pump testing for the engines is complete with no issues except that we need to re-schedule 9-2-4. EES repaired 9-2-4 primer. Cummings did the recall on 9-5. EES is looking into 9-5 check-engine light. EES to send us an update on the PM work on vehicles. Also, there was an issue with one of the valves in 9-2.

Hydrants: Nothing to report.

Facilities:

The Chief was asked have the members clean out some of the old equipment at the Houses. Paint cabinet upgrade on hold. Researching prices to upgrade the traffic lights. The vendor for the gear cage will be in to start the installation. Fuel tank issue pending. The Locksmith will be in to replace the core on the side door. Mr. Rudy stated that he received a price of \$950.46 from Garden State for a new door lock. A motion was made by K. William and seconded by D. Thaker with everyone in favor (M. Rudy, K. Williams, D. Thaker and E.A. Mullen) to approve this purchase. The Water Company came in for the meter problem and found the check valve not working. A motion was made by E.A. Mullen and seconded by K. William with everyone in favor (M. Rudy, K. Williams, D. Thaker and E.A. Mullen) to have Survivor replace the check valve at House 1 for \$4800. Mr. Rudy received quotes for field coting but it was decided to wait until the spring.

Communications Equipment:

Portable charger in 9-2-4 was repaired. Docking stations for tough books came in and phone cards were installed; needs to be programmed by WDBG PD. Working on quotes for portable radios.

Legal & Insurance:

Auditors are working on the audits. Insurance claims were processed for a workers comp claim and for the accident with 9-3-3. Mr. Kenney discussed the damages to the vehicle. Received driver reports from all accidents. Mr. Williams will coordinate the repairs to the vehicle so they can start ASAP. A brief discussion was held regarding the Driver Training Program. Regarding the 3rd Party lawsuit from 5/26/21, the insurance company turned over to Landman Corsi Ballaine & Ford, Attorneys. All reports from 5/26/21 have been turned over to the Attorneys. Attorney Burns discussed some pending legal issues. No update yet on the boiler. Mr. Rudy questioned whether or not an Engineer had been hired. Regarding the pick-up truck, more information is needed.

Deferred Business: Nothing to report.

New Business:

Mr. Rudy questioned Mr. Kenney about his work hours and to make arrangements with health care for his wife.

Communications and Bills:

A motion was made by K. Williams and seconded by D. Thaker with everyone in favor (M. Rudy, E.A. Mullen, D. Thaker, S. Burrows and K. Williams) to pay all bills for the month of August 2023 in the amount of \$921,762.81. Communications were as follows:

- Received a copy of an Advisory and Payment Request
- Copy of a letter from Landman Corsi Ballaine & Ford P.C. regarding "Dacey v. Progressive Garden State Ins. Co. et al
- Memo from VFIS regarding Glatfelter Claims Management
- Copy of a Resolution regarding the Agreement with Fire District #7
- Open Public Records Act Request Form requesting information
- Copy of a letter to BKC, CPAs regarding the Audit of Financial Statements

- Received copies or various reports

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A motion was made by K. Williams and seconded by E.A. Mullen with everyone in favor (M. Rudy, E.A. Mullen, D. Thaker, S. Burrows and K. Williams) to approve the Resolution regarding the Renewal Agreement for Dispatch for the calendar year 2024. Another motion was made by K. Williams and seconded by D. Thaker with everyone in favor (M. Rudy, E.A. Mullen, D. Thaker and K. Williams) to accept the correspondence and make it a part of the permanent record.

Chief's Report:

The Chief submitted his report stating 48 calls and no firefighter injuries during the month. He reported on equipment and training requests. Working on NFFRS reports. A motion was made by K. Williams and seconded by D. Thaker with everyone in favor (M. Rudy, E.A. Mullen, D. Thaker, S. Burrows and K. Williams) to accept the Chief's report.

Public Discussion:

Joint Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday.

At 9:34 p.m., a motion was made by K. Williams and seconded by D. Thaker with everyone in favor (M. Rudy, K. Williams, D. Thaker, S. Burrows and E.A. Mullen) to adjourn the meeting.

Secretary
Board of Fire Commissioners, District #9

Transcribed by:
(Ms.) Joyce E. Lynch