

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT NO.9
1222 Green Street
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February 6, 2024

The combined monthly Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioner of District 9, 1222 Green Street, Iselin, New Jersey, was called to order at 7:30p.m. by Fire Commissioner, M. Rudy 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 Fire Commissioner followed by a moment of silence.

Roll Call of Commissioners: E.A. Mullen, S. Burrows, M. Rudy, K. Williams,
Also in attendance were W. Kenney and Attorney John
Harrington, Esq,

This is a regular agenda meeting.

Reports of Committees:

Equipment & Apparatus:

The chief's vehicle has come back. The vehicle, 9-3-8, is currently at East Coast Emergency Lighting for repairs. Mr. Burrows is awaiting a quote from the company in regard to 9-3-9 van. The handle on 9-2 has been repaired. There is ladder testing March 18, 2024. Pump testing will be done on 9-2-4. Mr. Kenney called the prior week for an update on 9-3-4, there is a wait for the digital module. There is no anticipated target date of completion at this time. In regard to the air truck project, specifications/plans need to be found so work can be completed. Mr. Burrows advised there should be a template on file and will assist in finding the correct information.

Hydrants: Nothing to report

Facilities:

A rack was ordered for House #2, the side door was repaired and the a/c units are operable.

The heat is no longer working. There has been an ongoing concern with the fuel tank which is both diesel and oil. Now that the diesel fuel has run out, new fuel cannot be put in. Due the urgency in which this needs to be handled \$8,000 has been allocated for an emergency hookup to remedy the issue and supply heat, which would last possibly until spring. Mr. Harrington agreed this was necessary. There was some discussion on what to

do as a long term replacement as there are a few options, conventional, high efficiency, etc. The last bid that was expected, from Bill Leary Air Conditioning and Heating, has been obtained. In discussing the bids, there were concerns raised about possibly switching to high efficiency as that could cause the current backup generator to short circuit. The engineer that was hired did not supply answers for all concerns. An item of note: an unknown vehicle hit the traffic light and the claim has been resolved by insurance. It was deemed that the cost for repairs would be \$5,164 minus the \$500 deductible leaves a remaining \$4664 to be paid out to the Fire Commission. Jen Electric is the company that will complete the repairs and quoted \$330 for the year for maintenance. Mr. Burrows advised he would be present at the time of the repair.

Communications & Equipment:

Mr. Mullen advised the quote for the tough books and docking station replacement for 9-6 is just under \$3800. He spoke with Tucker at First Due Fabrications and installation can be completed in one day. Another sim card for the Chief's car will need to be ordered. An update on laptops will have to be provided by the Fire Company President, E. R. Mullen at the next meeting.

Fire preventions:

The Chief's Report has been provided, but was not gone over in detail. There are two additional requests in which W. Kenney and Deputy Chief, M. Wertz, will need to look into. The license has not been renewed for the KnoxBoxes and will require a payment of \$721. The original invoice for the renewal had not been received by any of the people within the office. Mr. Kenney will contact them for further information. There is a request for International Association of Arson Investigators for M. Wertz. The cost of attendance is \$1300 and takes place in Atlantic City.

Legal & Insurance:

The attorney's office is working on the employee handbook and employment contracts. An update on the progress of both documents should be made within the next week. The worker's compensation audits and Fire Company worker's compensation are works in progress. All papers for elections have been processed, however no absentee ballots have been located. Mr. K. Williams explained to the attorney, J. Harrington that the furnace draws diesel directly from the underground tanks. The DEP found it to not be in compliance and locked the tanks. An LSRP company, H2N, was hired and it was recommended to take the tank out. The board has a \$17,500 limit, beyond that it goes to public bid. If the cost is under \$44,000, it falls under the mutual service agreement, taken to Woodbridge Township and discussed with the QPA, Jennifer Burns. There would be three separate phases of construction and each phase requires three different bids. It is K. Williams' recommendation that the lowest bid is awarded. The bids and further details will be sent to the attorney's office and more will be discussed during the next meeting.

Old Business:

There are many phone lines active that are not being utilized. Verizon representative, Bryan Austin, wanted to take tabs off 8 or 9 circuits. The representative believes the lines between the fire house can be cut, however is unsure if the ones for town hall can be removed. He would like to place tabs of the ones at the police station and monitor any possible issues before cutting lines because once they are removed they will not be replaced. The plate that is currently in the room is illegible, no writing can be read. The next step will be to see how much Verizon would credit as some of the lines have not been in use since 1996.

New Business:

There is an outstanding quote for the scheduling/paid time off software, VCS of \$444. It will be voted on next week. There was discussion about the Continuity Operations Group, LLC presentation at the Joint Board meeting. The general consensus is that it can be revisited if something were to happen because it is believed that the Township has an obligation to provide an emergency manager and a second opinion can be obtained.

Bills: Will be addressed next month.

Chief's Report: Report will be completed by the end of the week and discussed in the next meeting.

Joint Board: Will be held in March.

Health & Safety: Nothing to report.

Public Discussion: None at this time.

At 8:12 p.m., a motion was made by K. Williams and seconded by S. Burrows with everyone in favor (M. Rudy and E.A. Mullen) to adjourn the meeting.

Secretary
Board of Fire Commissioners, District #9

Minutes taken by:
(Mrs.) Rashawnda Jimenez