

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT NO.9
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October 8, 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 7:12p.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 Fire Commissioner followed by a moment of silence.

Roll Call of Commissioners: E.A. Mullen, M. Rudy, and D. Thaker (S. Burrows and K. Williams are excused.) Also in attendance were W. Kenney, Fire Chief M. Wertz, Purchasing Agent M. Rivera, Board Attorney D. DiYanni and Fire Company President E.R. Mullen

This is a regular monthly meeting.

Reports of Committees:

A motion was made by D. Thaker and seconded by M. Rudy with everyone in favor (E.A. Mullen) to pay the bills for the month of September in the amount of \$205,294.32.

Business Administration Report:

Equipment & Apparatus:

There is no word on 9-3-4. The error code brought up on the scanner for 9-2- was resolved by EES. When Mr. Salzman is back from vacation he will order parts for 9-2 and 9-2-4 has been taken care of. All insurance claims have been resolved. Registration have been completed for the new 9-3-2 Chevy Tahoe as an inspection was needed due to it being from out of state. 9-3-9 was taken in to get lights.

Hydrants: Nothing to report.

Communications & Equipment:

Mr. Kenney is working with CME to get HVAC system completed. Bay 2 doors have been fixed. Printers have been ordered and the springs on 9-2-4 have been fixed. Mr. Kenney has been trying to get ahold of the correct representative for Verizon to address two new air cards. The previous person who could have a

government account has been transferred and only a certain person can handle a government account.

Legal & Insurance:

Mr. Kenney will work on finding the additional paperwork the auditor needs. The insurance company has processed everything for 9-2- and payment was received.

A motion was made by M. Rudy and seconded by D. Thaker with everyone in favor (E.A. Mullen) to accept the business administration report.

Fire Official Report:

The fire official report was provided in advance and presented by the acting Fire Official M. Wertz. There is one new request for 3 new New Jersey fire codes that are being rolled out. There is a budget allotted for this roll out. The proper form will need to be filled out.

Mr. Rudy asked what needs to happen with the fire extinguishers. Mr. Kenney advised he was told to get smaller ones, between 10 to 15 pounds. What kind of fire extinguisher needs to be confirmed and then get them installed. Brackets will be needed. The logistics of how they will be mounted will need to be figured out.

A motion was made by M. Rudy and seconded by D. Thaker with everyone in favor (E. A. Mullen) to accept the fire official report.

Fire Chief Report:

There are a few notable things: two individuals will need to be qualified for 9-3-3. Requesting two additional people be qualifiers for 9-3-3, 9-3-4 and for all engines, but not the truck. There's information that has been included about the trainings that have been scheduled. As far as explorers go they want to attend the Colonia Junior Fire Academy and Colonia has agreed to accept a voucher for payment for that. Four members would attend for a total of \$180. There are a few things to discuss: a flex fuel card for apparatus (Mr. Kenney is working with a company and is in talks), traffic light maintenance (Mr. Kenney advised it was resolved), request to remove the hydrant assist valve off the back step and air cards for the tough books. Additional requests from requisition. Driver list will be updated.

A motion was made by D. Thaker and seconded by M. Rudy with everyone in favor (E. A. Mullen, , M. Rudy) to approve requests and accept the Fire Chief report.

Fire Company:

Mr. E.R. Mullen would like to thank the board for the eight recliners. They were set up for fire prevention classes and those that sat in them approved. One recliner has gone to House 2, the other 7 here. DreamSeat is the company. Requesting of the board for

regular chairs. He would like to get rid of the red chairs currently there. If approved more research will be done. There is an option for a sturdy chair that's narrow, they fully recline and can be slept in. Secondly, he met with the fire company attorney. That attorney drafted the mutual services agreement. An addendum will be made with similar language to the one written for the day crew. The board will be kept apprised. In the last fire company meeting, a member said he's aware of a number of members that are opposed to having Woodbridge EMS housing their ambulance at House 2 at any point in the future. It was explained to the newer members that the property is owned by the board of fire commissioners, unlike this building where as the fire company has a say. Members were told to come to the meeting tonight to express any concern. As an update, there wouldn't be anything happening until about January after a proposal is given and it would only be for a day shift in the meantime. If there is any discussion about decommissioning anything, M. Wertz would like input. She is opposed to decommissioning an apparatus and E.A. Mullen is in agreement, there would need to be an emergency response vehicle. Whatever needs to be refurbished in order to keep a vehicle there in the event there is no driver for the truck. Mr. Kenney advised he was the person that spoke up because he was hearing what members were saying, mainly that they felt they weren't being informed, but are hearing things about what's happening. There was a member who had a request for a weight system, but that is being put to the side. He expressed his thoughts about past experiences with EMS and E.A. Mullen advised that police EMS will be much different than different volunteer EMS cycling through. This will put a lifesaving ambulance in a part of the township that is needed. The board has voted previously and it will not change. It's an underutilized building.

Topics of Discussion:

There is not much of an update on the HVAC system. There is a meeting tomorrow. Tried to go through state bidding and they refused to bid. The system as it stands now needs to be filled every two weeks, but would go through the winter. The purchase agent will be merging documents, and getting a proposed timeline for the bid,. Any questions would be due by October 21st. Attorney is ready to review bids. Three bids are required for the heating in the truck house. If there is already a quote, it will need to be double checked that the price will still be honored if it's outside of 30 days. Audit should be ready by the November meetings. A few more documents are needed.

Legal:

Attorney provided a resolution for the adoption of the GRC's forms
A resolution of the Board of Fire Commissioners approving the adoption of an open request form which is in accordance with new OPRA laws.

Roll call was made for each person to vote on the resolution: E.A. Mullen -Yes, M. Rudy -Yes, D. Thaker -Yes.

Communication:

A letter was received from Dynamic Engineering Earth Survey located 732 Green St. They were forwarded a copy of the site plan for bureau review.

Items for review: a letter from the municipal council with the subject line being, fire commissioner salaries. The open public records act, financial disclosures, board email, etc. Certification provided that air techs have been tested. Copy of financial package for the month. Fire chief report. There is a copy of the bureau of fire prevention report.

A motion was made by M. Rudy and seconded by D. Thaker with everyone in favor (E.A. Mullen) to accept the communications report.

Old Business:

There was a \$20,000 overage on tank removal. Based on the contract and documents provided, there was \$15,000 in professional service from last year that was approved. The last one that was approved was roughly \$33,000 and that was depleted. The \$20,000 overage was because of the water that was found and concrete that was broken up. Change laws apply to fire districts.

Additional Discussion:

There was an update on the air truck: rear body is painted, rewired, prepped the body for chassis, drive shaft will be installed, photos will be provided.

Someone will need to meet with the mayor and talk about the pilot for the two building going up in Metro Park. Now is the time to speak with him about where money will be allotted. There was a million dollars given up front. The request would be for two vehicles. It was asked how to go about it meeting with the mayor and E.A. Mullen advised he would be willing to speak with him on behalf of the board. It was determined that at this time S. Burrows is the only person who has access to pending .gov information. More people will need to be placed as admins in the future. Along with new email addresses, a host for the website will need to be obtained. There is concern about hiring All Covered for cyber security as there is knowledge employees are leaving the company. Previous contract will run through the end of the year. Maybe open up for public bid. Current person is under a co-op and there was a lot of information that was needed. A full list of IP addresses for equipment has been obtained. Decision has been made about how the emails will be named. It will be the first initial, last name, Iselin9fire.gov. A secure email host is needed. The board expressed their thanks to E.R. Mullen for staying on this project.

Engineers will need to be qualified so the board will have them on standby. Insurance is through VFIS. Their exclusive broker in the state of New Jersey is Nottingham Insurance. Advertisement should be made so bids can be obtained for new providers.

New Business: None

Public Discussion: None

At 8p.m. a motion was made by M.Rudy and seconded by D.Thaker with everyone in favor (E.A. Mullen) to adjourn the meeting.

Secretary
Board of Fire Commissioners, District #9

Minutes taken by:
R. Jimenez