

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1

MINUTES OF
SEPTEMBER 24, 2012

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order by President Nelson at 8:05 p.m. President Nelson announced that the meeting is being held in compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act". Public Notice of this meeting was hand delivered to the Clerk of the Township of Ocean and posted at the Oakhurst Firehouse on March 2, 2012, and advertised in The Coaster and in the Atlanticville on March 8, 2012.

After a salute to the flag, a moment of silence was observed.

ATTENDANCE:

The following Board members were present: Thomas Reu, Russ Williams, Jim Hiers, Scott Nelson and Stu Newman. Fire District Administrator J. David Hiers, Fire Marshal Chris Pujat, District Mechanic Michael Fiorentino and the Fire Department and First Aid Squad Officers were also present.

MINUTES:

Minutes of Previous Meeting were placed on the table for everyone's review, comments or corrections. There were no questions pertaining to the August 27, 2012 minutes. Nelson moved for them to be accepted as written. It was second by Hiers. No questions to the motion. Roll call vote of Newman, Reu and Nelson was unanimous in favor of the motion.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The following items of correspondence were read for information:

Outgoing to: None

Incoming from: None

EXPENSES:

The Bills this evening were reviewed by the Commissioners prior to the meeting and found to be OK. Copies of the bill list were on the table for anyone to review. A Resolution to pay the Bills totaling \$ 60,187.22 was presented by Commissioner Reu. It was seconded Williams. There were no questions. Roll call vote of Newman, Williams, Reu, Hiers and Nelson was unanimous in favor of the Resolution.

DISTRICT NO. 1 ORGANIZATION's REPORTS:

CHIEF E. Alexander – was not present.

1st Assistant Chief John Morrow reported 49 activities for the month. Average response time was 6 minutes 12 seconds. Average firefighters per call were 9, for a total of 410 members responding, experiencing 403 total man-hours. Mutual aid was given 3 times and received 0 times. Morrow said Fall Fest was a huge success. The fire truck ride raised \$1,267. Morrow reported that they are working on Truck 37-1-85, looking to put it back together. The deuce ½, 37-1-88 has just been painted and it is getting ready for OEM operations.

2nd Assistant Chief Bob Nelson – Thanked the Board for keeping Engine 37-1-72 in good running shape. It has provided enjoyment to the community. He mentioned Flu shots will be given on October 17 and that a mass e-mail was sent out to all the members.

Captain C. Sorrentino was not present.

1st Lt. J. Kruse was not present.

2nd Lt. M. Guarda had no report.

FAS Captain I. Degurski reported 64 total activities for the month, which included 48 Emergency calls. Average response time was 7 minutes. A total of 411 Emergency Call Man Hours were experienced. Mutual aid received 1 time and given was 1time. The Fall Fest went real well.

1st Lt. K. Dougherty – reported that there is an increase in the members activities since the paid EMT's have started. It has relieved the stress of the day calls on everyone and they are focusing on the PM calls.

2nd Lt. A. Beringer – stated that he attended the Township OEM meeting. Everything this is going along fine.

Sergeant J. Brown was not present.

FIRE MARSHAL C. Pujat reported 317 inspections, including 21 State Registered Establishments, revealing 148 violations, and 1 investigation was conducted during the month. Fees collected for the month totaled \$10,140. Pujat said the Firehouse Software in Station 1 is up and running. Station 2 will be up very shortly. The radio upgrades are in progress. He discussed the Hepatitis B inoculations. There is a grant available. He handed out a memo regarding this. Wireless access points have been installed throughout station 1. He attended the Township OEM meeting. The Panasonic tablets are due to be demoed soon with fire officers- waiting to hear back from WPCS. He will post upcoming fire

prevention activities- all are welcome to assist. He mentioned that the new rip/run is now in operation. It is not being well received.

DISTRICT MECHANIC Fiorentino mentioned that station 2 has not experienced any roof leaks since the repairs have been done. We had some pretty hard rain and everything seems to be good. He said he is waiting for the insurance adjuster to come back with repair cost estimates regarding 73 & 75 accident on station 2's apron.

OLD BUSINESS:

Newman – I would like to remind everyone that Flu Shots will be given on October 17th here at station 1 between 6:30 – 7:30 PM.

Reu – If the budgets requests have not been turned in to the FDA, they need to be ASAP. The Board is starting to work on the budget now. Your requests are needed to proceed.

Williams – The FDA is looking for the percentages from Oct 1, 2011 – Sept. 30, 2012 so the annual percentages for the clothing allowance can be calculated.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nelson – The Board totally supports Fire Prevention education throughout Fire District #1 in every way. That time of year is here again. The Fire Prevention Bureau will be busy promoting this important educational program. The Theme this year is "Have Two Ways Out". The Board proclaims that October 7 – 13, 2012 be recognized as Fire Prevention Week, as it will be throughout the State. I will read the Proclamation on behalf of the Board of Fire District # 1.

Board of Fire Commissioners Fire District # 1 Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Township of Ocean Fire District # 1 is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our state; and

WHEREAS, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and

WHEREAS, home fires killed more than 2,600 people in the United States in 2010, according to the latest research from the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and fire departments in the United States responded to more than 369,000 home fires; and

WHEREAS, residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

WHEREAS, only one-third of Americans have both developed and practiced a home fire escape plan, and

WHEREAS, almost three-quarters of Americans do have an escape plan; however, less than half have actually practiced it, and

WHEREAS, one-third of Americans households who made one and estimate they thought they would have at least 6 minutes before a fire in their home would become life threatening. The time available is often less, and

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and

WHEREAS, Township of Ocean Fire District # 1 first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

WHEREAS, Township of Ocean Fire District # 1 residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the 2012 Fire Prevention Week theme, “Have Two Ways Out!” effectively serves to remind us to develop and practice a home fire escape plans during Fire Prevention Week and year-round.

THEREFORE, I Scott Nelson Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners Township of Ocean Fire District # 1 do hereby proclaim October 7-13, 2012, as Fire Prevention Week throughout this state, and I urge all the people of the Township of Ocean Fire District # 1 to practice their home fire escape plan during Fire Prevention Week 2012, and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of the Township of Ocean Fire District # 1 fire and emergency services.

Hiers – The Board attorney notified us that on August 7, 2012 the law, **“PROHIBITING FIRST RESPONDERS FROM PHOTOGRAPHING PERSONS BEING ASSISTED”** was signed and became effective immediately. Mr. Youssouf advised us to adopt the Resolution he prepared. The Board strongly agrees with this law. I will read the Resolution:

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1 TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN PROHIBITING FIRST RESPONDERS FROM PHOTOGRAPHING PERSONS BEING ASSISTED

WHEREAS; On August 7, 2012 P.L. 2012, c.28 was signed into law and became effective immediately; and

WHEREAS; Chapter 28 of the laws of 2012 provides that any first responder who takes one or more photographs or electronic images or makes a video recording of an accident victim or other person receiving emergency

medical services and distributes, disseminates, or otherwise makes available through any means such photographs or images without the prior written consent of the accident victim or person receiving emergency medical services is guilty of a crime of the fourth degree; and

WHEREAS; The term “first responder” means a law enforcement officer, paid or volunteer firefighter, or other paid or volunteer person who has been trained to provide emergency medical first response services; and

WHEREAS; The terms and provisions of this statute clearly apply to volunteer firefighters in service to the Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District No. 1; and

WHEREAS; It is the considered opinion of the Board of Fire Commissioners that it is the paramount importance that all firefighters and first responders of Fire District No. 1 be made aware of this new statutory enactment and the responsibilities imposed thereby.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District No. 1 Township of Ocean that copies of this Resolution be distributed to all volunteer firefighters in service to the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Moved by: **Hiers**

Seconded by: **Reu**

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Reu – The plans for the Blacktop Project are complete. The attorney reviewed the plans and is prepared to proceed with advertising and receiving bids. Due to the time of the year, it would be wise to hold off on the project till next year. Advertising and awarding the contract will take at least 60 days. This brings us into the cold season. Also it is determined that more money will be needed to complete the project since the budgeted amount had to be amended because of the radio room. Budgeting additional money in next year’s budget will allow us to do the entire project at once. After the election, the project will be advertised and put out to bid. We will look to start as soon as possible.

There was no further business presented before the Board. The meeting adjourned 8:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. David Hiers
Fire District Administrator

MINSEPT12

September 24, 2012

Items for Discussion prior to the Meeting:

- Discuss Black Top Project & Floor Project
- Copier on the 2nd floor for the officers, we buy copier & they buy the toner?
- Cherry tree south side needs to be trimmed. \$75 estimate from Lefferson
- Flu Shots – October 17, 2012 @ Sta. 1
- Payroll service – constant changes make it difficult for accuracy. Look to implement Jan. 1 2013.
- Met with Hi-Tech Stereo 2 weeks ago. No status. Call or what next?
- Per Attorney- Work sessions need to be open to public & advertised.
- Resolution tonight – no pictures to be taken at accident scene.
- Not successful on the Fire Prevention Grant. Sent e-mail out to all.
- Received 1st draft on Quint.
- Monoc requesting a meeting with Trustees 1 & 2 along with Mayo & Mngr. See copy of E-mail. Spoke with Manager and he does not want to get involved. He is satisfied with what we have going.
- I have a meeting with attorney Oct. 4th, re: parking lot budget, OPRA, Corp. Filing for EMS, etc.