

December 14, 2023

The Chairman announced that as required by The Open Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided which notice specified time and place of meeting. The notice was posted on the bulletin board at the Fire House, Post Office, Library, the Court House, mailed to the Daily Record, and placed on file at the Township Clerk's Office and on the public notice website for the Montville BOFC District1

Call to Order

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of District # 1, Montville Township, held at the Firehouse 86 River Road, Montville, N.J. Meeting was called to order at 7:04 P.M. by Chairman Lewis, who presided. Chairman Lewis pointed out the Fire Exits.

Roll Call

Those present were Commissioners Carl Lewis, Michael Caggiano, Robert Cook, Ed Bitterle, Don Crownover; Chief Jim Longobardi; Fire Official Brian Ricci and Denise Phostole District Clerk. Also, present was John McGorry.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting for November were read and accepted as read. Motion to accept made by Commissioner Cook; seconded by Commissioner Bitterle and carried.

Public Comment

None

Financial Report

The Treasurer gave the financial report and presented the bills for payment; the vouchers were reviewed by the commissioners and paid as follows on a motion made by Commissioner Cook, seconded by Commissioner Bitterle, and carried:

Disbursements December 2023	
Administration	\$ 4,193.07
Benefits	\$ 3,204.78
M&R Apparatus repair	\$ 20,077.25
Insurance	\$ 2,455.19
Buildings and Grounds	\$ 17,091.00
Equipment repair	\$ 7,518.69
Purchases	\$ 8,726.58
Supplies	\$ 3,189.90
Utilities	\$ 9,187.17
Training	\$ 425.00
UFSA	\$ 1,356.46
Total Disbursements:	\$ 77,425.09

Commissioner Caggiano reported an account for insurance claim receivable was created to pay for the body work on engine 352. \$35,350 was transferred from ION Bank savings to ION Bank checking. The commissioners reviewed the year end budget for 2023 - actual amounts versus budgeted amounts. Commissioners discussed the timeline for the replacement of trucks. Trucks that have aged out affect the ISO ratings. The department needs three trucks plus a ladder to satisfy insurance requirements. Funds will be moved from the Blue Carbon and the Kearny Bank accounts into either the OSAIC or the CETERA investment accounts. Motion to accept financial report was made by Commissioner Crownover, seconded by Commissioner Bitterle, and carried.

Chief's Report

The Chief reported that there were 21 fire calls for the month of November, bringing the year-to-date fire calls to 224, and the total year-to-date activities to 320. The Chief reported that the body work on 352 was done. The graphics have not been done yet. The repairs to 350 are complete. The foam training went well. New foam activates as a chemical reaction to heat. Inspections on trucks showed problems with 354 popping out of pump. Rust in the activator was cleaned. 351 ran in volume not in pump; was repaired. When the airhorn is activated, the pump cuts out. This has been fixed temporarily. Both 352 and 353 need tires. The primers on 352 need to be repaired. The gas meters worked on finding a gas leak where the gas had been left on in a housing unit. The new 6X6 was used on Pyramid Mountain to remove a heart attack victim. The heat at company one is not working. It is either the unit or the thermostat. The urinal at station one overflowed and flooded the electrical room. The gas card for Unit 1,2,3 is missing. Motion to accept Chief's report was made by Commissioner Crownover; seconded by Commissioner Bitterle and carried.

Fire Official's Report

Fire Official Brian Ricci reported that Mike Cowley was back with the department. He will be doing the LHUs. There are two state checks that have not been entered. The State has been notified of the change in personnel and he is waiting to get access to the state system. There were 7 changes of occupancy for November. Jared Piwowski has tendered his resignation effective January 1, 2024. Fire Official Ricci will be looking for a replacement. Motion to accept Fire Official's report was made by Commissioner Bitterle; seconded by Commissioner Cook and carried.

Correspondence

- Received an application for the American Rescue Plan Grant.
- Received emails correcting the LOSAP overpayment errors.
- Received invoices from Fire and Safety; Tri State (E Dispatch problem) District 3 joint services invoices; MO Cleaning Service.
- Received N.J.A.C. 5:30 Budget, Audit and Financial Administration updates from the state.
- Received Email from Chief regarding sale of ladder truck.
- Received radio reports.
- Received engagement letters from accountants.
- Received DOLGS website updates.

Old Business

Commissioners reviewed the Project Status report. They discussed the radios and the ongoing issues with communication. They will try to get a meeting with the police to see if we can use the same system they use for coverage.

New Business

None

Adjournment

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Bitterle, seconded by Commissioner Crownover and carried. The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Lewis at 9:23 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted


Denise Phostole

District 1 Clerk Montville Township BOFC District One