

May 11, 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 7:08 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, Donald Crownover and Ed Bitterle; Chief Jim Longobardi; Fire Inspector Michael Cowley, Denise Phostole District Clerk and John McGorry.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of April were read and accepted as read. Motion to accept made by Commissioner Crownover; seconded by Commissioner Cook 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 Crownover, seconded by Commissioner Bitterle, and carried:

Disbursements May 2023	
Administration	\$ 1,800.44
Benefits Life Ins. and W/C	\$ 4,575.60
M&R	\$ 5,717.63
Insurance	\$ 2,730.17
Purchases Tool and Equipment	\$ 4,422.00
Supplies	\$ 61.76
Utilities	\$ 3,453.34
UFSA	\$ 2,503.04
	\$ 25,263.98

Commissioner Caggiano reported that transfers were made from the ION Bank savings to the ION bank checking for the payment of bills, and from the ION Bank savings to Cetera Investment Services for the higher interest rate. 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 April, bringing the year-to-date fire calls to 78, and the total year-to-date activities to 107. Service was done on the new 350; will be back to do additional. There was a bad sensor on old 350 for the air brakes. Insurance was received on the new 6X6. The state is doing a seminar on recruiting and retention. Motion to accept Chief's report was made by Commissioner Cook; seconded by Commissioner Crownover and carried.

Fire Official's Report

Fire Inspector Cowley read the April report in the absence of the Fire Official:

Hello Commissioners, Clerk, Chief, and Public,

Unfortunately, I am feeling under the weather, and I will be unable to attend the Commissioner's Meeting this evening.

The Fire Prevention Bureau has been keeping busy. We have been steadily conducting residential sale/rental inspections. Inspector Cowley has continued to work on business inspections. He is making good progress with periodic inspections, and he is working with businesses to resolve violations and get re-inspected. Inspector Piwowarski has been continuing his work in the 150 River Rd Office Complex. He has been working to track changes of occupancies, changes of layout/square footage, and updating contact information. We are working with the various Township Departments to issue permits for various upcoming events, like One Montville, Relay for Life, and Fourth of July.

The State Division of Fire Safety is still working on the roll out of the new F.I.R.E.S. program that is replacing RIMS. As expected, the process is not happening as smoothly or as timely as planned. I don't expect it to be a long-term issue, but there will be delays with registering new businesses or closing out old businesses. There is a slim chance it may have a small impact on the State's billing and ultimately our State checks, but I am hopeful it will be resolved without issue. I attended an initial overview training web meeting to learn about the system, but the trainers were having some difficulties with certain features and the programmers were still working on the functionality. The State has said that they will be offering more training once the system goes fully live.

Towaco Service didn't have availability for us to drop off the Crown Vic. They said that their schedule will be opening up after today, so Inspector Piwowarski will follow-up with them to get it over there.

I would also like to mention that I need to get ID Codes created for our Inspectors in our Knox Box system. They are unable to release the keys to access the Knox boxes while on inspections, so they are unable to ensure the proper keys for FD access are stored inside. They need their own ID Codes created in the system, but I am under the impression that the subscription for the system was not active right now, so that function is not available. Just want to make sure that the Board is aware, so that steps can be taken to resolve the issue.

Motion to accept Fire Official's report was made by Commissioner Bitterle; seconded by Commissioner Caggiano and carried.

Correspondence

- Received email from the state increasing the audit deadline to September 2023.
- Received the 2022 LOSAP list of participants.
- Received an email from John Connolly stating that the township will be putting out a call for volunteers on the electronic signs and in the Messenger.

Old Business

Commissioners reviewed the Project Status report.

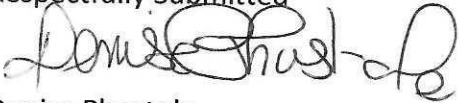
New Business

The commissioners reviewed the three quotes received for power washing the bays at the three fire house. The commissioners awarded the job to Clean Impressions. Commissioners need a new source for purchasing cleaning and paper goods.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Cook seconded by Commissioner Crownover and carried. The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Lewis at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted



Denise Phostole

District 1 Clerk Montville Township BOFC District One