

**Commissioners of Fire District No.1
Franklin Township, Somerset County, New Jersey
OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 23, 2021**

The conference call meeting was called to order at 8:05 p.m. at -646-307-1479, pass 950181 by Chairman Shimalla, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the reading of the Sunshine Law Statement. Adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mailing a notice to the Home News Tribune and the Courier News and by filing a notice with the Clerk of Franklin Township and by posting a notice in the Municipal Building, DeMott Lane, Somerset, NJ, all of which contain information concerning hours and places of these meetings. (A moment of silence was held for our departed brothers and sisters.)

Commissioners Goldberg, Hibbard, Janho, Shimalla and Wickman were present.

The Fire Departments were represented by:

Elizabeth Avenue	A. Scott
Middlebush	J. Ubry
Millstone Valley.....	JT Giorgianni
Somerset.....	C. Gianotto

A motion to approve the minutes of the 8/23/2021 Regular meeting by Commissioner Shimalla, second by Commissioner Wickman. All in favor.

TREASURERS REPORT: Commissioner Wickman presented the treasurer’s report. Commissioner Janho made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report and for the bills to be paid, second by Commissioner Wickman. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE – No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORTS: Dominic will address the call reimbursement, to be discussed at the budget meetings —Chiefs to suggest other avenues. Consult with the accountant as well.

INSURANCE: No report

LOSAP: No report.

PURCHASING:. No report.

DISTRICT LINE OFFICERS' MEETING: No report

TRUCK & EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE: All in service Variety of issues going out.

- Sta. 26 – Ladder out of service – should be back tomorrow
- Sta. 28 – All in service
- Sta. 44 – Tender out of service
- Sta. 56 – All in service

IT and GIS and RED ALERT– issue with the tablets – will be distributed soon– all issues have been resolved

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION/INTERNET PRESENCE: Progress

RADIO REPAIRS & COMMUNICATIONS: Meeting to be scheduled soon, cost for the repeater mounting on the tower have been obtained.

FIRE PREVENTION BOARD: No report

STANDARDS COMMITTEE: 8/19 meeting disrupted by a fire call New meeting scheduled for 9/16/21.

TRAINING: Swiftwater and vehicle trainings coming up soon

HOSE TESTING-Complete – results will be sent soon. Need to still test appliances with a new company. Researching hose testing companies for next year that can do everything that we need.

BUDGET/ELECTION-

1. First budget meeting is Thursday, August 26, 2021.

	Sept. 1	Sept 2
7:30	Station 26	Station 56
8:30	Station 28	Station 44

2. Final budget meeting Sept 8, 2021

More below on meetings

ENGINE 56-1 – Waiting for minor issues to be addressed.

SQUAD 28- In service

TRAFFIC SIGNAL DEVICES: 1 broken at Pierce St – repairs pending. Approved for two new ones on Amwell Rd, waiting for signed resolution from the town.

FIVE-YEAR PLAN: Revisiting

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PLAN: After a lengthy discussion regarding the best interests of the volunteers and whether physicals should or should not be required at this time due to COVID-19. Commissioner Wickman made a motion that – The Board will require district physicals according to the previous schedule starting in September. Second by Commissioner Shimalla, all in favor.

ANNUAL AWARDS COMMITTEE / ANNUAL INSPECTION: No report

OLD BUSINESS: No report

NEW BUSINESS: No report

PUBLIC COMMENTARY PERIOD:

Commissioner Shimalla made a motion to open the meeting to the public, Commissioner Wickman second. All in favor.

Motion to close the meeting to the public by Commissioner Wickman, second by Commissioner Janho-All in favor

Lengthy discussion regarding meeting locations and occupancy due to COVID 19. Questions regarding the public not being able to view the presentations on the callin line. Commissioner Shimalla to reach out to

Dominic regarding the above items. Dawn to check with Global meet for options regarding being able to see presentations during the meetings. Commissioner Goldberg made a motion to record the meetings – No second .

Motion to close the meeting at 8:42 by Commissioner Shimalla, second by Commissioner Wickman. All in favor.

Commissioner Janho, Clerk

MINUTES, DATED 8-23-2021

Type of Meeting: Agenda Special Work Session Discussion

Location: CONFERENCE CALL 1-646-307-1479 PASSCODE 950181 **Time:** 7:15

Fire Commissioners Attending:

X J. Goldberg X R. Hibbard _X_ T. Janho _X_ P. Shimalla X J. Wickman

Others Attending:

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Shimalla with the Pledge of Allegiance and the reading of the Sunshine Notice. Adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mailing a notice to the Home News Tribune and the Courier News and by filing a notice with the Clerk of Franklin Township and by posting a notice in the Municipal Building, DeMott Lane, Somerset, NJ, all of which contain information concerning hours and places of these meetings. There will be no smoking at this public meeting and please put your cell phones on vibrate. (A moment of silence was held for our departed brother and sisters)

1. 700 Mghz/UHF Radio (Rich) No updates at this time
2. Purchasing Anomaly (Jay) Dominic is handling will have an answer before the next meeting
3. FM8 vehicle (Tim) Fuel line issue – up and running
4. Clothing allowance needs to go to attorney and accountant – get ideas from the chiefs and discuss during the later budget meetings.
5. Computer/Keyboard (Jay) matter resolved
6. Equipment for old Squad 28 – back up rig (Tim) List of items needed for new squad 28 that were left on the old.
7. Others?

Motion by Commissioner Shimalla, second Commissioner Wickman to open the session to the public, all in favor.

Motion to close the agenda session made by Commissioner Shimalla, second by Commissioner Wickman all in favor.

Motion to close the agenda session made by Commissioner Shimalla, second by Commissioner Wickman, all in favor.

Agenda closed at 7:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim Janho, Clerk

**Commissioners of Fire District No. 1
Franklin Township • Somerset County
New Jersey
VOTING RECORD
REGULAR MEETING August 23, 2021**

MOTION	GOLDBERG	HIBBARD	JANHO	SHIMALLA	WICKMAN
Agenda Public Commentary opened	Y	Y	Y	M-Y	S-Y
Agenda Public commentary closed	Y	Y	Y	M-Y	S-Y
Agenda Meeting closed 7:31	Y	S-Y	Y	S-Y	M-Y
Approve mins meeting 7/26/21	Y	Y	Y	M-Y	S-Y
Approve Treasurers Report	Y	Y	M -Y	Y	S-Y
Motion -Physical required starting Sept	M-Y	Y	Y	Y	S-Y
Public Commentary opened	Y	Y	Y	M-Y	S-Y
Public commentary closed	Y	Y	S-Y	Y	M-Y
Motion to record meetings – No second – motion failed	M				
Meeting closed 9:25	Y	Y	Y	M-Y	S-Y

A=ABSENT FOR VOTE

M=MADE THE MOTION

S=SECONDED THE MOTION

Y=AYE VOTE

N=NO VOTE