

**Commissioners of Fire District No.1
Franklin Township, Somerset County, New Jersey
OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 26, 2021**

The conference call meeting was called to order at 8:05 p.m. at the Elizabeth Ave Firehouse and 1-646-307-1479, 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
- MiddlebushC. Ryan
- Millstone Valley.....
- Somerset.....C. Gianotto

The minutes of the 6/28/2021 Regular meeting and 6?28/21 Exec session, Motion to approve both by Commissioner Wickman, second by Commissioner Janho All in favor.

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

CORRESPONDENCE –

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORTS: Dominic will address the call reimbursement, to be discussed at the budget meetings – needs to be for normal wear and tear. Discussion ensued – look to other avenues.

INSURANCE: No report

LOSAP: No report.

PURCHASING:. Commissioner Goldberg made a motion for resolution 21-19 awarding new equipment, second by Commissioner Wickman – All in favor. Question on if something changes and a chief wants to go with an exception or pull an item off – ok to do. He also reported a purchasing anomaly that Dominic is handling.

DISTRICT LINE OFFICERS' MEETING: No report

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

- Sta. 26 – All in service
- Sta. 28 – All in service
- Sta. 44 – All in service
- Sta. 56 – All in service

IT and GIS and RED ALERT– Somerset County is working on the updates – new tablets to be distributed soon.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION/INTERNET PRESENCE: Progress

RADIO REPAIRS & COMMUNICATIONS:

1. 700 Mghz – received the extension
2. FCC simulcast UHF channels still on lockdown except for current license holders– will notify when available

FIRE PREVENTION BOARD: No report

STANDARDS COMMITTEE: Next meeting 8/19/21 at Station 26 at 7PM.

TRAINING: The 7/10-11/21 Fire Officer’s Academy at the high school was a good class and a good venue..-

HOSE TESTING- Commissioner Hibbard will coordinate. Needs to add Eng 8 equipment to list.

AUG 16	AUG 17	AUG 18
56 AM	44AM	44AM
28 PM	56PM	ENG-8AM
		56PM
		26PM

BUDGET/ELECTION-

1. 2022 proposed budgets due on August 1.
2. Need lines for engine 8
3. 1st budget meeting 8/15 – please bring large items forward at this meeting, ex: large fan.

ENGINE 56-1 –

1. Waiting for minor issues to be addressed.

SQUAD 28-

1. At Fire and Safety

TRAFFIC SIGNAL DEVICES: 1 broken at Pierce St – repairs pending. Looking at two new ones on Amwell Rd

FIVE-YEAR PLAN: revisiting

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PLAN: Fit testing Wednesday at Station 28 7PM.

ANNUAL AWARDS COMMITTEE / ANNUAL INSPECTION: 2/26/22 dinner reserved. Possibly a casual district event in early fall- picnic or other.

OLD BUSINESS: no report

NEW BUSINESS: Township has reverted back to virtual meetings

PUBLIC COMMENTARY PERIOD:

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

Chris Ryan –

1. is watching COVID closely
2. Offered to house the old Squad 28 at Middlebush
3. Anyone that uses our vehicles need to be trained as per our SOG's.
4. Chiefs to 1st budget meeting with large items

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

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

Commissioner Janho, Clerk

MINUTES, DATED 7-26-2021

Type of Meeting: Agenda Special Work Session Discussion

Location: Elizabeth Ave Firehouse CONFERENCE CALL 1-646-307-1479 PASSCODE 950181 **Time:** 7:25

Fire Commissioners Attending:

X J. Goldberg X R. Hibbard _ A 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) 700 mgh extension request approved. Should be getting Crown Castle to climb tower. Middlesex and Piscataway moving forward. Letter has been signed and sent, waiting on them to approve. Discussion ensued.
2. Chief Stipend (Jay) for budget meetings – looking to increase deputy stipend to \$7,500 and Chief stipend to \$9,000. Currently deputy \$6,500 and chief \$7,000.
3. Harassment training (Pat) Would like to consider having team from Firehouse expo brought in to teach the class – consensus was to improve our own program. Pat to meet with Jay.
4. Purchasing Anomaly (Jay) Dominic is handling – the vendor is being paid. Procedure to be reinforced.
5. 2021 New Equipment – looking to award tonight
6. 26-1 – FM8's (Tim) 26-1 compared to a new stock unit. Still have old 56-1, rotation needs to be set up. Discussion ensued on pros and cons of leasing.
7. Move agenda to 7:30PM (Jay)
8. Pat to talk to Dominic regarding purchasing anomaly, harassment training and truck procurement
9. 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 Wickman, second by Commissioner Shimalla, all in favor.

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

Agenda closed at 8:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Shimalla, Chairman

**Commissioners of Fire District No. 1
Franklin Township • Somerset County
New Jersey
VOTING RECORD
REGULAR MEETING July 26, 2021**

MOTION	GOLDBERG	HIBBARD	JANHO	SHIMALLA	WICKMAN
Agenda Public Commentary opened	Y	Y	A	M-Y	S-Y
Agenda Public commentary closed	Y	Y	A	S-Y	M-Y
Agenda Meeting closed 8:04	Y	S-Y	A	Y	M-Y
Approve mins meeting 6/28/21 Reg and Exec	Y	Y	S-Y	Y	M-Y
Approve Treasurers Report	M -Y	Y	Y	Y	S-Y
Motion 21-19 New Equipment	M-Y	Y	Y	Y	S-Y
Public Commentary opened	Y	S-Y	Y	Y	M-Y
Public commentary closed	Y	M-Y	Y	Y	S-Y
Meeting closed 8:42	S-Y	Y	Y	M-Y	Y

A=ABSENT FOR VOTE

M=MADE THE MOTION

S=SECONDED THE MOTION

Y=AYE VOTE

N=NO VOTE