

**Commissioners of Fire District No.1
Franklin Township, Somerset County, New Jersey
OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 25, 2021**

The conference call meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. at - <https://commfiredistrict1.globalmeet.com/FTFD1> 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.....	J. Giorgianni
Somerset.....	C. Gianotto

A motion to approve the minutes of the 9/27/2021 Regular meeting and the budget meetings 8/2/21, 9/14/21 and 9/30/21 by Commissioner Wickman, second by Commissioner Hibbard. All in favor.

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

CORRESPONDENCE – No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORTS: No report – Commissioner Wickman to reach out to Dominic on LOSAP questions – non vested active members who pass away – can their monies be released to their beneficiaries -can a resolution be made to cover all or should it be individual.

INSURANCE: Workers comp company is changing – Benchmark – 7710 is longer writing policies in NJ.

LOSAP: See above

PURCHASING:. No report

DISTRICT LINE OFFICERS' MEETING: No report

TRUCK & EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE: Engine 8 has a problem with the fuel line

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

IT and GIS and RED ALERT– meeting soon

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION/INTERNET PRESENCE: Multiple new members

RADIO REPAIRS & COMMUNICATIONS: Moving forward on Middlesex County

FIRE PREVENTION BOARD: No report

STANDARDS COMMITTEE: New meeting 10/28/21 at station 26 at 7PM.

TRAINING: Swift water tech

HOSE TESTING-Complete – hose has been ordered

BUDGET/ELECTION- Vote on the Capital budget 11/15/21 at the district office 6-9pm. Commissioner Wickman made a motion to accept the capital budget, second by Commissioner Hibbard, all in favor. Board polled all yes.

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

SQUAD 28- In service working on some warranty issues

TRAFFIC SIGNAL DEVICES: To be approved by County on 11/9/21 – Amwell and Mettlers and Amwell and Van Cleef.

FIVE-YEAR PLAN: Revisiting at the Standards Committee.

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PLAN: 8 members due

ANNUAL AWARDS COMMITTEE / ANNUAL INSPECTION: 2/22

OLD BUSINESS: No report

NEW BUSINESS: No report

PUBLIC COMMENTARY PERIOD:

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

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

Motion to close the meeting at 8:50 by Commissioner Shimalla, second by Commissioner Wickman. All in favor.

Commissioner Janho, Clerk

MINUTES, DATED 10-25-2021

Type of Meeting: Agenda Special Work Session Discussion

Location: <https://commfiredistrict1.globalmeet.com/FTFD1> **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. Date Change- capital vote (Jim) – 10 day advertising – vote will be 11/15/21 6-9 in person at the district office.
3. LOSAP payout if a member dies prior to vesting – releasing active non-vested LOSAP funds to the beneficiaries – Motion made by Jim, second by Pat – All in favor.
4. Engine 8 (Pat) Discussion on a demo coming this week to Middlebush – Chris Ryan to set up – Chuck Maria and Rich available.
5. Rich asked
 - a. what we are doing with Squad 28 and the current Engine 8? Consensus on holding S28 for a few more months due to the deterioration of the fuel lines on the current Engine 8.
 - b. Adding another inspector
 - c. Drone use for traffic analysis – Thursday 10-28-21 2-3:30pm - approved

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

- a. Chief Scott doesn't mind giving up his engine for engine 8 use periodically but, doesn't want to lose his engine permanently. Questioned when the committee was formed for engine 8
- b. Chief Gianotto responded to a comment about response and reported that 56 had more than 18 people most of the storm and the same for Middlebush. All totalled there were more than 50 volunteers responding to calls.
- c. Bob Cuddy reported he heard from Middlesex regarding being able to add the Middlesex County channels to our radios.

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 Shimalla, second by Commissioner Wickman, all in favor.

Agenda closed at 8:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim Janho, Clerk

**Commissioners of Fire District No. 1
Franklin Township • Somerset County**

**New Jersey
VOTING RECORD
REGULAR MEETING October 25, 2021**

MOTION	GOLDBERG	HIBBARD	JANHO	SHIMALLA	WICKMAN
Motion to release LOSAP funds to two active non vested members beneficiaries	Y	Y	Y	S-Y	M-Y
Agenda Public Commentary opened	Y	S-Y	Y	Y	M-Y
Agenda Public commentary closed	Y	Y	Y	S-Y	W-Y
Agenda Meeting closed	Y	Y	Y	M-Y	S-Y
Approve mins meeting 9/27/21, budget meetings 8/26/21, 9/14/21, 9/30/21	Y	S-Y	Y	Y	M-Y
Approve Treasurers Report	Y	M-Y	S -Y	Y	Y
Capital budget approved board polled	Y	S-Y	Y	Y	M-Y
Public Commentary opened	Y	S-Y	Y	Y	M-Y
Public commentary closed	Y	S-Y	Y	Y	M-Y
Meeting closed 8:50	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