

**Commissioners of Fire District No.1
Franklin Township, Somerset County, New Jersey
OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF January 10, 2022**

The conference call meeting was called to order at 8:02 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	C. Reier
Millstone Valley.....	J.T. Giorgianni
Somerset.....	C. Gianotto

A motion to approve the minutes of the 12/13/2021 Regular meeting was made by Commissioner Janho second by Commissioner Wickman. All in favor.

TREASURERS REPORT: Commissioner Wickman presented the treasurer’s report. Commissioner Shimalla 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

INSURANCE: No report

LOSAP: Commissioner Wickman made a motion for the Chiefs to post their LOSAP report for 30 day review period, second by Commissioner Goldberg. All in favor. If contested, must be in writing.

PURCHASING:.

1. Commissioner Goldberg reported that the spreadsheet for new equipment will be sent out after the budget passes.
2. Motion by Commissioner Janho to prepay the new ladder at 75% down payment and accept the \$160,000 for the old ladder when the new truck is delivered, second by Commissioner Wickman. Board polled - All in favor.

DISTRICT LINE OFFICERS' MEETING: No meeting

TRUCK & EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE: Commissioner Janho requested that all engineers send a report to Commissioner Janho with the current status, 1 week before each meeting.

- Sta. 26 – All in service
- Sta. 28 – All in service
- Sta. 44 – All in service – generator down on 44-2
- Sta. 56 – All in service

IT and GIS and RED ALERT– progress, looking at options- demos

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION/INTERNET PRESENCE: Commissioner Wickman looking in to updating the website, prior to the re-org.

RADIO REPAIRS & COMMUNICATIONS: Commissioner Hibbard – 700 hardware has been ordered.

FIRE PREVENTION BOARD: No report

STANDARDS COMMITTEE: Discussion on:

1. A company to come out once a year to clean the turnout gear – approx. \$15,000.00.
2. Purchasing a fit test machine for \$10,000.00. Discussion on liability with calibration and cleaning. Commissioner Wickman to put the numbers together. Commissioner Goldberg – what problem are we looking to solve? Convenience or cost savings? Commissioner Wickman to investigate.

TRAINING:

1. 3/6/22 – class by Kurt Isaacson- location to be determined. 9-4
2. 3/26/22- quarterly live burn at the Somerville Tower

HOSE TESTING-No report

BUDGET/ELECTION-

1. One commissioner spot up for election. One petition received from James Wickman
2. Commissioner Wickman read and presented the budget – asked for discussion – no discussion.
3. Commissioner Wickman presented and made a motion for Resolution 22-01 to adopt the 2022 budget, second by Commissioner Janho. Board polled – all in favor.

ENGINE 56-1 – Waiting for 1 issue to be addressed.

SQUAD 28- Still some issues

TRAFFIC SIGNAL DEVICES: Waiting to be installed

FIVE-YEAR PLAN: Progressing – meeting being planned

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PLAN: List sent to chiefs- discussion on suspending physicals again due to COVID – consensus was no.

ANNUAL AWARDS COMMITTEE / ANNUAL INSPECTION: As of now, still on for 2/26 – subject to change – please send your awards in – Dawn to check with the Palace about postponing.

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.

Chief Ryan:

1. Discussion on COVID equipment
2. The only way to know if you have COVID is with a PCR test the rapid tests are not detecting Omnicron variant.
3. If we have 50 people sign up – we can run our own vaccination clinic.
4. Red Line option to clean the gear once a year at \$125.00 a set, currently unfunded and unable to repair. Currently gear is being sent out individually and repaired at the same time.

Commissioner Wickman – symptoms are not terrible, but highly contagious.

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

Motion to close the meeting at 9:11 by Commissioner Shimalla, second by Commissioner Wickman. All in favor.

Commissioner Janho, Clerk

MINUTES, DATED 1-10-22

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:

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1. 700 Mghz/UHF Radio (Rich) – hardware ordered
2. COVID uptik (Pat) -Mask policy is back on to prevent the Omnicron variant – trying to get a district testing site with a possible vaccine also – Discussion on what are the goals? Should be 100% optional and results go to the member only.
3. Ladder 26 (Tim) – Motion for 75% prepay at reg meeting.
4. Reading and adoption of 2022 budget (Jim) – during reg meeting
5. Others?

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

Art Scott – discussion on physicals – does the punishment include duty crew cards and fireworks?

Commissioner Goldberg questioned why this is being brought to the board – if three chiefs were in agreement? Discussion ensued. Sent back to the SOG committee-

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

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

Agenda closed at 8:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim Janho, Clerk

**Commissioners of Fire District No. 1
Franklin Township • Somerset County
New Jersey
VOTING RECORD
REGULAR MEETING January 10, 2022**

MOTION	GOLDBERG	HIBBARD	JANHO	SHIMALLA	WICKMAN
Agenda Public Commentary opened	S-Y	Y	Y	Y	M-Y
Agenda Public commentary closed	S-Y	M-Y	Y	Y	Y
Agenda Meeting closed	Y	Y	Y	M-Y	S-Y
Approve mins meeting 11/22/21	Y	Y	Y	M-Y	S-Y
Approve Treasurers Report	Y	Y	S-Y	M-Y	Y
LOSAP Posting	S-Y	Y	Y	Y	M-Y
Motion for discount at 75% and sale of old ladder at \$160,000.00 when new truck delivered	Y	Y	M-Y	Y	S-Y
Reso- 22-01 Adopt 2022 Budget	Y	Y	S-Y	Y	M-Y
Public Commentary opened	Y	Y	Y	M-Y	S-Y
Public commentary closed	Y	Y	S-Y	M-Y	Y
Meeting closed 9:11	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