

**Commissioners of Fire District No.1
Franklin Township, Somerset County, New Jersey
OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF April 25, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 p.m. at Somerset Fire House 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	W. Weber
Middlebush	C. Ryan
Millstone Valley.....	K. Jerzewski
Somerset.....	C. Gianotto

A motion to approve the minutes of the 3/28/2022 Regular meeting and the Re-Org minutes of 3/1/2022 was made by Commissioner Goldberg second by Commissioner Janho. 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 Goldberg. All in favor. Resolution 22-05 Auditor for 2022 Suplee, Cooney and Co. Board polled all in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE – Thank-you cards received from C. Leuthauser, D. VanDeursen, D, Ubry.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORTS: No report

INSURANCE: No report

LOSAP: Closed and submitted

PURCHASING:. Commissioner Goldberg read a statement

“I spent over 11 years on purchasing and it’s time to pass the baton to a fresh set of eyes. Commissioner Hibbard showed recent interest so he’s taken over my Purchasing role. He will work with Dawn to understand how she handles the annual bid process in addition to him handling normal purchasing requests. Both Rich and the Chairman agreed so the change is effective immediately.”

Resolution 22-17 PACO – Commissioner Hibbard -Board polled – all in favor

DISTRICT LINE OFFICERS' MEETING: Chief Gianotto read the minutes from the meeting held tonight. He will email them to Dawn.

TRUCK & EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE: Commissioner Janho reported that he received emails from each company with their status

- Sta. 26 – All in service
- Sta. 28 – All in service
- Sta. 44 – 44-1 foam issue
- Sta. 56 – 56-2 hydraulics out of service

Old Squad 28 being readied for sale

IT and GIS and RED ALERT– Progress

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION/INTERNET PRESENCE: Commissioners Janho and Goldberg met and are working on some ideas. Commissioner Janho made a motion to wrap the old stealth vehicle with recruitment ad, up to \$5,000.00, if there are no new trucks available or are months out. Commissioner Wickman second. Discussion ensued. Board polled Shimalla – No, Goldberg – Yes, Hibbard – No, Wickman – No, Janho- Yes. Motion not passed.

RADIO REPAIRS & COMMUNICATIONS: Commissioner Hibbard – 700 line in testing, he believes the license has been approved by FCC in full.

FIRE PREVENTION BOARD: Commissioner Hibbard reported more discussion regarding cellar pumping, not getting a clear message. Station 44 is still doing cellar pumping.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE: Postponed to May 9th 7PM public meeting and then will have an executive session. SOG meeting May 26th 7PM- at station 56 – committee meeting not public.

TRAINING:

Tanker drill 5/7/22 5/3 ethical and conflict resolution 6:30 station 44.

HOSE TESTING-Commissioner Hibbard to send for pricing to have everything done at once.

BUDGET/ELECTION- 1st payment should be available 4/29/22.

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

SQUAD 28- Still some issues, valves leaking.

ENGINE 8 –

TRAFFIC SIGNAL DEVICES: Installed waiting to be programmed

FIVE-YEAR PLAN: To be discussed during the meeting on May 9th.

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PLAN: List sent to chiefs. Chief Ryan reported that we have the equipment now to test the N-95's. Each department has two machines.

ANNUAL AWARDS COMMITTEE / ANNUAL INSPECTION: 6/4/22 Picnic at Forest Lodge 10-4PM
Breakfast included

OLD BUSINESS: Discussion on new pickups – 5 month chassis delivery times – approx. \$32,500.00 Morris County Co-op – different manufacturers and dealers being looked into. Dodge not on any co-op.

NEW BUSINESS: none

PUBLIC COMMENTARY PERIOD:

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

East Millstone First Aid Squad thanked the board and fire departments for the help with the recent extrication.

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

Motion to close by Commissioner Janho, second by Commissioner Wickman – all in favor

Meeting closed at 8:37 PM.

Commissioner Janho, Clerk

MINUTES, DATED 4-25-22

Type of Meeting: Agenda Special Work Session Discussion

Location: Somerset Fire House **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) – Installed, up and in testing
2. Use of legal services (Jay) – three options – adjust, rescind or leave it. Motion to rescind in reg meeting- discussion ensued – rescind and have a valid reason. Next meeting.
3. Code of Conduct policy (Jay) – add the above legal services to code of conduct?
4. Remote meeting capability (Jay)
5. Drug and Alcohol Policy (Rich) To be voted on tonight – then go to marijuana update-update the SOG and update the membership packet.
6. Auditor – (Jim) Resolution tonight during reg meeting 22-05.
7. Others?

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

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

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

Agenda closed at 7:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim Janho, Clerk