

Board of Fire Commissioners District #1
May 27, 2020

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, District #1 was held as a remote meeting due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and Executive Orders issued by Governor Murphy prohibiting public assemblies. The access information for the meeting was posted to the Commissioners' website, posted at the Powder Mill Firehouse, and sent to the Parsippany Troy-Hills Township Clerk.

The meeting commenced at **7:34PM** with Commissioner Berry presiding. Commissioners Masker, Jamieson, Ferdinandi, and Tagliente were also in attendance and provided input regarding the Board's monthly operations. Chief Crawford and Deputy Chief Herrmann also participated in the gathering and presentation of information.

Minutes from previous meeting were read by Commissioner Tagliente and approved with minor corrections via a motion made by Commissioner Jamieson, seconded by Commissioner Masker, and passed via unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Monthly Report declaring expenses of **\$636,689.44** was distributed for all Commissioners to review and provide comments. Two deposits were received totaling **\$211,565.25**: \$209,315.25 for 2nd Quarter Taxes; and \$2,250.00 from Par-Troy EMS for reimbursement of shore line installation at Powder Mill. No comments or objections were made.

The Treasurer's Report was approved via a motion made by Commissioner Jamieson, seconded by Commissioner Ferdinandi, and passed via unanimous vote.

Truck Report:

- **Tower 11:** Hydraulic systems repairs were made and truck has been placed back in service; 1 extinguisher is at NJFF for recertification; K12 saw will not start; on-board generator will not start; electric nozzle controls are not all working;
- **Engine 12:** Striping on the rear is peeling;
- **Engine 13:** Status quo;
- **Rescue 14:** A pump for the brakes has seized and is being replaced; a new relay is also required to prevent this from occurring again.
- **Engine 15:** Repairs have been made and truck is in service; 1 extinguisher is at NJFF for recertification; brakes are very squeaky and need to be looked at;
- **Utility 16:** Status quo;
- **Car 18:** Truck was towed due to a power steering issue but the issue could not be replicated; driver's door hinge was repaired while truck was being serviced; and
- **Car 19:** Status quo.

Radio Report: An update was received indicating that the town believes their new radio system will be ready around the fall. Water tower in Powder Mill must be painted, may cause a temporary tower to be built; No formal training has been done with dispatching; guidelines are going to be drafted soon to be reviewed by Chiefs; Lt. Pomroy is now back in charge of dispatchers; Radio plug-ins being made to test out radio banks; County has been tremendous thus far, would like to discuss further. A meeting with the Mayor and other township officials was scheduled, but has been cancelled due to COVID-19. Attempts to reschedule have been unsuccessful, but no new date has been set.

**During the Radio Report, an unknown caller entered the meeting. Commissioner Berry requested that the caller identify him/herself. The caller did not confirm their identity. After multiple requests by Commissioner Berry, the caller was removed from the meeting as an assumed wrong number.

Insurance: Commissioner Ferdinandi spoke with the insurance representative. If the Board decides to reinstate the life members that were removed, it must resubmit the normal paperwork and pay their premium for the full benefit with new beneficiary forms. As far as putting them on half benefit, the representative stated that the insurance company changed how to sign up for this but needs to provide clarification on how to proceed with this if the Board need to add anyone to that bracket.

Purchasing: Commissioner Masker is gathering quotes for CCTV and door access system to the new building, more information will be available at the next meeting;

Bills were paid for extra cleaning of the firehouses due to COVID-19 (EMS paid for the cost associated with Powder Mill Firehouse);

Several (6) dead and diseased trees on the Tarn Drive property were removed at a cost of approximately \$1,600.00.

Fire Prevention: No report.

Joint Commissioner Board: Joint Commissioner Board meetings will be suspended until further notice. Commissioner Masker is coordinating with the other districts via email.

Chief/Open: Air Bags are expected to arrive in July;

Due to some COVID-19 restrictions being lifted, we will do 1 more online training on 5/28 and then look to reopen Drivers Training and small "squad night" type training; This may include keeping members at their primary buildings and doing separate evolutions on their own with an officer;

Academy: FF2 students looking to finish hands on portion in June with weekend only classes; this may present a problem for some members; Junior FF1 program likely to be canceled this summer, we had 1 member signed up;

Emergency Reporting – Looking to add on the Google Map package for \$495 per year (would be prorated for 2020); Allows for overview of call locations, Drag and drop accuracy for call locations (MVA, Brush Fire, Pole Fires, etc), Drag and drop of hydrant locations;

Hydro testing of 67 SCBA bottles to start on 5/31. Will revolve over 4 weeks to get updated (many due in June);

Purchased new hose, battery chainsaw, smoke machine, nozzles that were in budget;

Need to replace K-12 on Tower 11. Repair shop said its beyond repair, better off replacing;

No update on 2900 Route 10 or 1500 Littleton road construction projects; 1 Medical Drive (near Greystone) plans to be adding a daycare;

Tower 11 – Next piece to be replaced regardless, a committee will be formed to begin exploring long-term replacement options.

Old Business: The construction video camera feed has been posted on various outlets. Footings have been placed, foundation walls are being formed; concrete will be poured early next week. Steel will begin being placed on June 8, pending weather. The project is still on schedule. Commissioners Berry and Masker conducted a walk-through and are impressed by the progress thus far. Permit delays have continued to be a source of frustration.

Following up on last month's discussion on truck repair expenses with single vendors, Commissioner Berry recapped discussions with the Board's legal counsel as to how the Board can conduct repairs appropriately in light of last year's audit recommendations. Once a plan has been developed, it will be submitted to the auditor for review. The primary issue is that the trucks require service by dealers with the appropriate experience and equipment.

The generator from Tarn Drive will be installed at Powder Mill shortly. The concrete pad has been completed.

New Business: A motion was made by Commissioner Jamieson, seconded by Commissioner Masker and approved via a unanimous vote to purchase the Google Maps package for Emergency Reporting.

The Board agreed to obtain quotes for routine annual maintenance for the trucks from multiple vendors.

Replacing the damaged K-12 saw from Tower 11 was discussed. Commissioner Jamieson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Berry, approved via a unanimous vote to purchase a new saw within a budget of \$1000.

Resolutions: None.

A Motion to Close was made by Commissioner Masker, seconded by Commissioner Jamieson, and carried via a unanimous vote at **8:28PM**.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel A. Tagliente
Commissioner / Clerk