

Board of Fire Commissioners District #1
January 27, 2021

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, District #1 was held at the Powder Mill Firehouse on Wednesday, January 27, 2021. The meeting commenced at **7:30PM** with Commissioner Berry presiding. Commissioners Masker, Ferdinandi, Jamieson, and Tagliente were in attendance. Chief Crawford, Deputy Chief Herrmann, and Captain Masker also attended virtually as representatives of the Department.

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 for December 2020 declaring operating expenses of **\$440,820.00 (Operating Expenses of \$95,855.00 & Building Expenses \$344,965.00)** was read and distributed for all Commissioners to review and provide comments. No comments or objections were made. There were also operating expenses attributable to January 2021 in the amount of \$7,269. A deposit of \$900 for Q4 2020 EMS rent of Powder Mill has been received.

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:** Status quo;
- **Engine 12:** Status quo;
- **Engine 13:** Foam tank gauge shows that tank is empty even when full;
- **Rescue 14:** Brake booster pump cracked due to freezing temperatures, Phoenix has ordered replacement;
- **Engine 15:** Officer seat belt is broken, new parts on order;
- **Utility 16:** Headlight bulb repaired; parasitic draw fixed; new trickle charger added;
- **Car 18:** Lights have been reprogrammed to fix lighting glitch; Parts may be under warranty; Foot pedal is not working but being investigated; and
- **Car 19:** Needs tires.

Radio Report: All new APX6000s (portables) have been received, labeled, programmed and placed into service. All batteries have been put through the proper initial conditioning as recommended by Motorola.

All new APX6500s (mobiles) have been installed in all trucks and are programmed.

All new portable chargers have been installed in all vehicles.

We have received 8 of 25 owed pagers from the town, which have been programmed, and the rollout of replacing all old model Minitor 5s is in progress and should be done soon. All Pagers will be reprogrammed upon receipt.

The 18 APX8000s we have on hand still need to be flash upgraded by the town (\$18,000 value) and programmed. This is an operational issue, as this was supposed to be completed by the Parsippany PD before the 1/4/2021 transition date.

The base station at Simpson has been programmed and the remote unit slated for the backroom was not installed, as it will be moved to Tarn where it will get more use.

The base station at Powder Mill has not been programmed and the remote unit slated for the Commissioners' office will not be installed as it will also be moved to Tarn for a more practical application than being unused at Powder Mill. There will be a remote unit mounted in the crew room, however, for EMS use as planned.

The missing equipment for Tarn is being delivered to Powder Mill tomorrow.

We have 38 brand-new APX batteries, they have a lifespan of 4-5 years if charged properly. In 4-5 years we will need to replace them at a cost of approximately \$130/ea that would be \$6,000-7,000 between the new and current batteries we have. Future planning is recommended.

Insurance: No report.

Purchasing: Commissioner Berry recommends assembling a list of cleaning supplies, maintenance supplies, incidental items, and tools that will need to be purchased once the building is occupied.

Fire Prevention: No report.

Joint Commissioner Board: The next Joint Commissioner Board meeting scheduled for February 3, 2021, at District #5's firehouse.

Chief/Open: 22 Calls year-to-date (10 have been mutual aid).

New Construction within the Fire District:

2900 Route 10 project (180 Units), no updates;

1500 Littleton Road project (250 Senior Apartments + Assisted Living); Detailed letter sent to the property owners, awaiting a reply; also requested use of the vacant building for training, prior to demolition.

Upcoming Training: 1/28 Extrication or RIC training (pending weather); 2/4 Extrication or RIC training; 2/18 CPR/Squad; 2/25 CPR/Squad.

Mutual Aid Updates & Assistance Given/Received: Added to Picatinny as 3rd Due RIC; Added to Paterson Task Force for Engine, but eventually Rescue; Provided coverage for D2 while they had several members out on quarantine for 9 days; Expecting to be added to Randolph's Run Cards soon.

Parsippany Dispatching: Emails are not being answered in a timely manner from PPD regarding dispatch issues. PPD has stated that they will send other units as they see fit: Sent EMS on an unknown odor call without County request or FD knowledge; Sent EMS to odor of something to Brooklawn Drive without County request or FD knowledge; Did NOT send Fire or EMS for a bus into the Tomac Inn as agreed upon in CFS codes.

Will be moving 1 hose drying rack and 1 hose supply rack to Tarn.

Officers will be establishing "office hours" at the new firehouse 6pm-7pm every Thursday (pending training schedule). This allows members to sign up for classes, ask questions, etc.

Once the new firehouse is open, truck stations will be as follows: Powder Mill – E12 & U16; Tarn – T11, E13 & R14; Simpson – E15.

NAPA account for small auto parts. Info was given to Commissioner Masker but guidelines need to be established.

Past Chief Hollner & Chief Crawford working with FEMA to get money reimbursed for COVID expenses.

Recommend putting new Tower 11 & Chief 19 on the February 2022 ballot if we do not receive assistance from any third-party or governmental organizations.

Access/keys to each building, this should now 100% be the commissioners since they own each building. The Officers and Board need to develop a policy on key access for junior and probationary members.

Old Business: The Board hosted a walkthrough of the Tarn Drive Firehouse construction project during the previous weekend with the membership. Construction of the sidewalks is almost complete. Flag pole footing will be poured next week. Painting on the second floor will begin soon. Tiling will begin next week. Bay doors have been installed but only half the motors have been installed. Heat is up and running. Generator has been delivered and will be installed. All exterior lights should be complete by the end of this week. Lettering for the front of the building is ready to be installed. Elevator has been installed but still requires inspections. A meeting between the Board, Township officials, and contractors will be taking place next Tuesday to resolve outstanding permits and requirements that have been imposed by the Township despite their requests not being supported by code requirements.

There has still not been any progress with the Township's lease of the Tarn Drive bay.

New Business: None.

Resolutions: The following resolutions were read, discussed, and voted on as below:

Resolution 2021-01 – King et. al. as Legal Counsel & Professional Services for FY21

A resolution authorizing King Moench Hirniak & Mehta, LLP, employment for "Professional Services" for the 2021 Fiscal Year was read. The resolution was adopted by the following roll-call vote:

Yes: Commissioner Masker
Commissioner Berry
Commissioner Tagliente
Commissioner Jamieson
Commissioner Ferdinandi
No: --
Absent:

Resolution 2021-02 – Temporary 2021 Operating Budget

A resolution authorizing the adoption of a temporary budget for the payment of contracts, commitments, and/or expenses incurred prior to the adoption of the Fire District's regular 2021 Budget was read. The resolution was adopted by the following roll-call vote:

Yes: Commissioner Masker
Commissioner Berry
Commissioner Tagliente
Commissioner Jamieson
Commissioner Ferdinandi
No: --
Absent:

Resolution 2021-03 – Phoenix Advisors for FY21

A resolution excepting the legal financial council of Phoenix Advisors for the 2021 Fiscal Year was read. The resolution was adopted by the following roll-call vote:

Yes: Commissioner Masker
Commissioner Berry
Commissioner Tagliente
Commissioner Jamieson
Commissioner Ferdinandi
No: --
Absent:

Resolution 2021-04 – Nisivoccia & Co. for FY21

A resolution excepting the auditing firm of Nisivoccia & Co. for the 2021 Fiscal Year was read. The resolution was adopted by the following roll-call vote:

Yes: Commissioner Masker
Commissioner Berry
Commissioner Tagliente
Commissioner Jamieson

Commissioner Ferdinandi

No: --

Absent:

Being no further business, a Motion to Close was made by Commissioner Masker, seconded by Commissioner Tagliente, and carried via a unanimous vote at **9:06PM**.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel A. Tagliente
Commissioner / Clerk