

Workshop Meeting, March 11, 2013

Chairman Raymond Equils called the meeting to order at 19:00 hours, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Equils then read the Opening Statement, noting this meeting was advertised on Sunday, December 30, 2013 in the Asbury Park Press and posted on two (2) municipal Bulletin Boards and in the firehouse, as required by the Open Public Meetings Act, commonly referred to as "The Sunshine Law."

Roll call was taken with Commissioners Eadicicco, Equils, Kelly, Scarlato, and Stalling being present. It was also recorded that there were zero (0) firefighters or public present at the start of the meeting.

Chairman Equils administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Stalling, following his re-election to a full 3 year term.

Purchaser Eadicicco began preparing the bills and vouchers, for processing by Treasurer Stalling to print checks.

CRITICAL CORRESPONDENCE: Clerk Kelly reported the following:

Various certifications of the election and passage of the 2013 Budget;
Receipt, signing, and return of 4 vouchers from township for 2013 allocations;
2012 L.O.S.A.P. Contributions deposited with VALIC-AIG.
2 letters from fire company membership committee: 1 - Inquiring about insurance coverage for Associate and In-Active Exempt members; 2 – Request to approve purchasing two (2) Class "A" uniforms.

OLD BUSINESS: Chairman Equils reported receiving a letter from FEMA advising that federal funding for 2013 fire service grants was reduced by 4% from the 2012 level, about 104 million dollars less. He is continuing to work on the district's new "SAMS" registration.

Driver License Review Program: Chairman Equils reported having all the information required to start the process. Cost is \$15.00 per person, with a separate request form being done for each person. Suggested ½ of those member likely to drive district vehicles be approved to done tonight and the other ½ next month.

Commissioners Kelly and Scarlato made a motion approving this format and placing the item on tomorrow evening's agenda for formal action. Motion passed unanimously.

Fail Safe Hose Testing: It appeared to the members, that the status of the failed hose from last year's testing still has not been addressed. All informally agreed to place the item on tomorrow's agenda, for addressing with the chief and line officers.

NEW BUSINESS: The issue of federal with-holding taxes was addressed. Chairman Equils reported speaking with personnel at ADP, the district's payroll company. All rates of with-holding are correct, per the initial filings of Federal W-4 forms, which in most instances, showed exemptions, resulting in a lower with-holding, which caused members to owe & pay additional taxes at filing time.

Solution is to file new W-4 forms' stating lower or zero (0) exemptions, so the maximum with-holding occurs. Clerk Kelly printed new W-4's that members will fill out and file tonight.

Pensions: It was noted that there has been no communication for over 3 years, from the NJ Division of Pensions regarding enrollment or payments for Commissioners Eadicicco, Scarlato, and Stalling, in the state administered DCRP pension program. And, Clerk Kelly's NJ-PERS pension has received no deposits for past 5 years. Board members felt it was past the time to initiate formal action to resolve the issues. Clerk Kelly was informally directed to request the district's counsel (Jay C. Sendzik, Esq. please be present at the April Workshop to address a resolution of these matters. Clerk Kelly will also invite the district's auditor (Mr. Barry Osborn) to attend, as he has been engaged in this matter for quite some time.

Insurance: On the issue of insurance for fire company Associate and In-Active Exempt members; all informally agreed that the item was previously discussed and the board's position of not insuring these levels of membership was affirmed. In response to the letter requesting information; the clerk will send the committee a copy of the minutes stating the board's position

Uniforms: On the request to purchase Class "A" uniforms for F/F's Christopher Maher and Salvatore Scarlato; A motion to approve and place the item on tomorrow's agenda was made by Commissioners Equils and Stalling and passed on a 4 yes vote, with Commissioner Scarlato absenting himself from the vote, due to a possible conflict of interest, as one of the uniforms is for his son.

Insurance Revaluation: Clerk Kelly has contacted William Newberry of VFIS and will arrange a convenient date for an adjuster to come and perform the inspection.

Fire Bureau Takeover: Commissioner Scarlato questioned the costs for attorneys engaged in this matter. It was informally agreed that District 4 not pay a portion of the cost for the attorney who accompanied Districts 2 & 5 to their meeting at the Division of Fire Safety, as there was no prior discussion or agreement at the "Joint Board" level.

However, all felt it proper to attempt to split the bill for Mr. Sendzik, as he was asked to come to the Joint meeting and actions were approved by all present, to engage his services to look into the matter, and to draft a Mutual Action Agreement to formalize the five (5) districts to "Act Jointly."

It was also noted that all agreed that the "Shared Services Committee" organized at the March Joint meeting was not formally approved; nor was it empowered to spend any money or commit to any financial obligations.

Chairman Equils and Vice Chairman Scarlato will broach these topics at the upcoming meeting of the Executive Board.

TREASURER'S REPORT Following the completion of the voucher and check entry by Treasurer Stalling, he reported bills totaling \$17,671.94, requiring a transfer of \$15,000.00. These amounts agreed with the calculations prepared by Purchaser Eadicicco.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted on a motion by Commissioners Kelly and Stalling, and passed unanimously by the board.

PUBLIC COMMENT With zero (0) firefighters and with zero (0) members of the public being present, there were no other comments offered.

ADJOURNMENT This concluded the business for the workshop, so a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioners Stalling and Scarlato, and passed by the board. The meeting closed at 21:02 hrs. Respectfully Submitted,

Robert J. Kelly
Clerk of the Board

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03/11/2013