

Workshop Meeting, February 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 Equils, Kelly, Scarlato, and Stalling being present. Commissioner Eadicicco was absent due to work. It was also recorded that there were zero (0) firefighters or public present at the start of the meeting.

Clerk Kelly and Vice Chairman Scarlato began preparing the bills and vouchers, for processing by Treasurer Stalling to print checks.

CRITICAL CORRESPONDENCE: Clerk Kelly reported the following:

- Presented a quote from FailSafe for annual hose testing;
- Service Contract for radio repairs from Quality Communications;
- Liberty Mutual Insurance Group – Worker's Compensation Insurance Renewal;
- VFIS- Credit Notice following deletion of OLD Unit 488 from Vehicle Policy;
- Nominating Petitions received from William B. McMahon, Sr., and Otto F. Weber.

OLD BUSINESS: Chairman Equils reported looking to the upcoming round of federal grants, noting the process has done away with the old or former central registry, and replaced it with their new "SAMS" registry system. He will enroll the district in the new system, in the event the board deems something in the 2013 program beneficial to the district and takes action to apply. It is currently unknown what the preferred focus of grant will be. But the board members agreed if possible, a good item to pursue would be an upgraded SCBA Fill Compressor.

It was then reported the "Check Engine" light was lit again in Unit 466, and the vehicle should be taken or needs to be taken for evaluation and diagnosis.

NEW BUSINESS: The board members discussed the action by the township council and township manager, to take control of all operations of the Howell Fire Bureau.

While everyone was opposed to this action, all agreed that none of the 5 commissions had any good, solid, and verifiable data of figures on close to exactly what it would cost each board in new annual expenditures to take over the full funding and operational control of the bureau, as was done prior to the agreement with the township. It was also noted that it appears on 4 of 5 districts would support this move, which would probably lead to even higher cost for the remaining district.

Chairman Equils reported the fire company's Membership Committee was inquiring about insurance coverage for Associate and In-Active Exempt Members. All agreed the board would not spend tax dollars to insure persons who were not active or life members, as is currently the long standing policy.

All agreed that associate and in-active exempt are not to engage in any firematic activities, including work details, and any event involving apparatus or trucks, such as Coin Tosses, Santa Ride, Pool Fills, etc. Those persons would be insured f on the property or in the building for a meeting or social function, the same as any other individual would be covered under the Property Liability Portion of the insurance. Chairman Equils will advise the company's committee of the existing policy.

Discussion was held on Chief Nichols' statement regarding his requirement for firefighters to engage certain training "On-Line" with penalties for failing to do so.

It was informally agreed that the board would not sanction penalties that are not enumerated in the Training Standards Policy, as adopted by the Board, and they will not support any penalties for failing to train, unless the program is offered to the membership, at the fire station or elsewhere as an organized and presented company function. Chairman Equils will advise Chief Nichols of the board's position.

Clerk Kelly reported twenty-seven (27) firefighters are eligible for the 2012 LOSAP contribution, which payment is included in tonight's list of bills.

Chairman Equils noted the board agreed to do quarterly payroll distributions for commissioners, so he will need the payroll figures by the end of the month for submission to ADP.

TREASURER'S REPORT Following the completion of the voucher and check entry by Treasurer Stalling, he reported bills totaling \$64,358.64, plus a total for payroll of \$15,000.00; requiring a transfer of \$80,000.00. These amounts agreed with the calculations prepared by Clerk Kelly and Vice Chairman Scarlato.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted on a motion by Commissioners Kelly and Scarlato, 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 20:55 hrs. Respectfully Submitted,

Robert J. Kelly
Clerk of the Board

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02/11/2013