

THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

DISTRICT No. 4 — RAMTOWN
HOWELL TOWNSHIP MONMOUTH COUNTY
88 RAMTOWN-GREENVILLE RD.
HOWELL, N.J. 07731-2790

Workshop Meeting, October 12, 2015

Chairman Gregory Scarlato called the meeting to order at 19:00 hours, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Scarlato then read the Opening Statement, noting this meeting was advertised on Sunday, December 28, 2014 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 Scarlato, Bommer, Acampora, Eadicicco, and Stalling being present.

It was recorded that there were one (1) members of the public present at the start of the meeting.

CRITICAL CORRESPONDENCE:

Clerk Acampora referenced all correspondence that was received and sent out, as will be noted in the next regular meeting minutes on 10/13/15.

An EZpass violation was received for vehicle 488 on its trip to Wildwood. Commissioner Eadicicco stated that he will handle this violation, as well as changing the signers on the account to himself and Clerk Acampora.

Mayor William Gotto attended this meeting and discussed the status of the fire districts as soon through the eyes of the town council. He noted that he and town council have been fielding questions from the tax payers regarding why the fire district taxes are so high and why we have so many apparatus in town. Most of the questions are arising from tax payers in fire district 1 & 2. District 1 has approached the mayor and stated that they may need assistance pertaining to their 2016 budget. They have the least amount of ratables in town and thus have the highest fire tax rate. Most of the tax payers feel that it would be cheaper to consolidate the fire districts and have 1 paid fire company. They feel that there is an abundance of duplicate fire equipment throughout the 5 fire districts and that cutting back on apparatus would reduce the cost to them. The mayor noted that the 5 districts need to act as one body and start banding together. There needs to be a review of purchasing amongst the districts. His example is that both District 1 and 2 are purchasing new apparatus in 2016, but neither are disposing of any current apparatus. An open discussion between the mayor and the board ensued with positive feedback from all involved. Chairman Scarlato stated that he will address all these issues at the next Executive Board meeting. Mayor Gotto was thanked for his time and for attending this meeting to speak with us.

OLD BUSINESS: The Medical Director contract was forward to the board's attorney (Jay Sendzik) for his review. Chairman Scarlato noted that Mr. Sendzik will be at November's business meeting and we can address the contact at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: None Noted

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board adjourned from the regular meeting at 20:34 hours and entered into Executive session to discuss personnel issues.

The regular workshop meeting was entered back into session at 20:57 hours.

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NEW TRUCK: None

PAYROLL: None

TREASURER'S REPORT: Following the completion of the voucher and check entry by Treasurer Stalling, he reported 20 bills totaling \$60,077.89. In order to cover the expenses, \$70,000.00 will be transferred to the general account.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted on a motion by Commissioners Eadicicco and seconded by Commissioner Bommer. The motion was passed unanimously by the board.

GOOD AND WELFARE: Nothing was reported.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were zero (0) members of the public present and there were no comments offered.

ADJOURNMENT: This concluded the business for the workshop, so a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioners Stalling and Bommer, and passed by the board.

The meeting closed at 21:19 hours.

Respectfully Submitted:



Michael L. Acampora
Clerk of the Board