

THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

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

Regular Meeting June 11, 2024

Vice Chairman Romano called the meeting to order at 20:00 hours followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice Chairman Romano read the following legal disclosure:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting its interest is discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District No. 4, Township of Howell, has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, place, and agenda, to the extent know thereof, posted as follows:

- Published in the Asbury Park Press on November 22, 2023
- Published in the Howell Times on December 9, 2023
- Filed written notice with the Township Clerk on November 16, 2023
- Posted written notice on the Official Bulletin Board at the Township Municipal Building
- Posted on www.njfiredistricts.org

The above postings indicate that Formal Action May Be Taken.

Roll call was taken with Commissioners Stalling, Romano, and Acampora in attendance. Commissioner Scarlato and Bailey were not in attendance.

It was noted that there were eight (8) members of the public in attendance.

Administering the Oath of Office: None

Minutes:

Commissioner Acampora reported that the regular workshop Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2024, were posted on the Fire Company Bulletin Board outside the meeting room at the firehouse. He then read the minutes from the regular business meeting on May 14, 2024.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Stalling and seconded Commissioner Romano. The motion passed unanimously by the Board.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Commissioner Stalling presented the following bills for payment for the month of June 2024:

1	Rich Stalling	\$	150.00
2	Greg Scarlato	\$	150.00
3	Mike Acampora	\$	150.00
4	Ricky Romano	\$	150.00

5	James Bailey	\$ 150.00
6	Colin Murphy	\$ 150.00
7	Sal Scarlato	\$ 150.00
8	Pete Realmuto	\$ 150.00
9	Max Nikolof	\$ 150.00
10	Chris Zmuda	\$ 150.00
11	Joe Gilsenan	\$ 150.00
12	Access Health	\$ 1,185.00
13	Optimum	\$ 175.18
14	NJ American Water	\$ 4,417.50
15	Brick MUA	\$ 7,781.40
16	Grainger	\$ 153.95
17	Taylor Oil	\$ 1,803.61
18	VE Ralph & sons	\$ 153.95
19	STTC	\$ 258.95
20	Certified Auto	\$ 225.00
21	Emergency Services Marketing	\$ 810.00
22	Fire Flow	\$ 1,425.60
23	VE Ralph & sons	\$ 270.50
24	Atlas Welding	\$ 52.78
25	Liberty Mutual	\$ 2,539.12
26	WG Newberry LLC	\$ 1,500.00
27	Mike Acampora	\$ 56.99
28	NetLink	\$ 199.00
29	CSM	\$ 356.00
	Total Bills	\$ 25,014.53

A motion was made by Clerk Acampora and seconded by Commissioner Stalling to pay the bills for June 2024. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Stalling – Yes, present on own bills
Romano – Yes, present on own bills
Acampora – Yes – present on own bills
The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

Received

Koerner & Koerner – request for additional information from accountant for 2023 audit
Request for LOSAP distribution from firefighter 24-001

Sent:

None

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COMMITTEES

Joint Board Meeting

The last Joint Board meeting was attended by Commissioners Acampora and Bailey. Commissioner Bailey ran the meeting, as 19-4 holds the position of Chairman for the year 2024.

Progress was noted on the communications project by Commissioner Tice. Several districts are requesting to receive the communications equipment prior to the installation of the project to be completed.

Commissioner Franklin started a long discussion why the Joint Board even exists as nothing is ever accomplished at any of the meetings. There has never been a time where the Joint Board has been utilized for purchasing or anything else. He also wants to form a committee of 5, 1 member from each district, to discuss putting on full-time career coverage for the township.

Next Joint Commissioner meeting is 9/5/24 @ 7:30pm at Station 19-2.

Chief's Report

Chief Murphy submitted all reports.

The air compressor is out of service. A temporary fixed has been implemented by Commissioner Romano. The Board is looking into whether it is worthwhile repairing the current compressor, which is only 2 years old, or purchasing a new compressor.

The Chief stated that he has been approached by a member of the fire company requesting to drive the fire apparatus but, due to his handicap, he will need adjustments made to the steering wheel. Once the adjustment has been made, the apparatus will not be operable by anyone other than the handicapped person. The Board is going to have to contact our attorney to discuss this issue.

The Chief and line officers discussed the upcoming deadlines on fire fighters producing all property certification in order to be a fire fighter, as per the new Division of Fire Safety guidelines. They have been sending numerous text reminders to all firefighters to comply with the deadline or firefighters not in compliance will have their gear removed from the racks and they will no longer be able to respond to calls and they will not receive credit for any calls during this time period. The line officers discussed possibly having all fire fighters take the online classes needed for their certifications at the next company drill. They have stated that there are 14 fire fighters that do not have all their certifications and would be in jeopardy of having their gear pulled. They are going to make another announcement at the next fire company meeting.

Chief Engineer

Chief Engineer Gilsenan provided the following updates:

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Ladder 490 – no issues
Engine 475 –a new driver’s side seat has been installed
Engine 480 – A/C not working and will be looked at on Friday 6/14/24. Also, valve stem on inner tire was repaired
Utility 488 – no issues
Tanker 495- no issues
Bush 494 – no issues
Engine 474 –no issues
Utility 487 – no issues
Vehicle 466 – no issues
Vehicle 467 – needs new tires

Chief Murphy has stated that he has authorized 2nd Assistant Chief Realmuto to drive vehicle 487 as a command vehicle from now through Labor Day, as Chief Realmuto will be during the day as he is on summer break from his employer. Commissioner Romano stated that the Board should have been contacted prior to giving a fire company vehicle to one of the line officers for responding to calls. Chief Murphy stated that he felt that Chief Realmuto will be able obtain experience prior to next year, when he will be become the 1st Assistant Chief. After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Romano noted that the Board will approve this as a one time only deal and will end at the end of the summer. Commissioner Romano also noted that if the Chief or 1st Assistant Chief calls in service, then Chief Realmuto will respond to the fire house as is normal protocol.

Purchaser:

A motion was made by Commissioner Stalling and seconded by Commissioner Acampora to purchase mounting brackets for the Partech equipment for Engine 480. The motion passed unanimously.

TRUCK COMMITTEE:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Acampora stated he received a request from firefighter 24-001 to withdraw funds from his LOSAP account. Commissioner Acampora reviewed the firefighter’s vesting qualifications and he meets the criteria to withdraw the funds.

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A motion was made by Commissioner Stalling and seconded by Commissioner Acampora to approve firefighter 24-001's request for LOSAP distribution. The motion passed unanimously.

GOOD AND WELFARE: None

JOINT PURCHASING COMMITTEE: None

APPLICATIONS/TERMINATIONS: None

PAYROLL:

Commissioner Stalling will be transferring \$16,000.00 to the payroll account to cover the 2nd quarter payroll.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Commissioner Stalling reported the following balances for the Board's account activity for the month of May 2024:

May 2024 - Amboy Bank

Operating Account

Opening Balance	\$30,572.26
Interest	
Voided Check	
Voided Check	
Transfers	
Transfers	
	<hr/>
	\$30,572.26
NJ PERS TEPS	
Bills Paid	
Bills Paid	
Service Charge	<hr/>
	\$0.00
Ending Balance	\$30,572.26

Savings Account

Opening balance	\$1,373,390.26
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Interest	\$4,082.54
	<u>\$1,377,472.80</u>

Transfers	
Transfers	
Transfers	
Transfers- Payroll	
Ending Balance	<u>\$1,377,472.80</u>

Payroll Account

Opening Balance	\$6,741.35
Interest	\$5.73
Transfer	
ADP	
	<u>\$6,747.08</u>
	\$0.00

Payroll	
Fees	
Fees	
Ending Balance	<u>\$6,747.08</u>

March 2024 - Manasquan Bank

Operating Account

Opening Balance	\$27,316.04
Interest	
Voided Check	
Voided Check	
Transfers	\$35,000.00
Transfers	
	<u>\$62,316.04</u>

NJ PERS TEPS	
Bills Paid	
Bills Paid	\$25,014.53
Bills (Radio Consulting)	
Service Charge	<u>\$0.00</u>
Ending Balance	<u>\$37,301.51</u>

Savings Account

Opening balance	\$1,085,660.38
Deposit from Amboy	
Interest	\$3,561.16
	<u>\$1,089,221.54</u>

Transfers	\$35,000.00
Transfers	
Transfers	
Transfers- Payroll	
Ending Balance	<u>\$1,054,221.54</u>

Payroll Account

Opening Balance	\$10,000.00
Interest	
Transfer	
ADP	
	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
	\$0.00
Payroll	
Fees	
Fees	
Ending Balance	<u>\$10,000.00</u>

The Treasurer's report was accepted on a motion by Commissioner Stalling and seconded by Commissioner Acampora and passed unanimously by the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were six (6) members of the public in attendance at the end of the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: This concluded the business before the Board and a motion was made by Commissioner Stalling and seconded by Clerk Acampora to close the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by the Board.

The meeting closed at 21:05 hours.

Respectfully submitted:

Michael L. Acampora
Clerk