

BOARDS OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 4, 2014

OPENING:

President Greg Scarlato called the regular meeting of the Joint Boards of Fire Commissioners to order this 4th day of September 2014, at 8:00pm, with a salute to the American Flag.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the regular meeting of June 2014 were approved by the floor as submitted.

ATTENDANCE:

Roll call showed 19 Commissioners present and 6 absent. Chief Hotmar, Captain Lewis and Mayor Gotto were also present for the meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None

SPECIAL:

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Joint Purchasing Committee, Progress. As a reminder be advised that State Contract vendors cannot request monies up front.

CHIEFS REPORT:

Chief Hotmar briefed the Boards on the following matters.

1. Thanked everyone for their support, call, visits, etc. relating to the passing of his wife Debi on July 10, 2014.
2. Office is operating without issues at this time and the Township is in the process of purchasing two vehicles for the Bureau.
3. Captain Lewis advised the Boards that the communications equipment is presently operating without problems. He advised the Boards that he is looking into what is necessary to begin taping of Howell 2, 3, 4 & 5. Cost may have to be taken from the Districts Communication Infrastructure Funds for 2014. He will advise further, via the Executive Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mayor Gotto discussed the following items;
 - a) Thank you to everyone involved in Howell Day.
 - b) 9-11 Memorial Service, 7pm at the Town Hall Memorial Site on Thursday, September 11, 2014. This will be a very informal service. Please attend if you can.
 - c) For those in the Emergency Services that are interested there will be a greet

and meet reception with the Monmouth Medical Center (Kimble) on September 24, from 9am to 11am. Contact the Mayor or the Township Manager if you are interested in attending.

- d) OEM will now be dispatched as a General Dispatch Order for all verified working structure fires. This will help speed up the response process for required resources.
- e) All First Aids will now be part of the response billing process. They will be able to recoup the first \$30,000 dollars for their operations and then the remaining monies will be split 60/40 with the Township. The Township has hired a part-time EMS Coordinator and is looking into additional part-time EMS employees. There have also been discussions among the First Aid Squads relating to consolidation. Because of a shortage of First Aid vehicles, the paid HPD division will be using some of the Squads equipment. There is also discussions going on about using the Windeler Road old OEM building as the EMS Headquarters.
- f) The Township has recently begin billing for burglar false alarms within the Township. Because of some outcry by the public, the fee fine schedule is being modified to reflect a onetime no penalty warning. After a discussion on this matter and the charging for fire false alarms the Boards voted to not include fire false alarms at this time, until the Boards had the opportunity to discuss this matter further with their individual Districts and the Fire Bureau. This was approved on a motion by Commissioner William Donahue, seconded by Commissioner Robert Kelly, with all members present voting in favor. Chief Hotmar will notify the Township Attorney in the morning as to the Boards position.

NEW BUSINESS:

01-09-2014: Annual Appointment of Commissioner Liaison to the Planning/Zoning Board.

Since the exist liaison was not present for the meeting, this appointment will be placed on hold until Chief Hotmar can contact Commissioners Pawlowski to see if he is still interested in continuing in the position. Chief Hotmar will report same at the September meeting of the Executive Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. On a motion by Commissioner William Donahue, seconded by Commissioner Harry Carter, the Boards by resolution adopted the agreement formalizing the creation of the Howell Township Joint Boards of Fire Commissioners. This was approved on a roll call vote showing 17 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain and 8 absent. (see attached resolution)

GOOD/WELFARE:

1. Fire Prevention Week is October 5 – 11, 2014, and this year's theme is "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives".

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Commissioner William Donahue, seconded by Commissioner James Eadicicco, with no further business coming before the Boards, the meeting was adjourned.

**NEXT MEETING, DECEMBER 4, 2014, 8:00pm, FIRE DISTRICT # 3
SOUTHARD FIRE COMPANY**