

BOARDS OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

OPENING:

Joint Board President, Al Pereira, called the September meeting of the Joint Boards of Fire Commissioners to order this 1st day of September 2016, at 8:00pm, at the Freewood Acres Fire House with a salute to the American Flag. The Open Public Meeting statement was read.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the regular meeting of June 2016 were emailed to all Commissioners and copies were made available at the meeting. The minutes were approved as submitted.

ATTENDANCE:

Roll call showed 16 Commissioners present, 9 absent. Also present was Chief Lewis.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None

SPECIAL:

Brian Tannenhause from the Howell Twp. Green Team was present to speak about the Sustainable Jersey efforts Howell is taking part in. He asked for the Commissioners to consider some of the programs that are available to fire departments to help improve the neighborhoods and decrease wildfire danger. Working in cooperation with the Howell Green Team may make the Districts eligible for grants. The three programs are Firewise Community, Ready, Set, Go! Fire Company and Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Report from Executive Board reference joint purchasing
All districts/fire companies have turned in the survey in reference to garbage collection. The information has been forwarded to the Twp Manager and the Mayor.

CHIEFS REPORT:

Chief Lewis briefed the Boards on the following matters.

1. Chief Lewis reported that the new part-time clerk has started in the office. Her name is Jameelah Black (Mia).
2. The "After the Fire" program will be held at the Howell High School on October 19th, 2016. Chief Lewis asked if each District could have a least one member present with apparatus at the program to show support.
3. Communications update. (repeater and receiver sites) All are operational. The T1 project is moving forward. We have discussed the purchase of the equipment

- and the recurring costs with the Financial Officer of the Township. They may be making a proposal to the Fire Districts to share in the costs of the monthly fees.
4. Battery backup equipment for the standby repeater site has been ordered. As soon as it arrives, it will be installed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Chief Lewis explained that he is working on the 2017 budget. It should be ready to present at 9/22 Executive Board meeting. Capital purchase items for consideration are a replacement car, renovations/repairs to the fire safety trailer and turnout gear for investigators.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Chief Lewis reported that the investigation truck is back in service.

GOOD/WELFARE:

1. Next Executive Board Meeting, September 22, 2016, 7:30PM, Howell Fire Bureau Conference Room.
2. Fire Prevention Week October 9 – 15, 2016. Theme “Don’t Wait – Check the Date!”
3. Howell Day is scheduled for September 24, 2016 at Soldier Memorial Park. 1 PM til 8 PM. Fireworks at dark.
4. There was a short discussion of the maintenance contract bids. There was a statement made that the contract may not need to go to bid as the vendor that is being considered is a licensed state inspection facility. Most likely they have a contract already with the State. This will need to be investigated with the attorney.
5. Reminder of the NJ State Fire Districts meeting on Friday September 16th at 8:00 AM at the convention hall in Wildwood, NJ.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

**NEXT MEETING, DECEMBER 1, 2016, 8:00pm, FIRE DISTRICT # 1
SQUANKUM FIRE COMPANY**