

BOARDS OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MINUTES – JULY 9, 2020

OPENING:

Joint Board President, Robert Donahue, called the Special July meeting of the Joint Boards of Fire Commissioners to order this 9th day of July 2020, at 7:30pm in the pavilion behind the Adelphia Fire Station at 925 Adelphia Road. The open public meeting statement was read.

ATTENDANCE:

Roll call showed 18 Commissioners present, 7 absent. Chief Lewis was also in attendance as well as other Chiefs from the Township fire companies and additional members of the public.

SPECIAL:

1. An extended discussion of the Fire Department Radio Communications Study occurred. Numerous reviews of different sections of the report as well as questions were discussed.
2. The meeting was opened to the public:
3. Chief Player (Adelphia), Chief Hadgkiss(Southard), Chief Romano(Ramtown) as well as many others in attendance all voiced their support for the move to the NJICS radio system. The current radio system is antiquated and is no longer operating on a level as required by public safety agencies. The system could fail and could jeopardize our firefighters. This needs to be corrected immediately. After all that wished to speak were heard, the meeting was closed to the public.
4. A motion was made by Fire District #3 to proceed with pursuing the moving of Fire Department communications to the NJICS radio system as described in the alternative solution #4 in the radio study, create a committee of one commissioner from each fire district to continue discussions and to review the impending move with Police Chief and Township Officials as necessary. This motion was seconded by Fire District #2.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

District 1 – Yes

District 2 – Yes

District 3 – Yes

District 4 – Yes

District 5 – Yes

The motion carried.

Commissioner Bob Tice requested each fire district to send the name of the representative from each district to Chief Lewis at the fire bureau.

Chief Player added that he also wants to make sure that in the discussions and plans we do not forget Farmingdale Fire Department even though they are not in Howell, they respond to many incidents in Howell as mutual aid.

With no other discussion to come before the Board on this topic, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Tice and was seconded by Commissioner Timmerman. So voted.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING, SEPTEMBER 3, 2020, 7:30pm, FIRE DISTRICT #1
SQUANKUM FIRE STATION, 271 SQUANKUM ROAD, 7:30 PM**