

BOARDS OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MINUTES – JUNE 6, 2013

OPENING:

President Doug Hesselbarth called the regular meeting of the Joint Boards of Fire Commissioners to order this 6th day of June 2013, at 8:00pm, with a salute to the American Flag.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the regular meeting of March 2013 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:

Note: Service Certificates will be presented to Ex-Commissioners Esposito, Lasocco and Hodges at the September meeting of the Joint Boards.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Joint Purchasing Committee, Progress.

CHIEFS REPORT:

Chief Hotmar briefed the Boards on the following matters.

1. Chiefs Report. (see attached)
2. Chief Hotmar and Captain Lewis are working on a new inspection fee concept which would include pricing based upon square footage, rather than just a flat inspection fee. Same is still in development.
3. Captain Lewis advised the Boards that the communications equipment is presently operating without problems. He also reminded the Boards that because of the antenna tower failure at Preventorium Road, a contingency plan has been developed so that if the main system failed, this plan could be put into effect that would get a backup system for police, fire and first aid in place in about 2 hours of the failure. He further advised that the Insurance Company is processing the claim, but the reimbursement and replacement projection will not cover the cost of all the necessary antennas. A meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2013 to further discuss the antenna issues.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

01-06-2013: A discussion and vote was call with respects to the proposed resolution on the establishment of the Joint Boards. The vote was unable to secure the support of all 5 Districts; therefore the resolution did not get approved. It was decided to have the Attorneys from District 2, 4 and 5 contact each other to review the resolution and narrow it down to Fire Prevention Functions, not Fire Suppression. This was approved on a motion by Commissioner Kelly, seconded by Commissioner Carter, by a vote of 19 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain and 6 absent. A redesigned resolution is to be back to the Boards by mid-August, for re-discussion and vote at the September meeting of the JBFC.

02-06-2013: Reappointment of the Fire Bureau's attorney will not be necessary as a result of the Fire Prevention Modification, and legal council will now come via the Township Attorney.

03-06-2013: After several calls from the floor for Commissioners Representative to the Townships Planning/Zoning Boards without any takers, the position will remain unfilled at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Fire Prevention ordinance modification completed and adopted.
2. Commissioner Wm. Donahue question how Inspection Johnston could be conducting Fire Investigations without having competed the 40 Hour Arson course required by MCPO, which he is scheduled to complete during the last week of June. Chief Hotmar advised that Inspector Johnston has had in-house training, NJ State DFS training, attended Fire Invest Seminar, but was unable to get into the 40 hours course until now. He is qualified to conduct investigation, just not recognized by the MCPO as an expert witness until he completes the 40 hrs course.

GOOD/WELFARE:

1. Honor Board Awards, Class 1 Medal of Valor for the rescue at 31 Mariners Cove on 12/7/12, will be awarded to Chief Prochnow, Asst. Chief Tice, Firefighter Marron and Fire Firefighter Miller, all of Adelphia Fire Company. After a discussion on same, it was agreed that the awards will be presented at the Township Council meeting on September 24, 2013 in cooperation with the JBFC and the Township Council. Chief Hotmar, the Executive Board, Township Mayor and the Township Manager will coordinate the event over the next few months.
2. Fire Works are scheduled for July 6, 2013 as part of the Howell Day activities which will be held at Oak Glen Park from 5pm 10pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Commissioner Harry Carter, seconded by Commissioner George Patten, with no further business coming before the Boards, the meeting was adjourned.

**NEXT MEETING, SEPTEMBER 5, 2013, 8:00pm, FIRE DISTRICT # 3
SOUTHARD FIRE COMPANY**