

BOARDS OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MINUTES – MARCH 1, 2018

OPENING:

Joint Board President, Harry Carter, called the March meeting of the Joint Boards of Fire Commissioners to order this 1st day of March 2018, at 8:00pm, at the Squankum Fire Station, with a salute to the American Flag.

The Open Public Meeting statement was read.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the regular meeting of December 2017 were emailed to all Commissioners and copies were made available at the meeting. A motion to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Commissioner Lou Memmolo, Sr. Seconded by Commissioner Doug Howlett, so voted.

ATTENDANCE:

Roll call showed 21 Commissioners present, 4 absent. Also present was Chief Lewis.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None

SPECIAL:

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Joint Purchasing Committee reported some changes in Motorola radios and pricing.

CHIEFS REPORT:

Chief Lewis briefed the Boards on the following matters.

1. Chief Lewis reported that he has presented his 2018 budget to the Council and no comments have been received since then. Still waiting for the budget to be introduced. As of this date the full-time clerk has not been cut.
2. Communications update. (repeater and receiver sites)
 - a. Interference issue - This is still being studied by the FCC. All has been quiet now that the weather is cooler.
 - b. Radio System update/replacement – Chief Lewis is currently working with Wireless Communications in obtaining updated quotes for the radio replacement project. We are anticipating getting the overall quote divided into the 5 parts, one for each district to act on. A discussion followed. Numerous ideas were discussed in pursuing an improved radio system. A letter was received from the Howell Twp. Joint Chief's which was read by Chief Dan Ryan expressing the Chief's position on the system as it stands today. The

Chiefs also asked for a committee to be established to look at radio communications to address to on-going issues. No further action was taken at this time.

FIRE DISTRICT REPORTS:

1. District #1 – Progress. Budget passed
2. District #2 – 2018 Budget passed. 2-93 going out of service for some work. Old 2-74 was recently sold
3. District #3 – New commissioner Kyle Johnson. 2018 budget passed
4. District #4 – Engine 4-80 repairs completed, annual testing is beginning. Budget passed
5. District #5 – Progress. Budget passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. President Carter handed over the meeting to the new President from District #3, Donald Franklin. Assisting him will be Lou Memmolo, Jr.
2. President Franklin asked for clarification from the Executive Board about the comments made at the last meeting from the Township Manager. Specifically, clarification on the fees for dispatching. After a discussion, it was determined that no actual costs or timeframe was given for this comment. The commissioners should look at this request and determine a fair way to pay any fees that may be suggested by the Township.
3. President Franklin asked for a report from the Executive Board about the comments made by the Township Manager in reference to the Fire Tax Rates. The Council asked the Manager to discuss equalizing the Fire Tax Rates with the Boards. The Boards have been asked to look at this and discuss any ideas. After a lengthy discussion, no formal action was taken.
4. The Joint Boards asked that if there are any complaints that pertain to the Tax Rate for any of the Districts, then that complaint or question should be forwarded to them to answer/handle.
5. District #2 commented on the Accident and Sickness insurance policy. After a short discussion, it was noted that District #3 has someone looking at insurance options and will forward information as obtained.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

GOOD/WELFARE:

1. Next Executive Board Meeting, March 22, 2018, 7:30PM, Howell Fire Bureau Conference Room.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

**NEXT MEETING, JUNE 7, 2018, 8:00pm, FIRE DISTRICT #2
ADELPHIA FIRE STATION #2, ROUTE 33, 8:00 PM.**