

A Regular meeting of the Old Bridge Fire District #4 Board of Fire Commissioners was held on Thursday, November 21, 2013. President Vagts called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. The pledge to the flag and a moment of silence was observed. In attendance were Pres. Vagts, Comm. A. Peel, J. Peel, Watkins, Donahue, Attorney Richard Braslow, and Accountant, Michael Bart. Absent: None. Six (6) members of the public were in attendance. Adequate notice of this meeting of the District No. 4 Board of Fire Commissioners of Old Bridge Township has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act at least 48 hours prior to the commencement of the meeting by (1) faxing an announcement to the Municipal Clerk giving the time, date, location and agenda of this meeting, and (2) faxing such announcement to the Home News and Star Ledger.

Secretary Report

M/Donahue S/Watkins to accept the October 17, 2013 minutes and Special Meeting minutes of the same date.

Yes-(Vagts, Donahue, J. Peel, Watkins) No-0 Abstain-1(A. Peel) Absent-0
4-Yes 0-No 1-Abstain 0-Absent

Treasurers Report

No Report

M/Watkins S/Donahue to pay bills as presented with the Commissioners abstaining from their respective bills.

Yes-(A. Peel, Vagts, J. Peel, Watkins, Donahue) No-0 Abstain-0 Absent-0
5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Absent

Insurance Report

Comm. Watkins

Insurances up-to-date

LOSAP list for 2012 – 2012 bills paid. Still having some problems with members yearly listings.

Equipment Report

Commissioner Donahue

Firefighters Gerrity and Greaves are certified mechanics

Chief's Report

Chief John Dragotta. List attached

M/Donahue S/J. Peel to adopt Resolution 13-22 Closing the Meeting to the Public.

Yes-(Vagts, J. Peel, A. Peel, Donahue, Watkins) No-0 Abstain-0 Absent-0

5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Absent - Closed 7:20PM

Discussed with Mike Bart, accountant, pension problems with the paid firefighters accounts.

LOSAP – updated authorization.

Budget for 2014 discussed.

M/Watkins S/J. Peel to come out of closed session at 7:55 PM

Yes-(Vagts, J. Peel, A. Peel, Donahue, Watkins) No-0 Abstain-0 Absent-0
5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Absent

Meeting called back in session

Budget discussed with 2% increase of \$10,000.00 for 2014.

Discussed deadlines for advertising the Commissioner elections and the budget for 2014.
Introduced the 2014 budget, accountant needs signatures for budget to be sent to Trenton.
Board of Fire Commissioners website must be up and running for the 2014 budget to be processed by the State of New Jersey, included must be 3 years of Minutes, Resolutions, Budget, Audits and other necessary data. The Board website is running and just needs to be updated.

M/Donahue S/ J. Peel to adopt Resolution 13-23 Temporary Budget.

Yes-(Vagts, Donahue, J. Peel, A. Peel, Watkins) No-0 Abstain-0 Absent-0
5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Absent

M/Donahue S/ J. Peel to adopt Resolution 13-24 Budget Transfers and/or Encumbrances.

Yes-(Vagts, Donahue, J. Peel, A. Peel, Watkins) No-0 Abstain-0 Absent0

5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Absent

BOFC election is February 15, 2014; hours are from 2 PM to 9 PM. Comm. Watkins to cover the polling station

Bureau of Fire Prevention Report

Frank Giacalone, Inspector

List attached

Accessories for Fire Prevention Vehicle 2 – approx. \$600.00

Need hose testing

Correspondence

Richard Braslow – Information and paperwork needed for elections, deadlines, petition for candidacy, candidate sworn statement.

Verizon

Gov Connect information

American Express Credit Card application

Old Business

M/J. Peel S/Watkins to purchase necessary equipment for Fire Prevention vehicle 2 not to exceed \$750.00.

Yes-(Vagts, Donahue, J. Peel, A. Peel, Watkins) No-0 Abstain-0 Absent-0

5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Absent

M/J. Peel S/Watkins to purchase 5 sections of 5 inch hose at a cost of \$2,595.00.

Yes-(Vagts, Donahue, J. Peel, A. Peel, Watkins) No-0 Abstain-0 Absent-0

5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Absent

New Business

Need tires for brush truck (414)

Firefighters Gerrity and Greaves are certified mechanics for pumps and generators.
Discussion on replacement of aerial truck (415) and purchase of new fire truck, loans, payments, procedures, advertising, public approval etc.

M/Donohue S/J. Peel to proceed with additional work necessary to purchase a fire truck.

Yes-(Vagts, Donahue, J. Peel, A. Peel, Watkins) No-0 Abstain-0 Absent-0

5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Absent

Discussion of paid firefighters staying at scene of fire and incurring overtime.
Commissioners need a policy relating to paid firefighters and volunteers at an active fire scene

Public Portion

None

M/Donahue S/J. Peel to adopt Resolution 13-25 Closing the Meeting to the Public.

Yes-(Vagts, J. Peel, A. Peel, Donahue, Watkins) No-0 Abstain-0 Absent-0

5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Absent - Closed 9:10PM

LOSAP newspaper article

Paid firefighters contract

Discussed light, modified duties

Disciplinary conditions

Use of Fire Prevention Vehicle 2 on weekends

M/Watkins S/J. Peel to come out of closed session at 10:10PM

Yes-(Vagts, J. Peel, A. Peel, Donahue, Watkins) No-0 Abstain-0 Absent-0

5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Absent

M/J. Peel S/Donahue to adjourn meeting.

Yes- (A. Peel, Vagts, J. Peel, Donahue, Watkins) No-0 Abstain-0 Absent-0

5-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Absent

Adjourned at 10:20PM

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY, December 19, 2013, AT 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ann B. Peel
Secretary/Clerk
AP