

A Regular meeting of the Old Bridge Fire District #4 Board of Fire Commissioners was held on Monday, January 12, 2015. President Vagts called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. The pledge to the flag and a moment of silence was observed.

In attendance were Pres. Vagts Comm. Donahue, Watkins, Guarnera, Peel, Attorney Richard Braslow, Al Latansio Six (22) 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's Report

December's meeting minutes were tabled until next meeting.

M/Peel S/Watkins to approve the December minutes.

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

4-Yes 0-No 1-Abstain 0-Absent

Treasurers Report

Commissioner Peel Gave an update on bills and bank accounts. the accountant currently has the books.

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

Yes-(Watkins, Vagts, Donahue, Guarnera) No-() Abstain-(Peel) Absent-()

4-Yes 0-No 1-Abstain 0-Absent

Insurance Report

Comm. Watkins – insurance- Al Latansio was present at the meeting to go over changes to the insurance policy's Some highlights were that some of the coverage's went up but the premiums would remain the same. A military benefit was added to the accident and sickness policy for any member that is currently deployed. An off duty death benefit was added. The liquor liability was gone over after a public question.

Equipment Report

Commissioner Donahue-

414 Relay box shorted out, Should be under warranty and being repaired still waiting on the parts we would have to cover the new siren head.

Chief's Report

No Report

Bureau of Fire Prevention Report

Frank Giacalone, Inspector- See attached.

Correspondence

Read, See attached, Monthly advertisement and letters were read, See attached.

Old Business

Safe was on back order, The safe would be switched to a model that is available.

Grant for the air packs and fill station was submitted and for an additional \$250.00 the grant writer would send letters to the legislators for support of the grants.

Donahue to get Kyle the new purchase request forms

There is no outstanding debts for members that missed classes.

Ann confirmed the amount of cable boxes currently in the firehouse.

The fuel logs were spoke on, the 2014 fuel bill was \$7951.60. There are fuel logs in each vehicle.

New Business

M/Peel S/ Watkins to have grant genie send letters out to the legislators for \$250.00

Donahue to contact Braslow in the matter.

Yes-(Watkins, Vagts, Donahue, Peel, Guarnera) No-() Abstain-() Absent-()

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

M/Donahue S/Watkins to make a resolution to award 2015 insurances coverage to VFIS(Braslow to prepare the resolution 15-01)

Yes-(Watkins, Vagts, Donahue, Peel, Guarnera) No-() Abstain-() Absent-()

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

Safer grant will become available, Grant Genie would be able to submit it at a cost of \$1500.00. The Grant will cover gear and the salaries for two years. The grant opens on February 9th. Tabled till next meeting.

Rich Braslow addressed the fire company and public in attendance on the issues relating to the fire company elections and the responsibility of the board on the matter. The board has determined that they will recognize the 2015 line officers, If there is an issue of cause such as qualifications or moral issues the board could take action in not recognizing them.

M/Donahue S/Peel to recognize the 2015 Line officers

Yes-(Watkins, Vagts, Donahue, Peel, Guarnera) No-() Abstain-() Absent-()

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

Any issues of concern should be brought to the board in writing.

Public Portion

The Fire Company brought up some concerns Such as, the gas bills should be investigated in relation to the low amount of calls, potential conflict of interest between the members of the company and commissioners. Misappropriation of taxpayer funds, Missing gear, Ladders on 407 and 408 have not been inspected and the SCBA's have not been tested., Equipment being delivered to commissioner's house, The fans and lights are not here. The fire company has taken a back seat to the commissioners and its is a slap in the face to the members of the company. Commissioners should be held accountable for any negative actions

Approximately 12 lengths of hose were found in the ambulance marked for Morgan and no one knows how it got there.

Communications between the board and the fire company need to be improved.

Spare keys from the vehicles are missing from the building.

The new truck plans were questioned as to if they are available.

Fox fire equipment still missing due to the cabinet being left open.

Closed Portion

M/Peel S/Watkins to make a motion to make a resolution(15-02) to go into closed session.

Yes-(Watkins, Vagts, Donahue, Guarnera, Peel) No-() Abstain-() Absent-()

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

Discussed personnel, Vehicles, Notification of board members for issues that arise, Line officer issue from last meeting.

M/Peel S/Watkins to conclude closed session.

Yes-(Watkins, Vagts, Donahue, Guarnera, Peel) No-() Abstain-() Absent-()

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

Reopen new business and public portion with the fire company

M/Donahue S/Peel to adjourn meeting.

Yes-(Watkins, Vagts, Donahue, Guarnera, Peel) No-() Abstain-() Absent-()

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

Adjourned at 9:03P.M.

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON Monday, January 26 , 2014 AT 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony Guarnera
Secretary/Clerk