

Madison Park Board of Fire Commissioners

District 4, Old Bridge, New Jersey

February 2019

A Regular meeting of the Old Bridge Fire District #4 Board of Fire Commissioners was held on Monday, February 11, 2019. Board President, Drew Vagts, called the meeting to order at 7:04PM. The pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence were observed.

Adequate notice of this meeting of the Old Bridge Fire District #4 Board of Fire Commissioners has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act at least 48 hours prior to the commencement of the meeting by (1) faxing an announcement to the Old Bridge Municipal Clerk, giving the time, date, location and agenda of this meeting, and (2) faxing such announcement to the Home News and Star Ledger newspapers.

In attendance were President Drew Vagts, Commissioners Michael Donahue, Anthony Guarnera, and Ann Peel, Richard Braslow, attorney for the Board, and 6 members of the public. Commissioner David Kerchner absent.

Secretary's Report

January minutes

Motion to accept minutes made by- Commissioner Donahue

Seconded by- Commissioner Guarnera

Votes: Yes 4 (Donahue, Guarnera, Peel, Vagts) Absent- 1 (Kerchner)

Treasurers Report- Commissioner Peel

Commissioner Peel did not have treasurers report but did have list of bills to be paid.

Total Cash on Hand

Regular Checking-	\$321,399.74
Fire Prevention-	\$17,877.57
FP Penalty-	\$10,412.71
Reserves-	\$91,913.05
Total Cash on Hand-	\$441,603.07

Motion to pay monthly bills made by- Commissioner Donahue

Seconded by- Commissioner Guarnera

Votes- Yes 4 (Donahua, Guarnera, Vagts) Abstain- 1 (Peel) Absent- 1 (Kerchner)

Commissioner Peel reported that the new truck lease is complete. A payment of \$70,505.82 will be made for the next 7 years once the truck is delivered to the Fire District.

Commissioner Peel recommended Fire Prevention and Fire Prevention Penalty accounts be transferred to the Reserve account since truck payment will be coming due. Both Fire Prevention accounts will be closed after March 1, 2019, when budget is passed.

Commissioner Peel made a motion to move monies to Reserve account

Seconded by- Commissioner Donahue

Votes- Yes 4 (Donahue, Guarnera, Peel, Vagts) Absent- 1 (Kerchner)

Insurance Report- Commissioner Donahue

Commissioner Donahue spoke with insurance agent for the Board. He will be looking into a different insurance company with better rates. VFIS will remain as the workers compensation insurance company.

Equipment Report- Commissioner Guarnera

Hose testing will be discussed at a later date

402 needs pump testing in April. The cost will be \$325.00

Chief vehicle 400 needs to be rewired. The cost is \$2,150.00

Brush truck 414 needs a new light bar. The cost is \$1,808.28

4 cycle fuel is needed. The cost is \$135.26

Fire Police (1) vest needed. The cost is \$38.00

Chiefs Report- Chief Tom Alfrey

Report given by Chief Alfrey. See attached

Right to Know, HazMat Refresher and Bloodborne Pathogens training has been scheduled. The dates are February 17, 2019 10AM at the Fire House and February 28, 2019 7PM at the Fire House. All members must attend one of the trainings. Commissioners were invited to attend the training.

Transco drill has been scheduled for February 21, 2019

LOSAP paperwork was given to Commissioner Peel. Four (4) fire company members did not return paperwork.

Fire Police training class is scheduled for March 30 and March 31. Chief Alfrey will have more information next month on these trainings.

Gear locker project is moving along.

Fit testing will be done in July. Medical questionnaire needs to be reviewed by a doctor. Chief Alfrey asked Commissioner Donahue to look into getting a doctor to review medical questionnaire, since that was how it has been done in the past.

Run down of calls as of 2/10/19- President Park Fire Department was called into District 4 a total of 4 times to assist with coverage during the day.

A new radio/response procedure by Chief Alfrey was reviewed by all members

Bureau of Fire Prevention Report- Chief Alfrey

Report given by Chief Alfrey. Report prepared by Tom Hart, Fire Marshal for District #4. See attached

Correspondence Report- Commissioner Peel

Letter from Middlesex County Board of Elections- will be discussed under Old Business

Letter from Verizon stating upgrades made. No upgrades were done to any phone lines. Chief Alfrey did state that the Commissioners answering machine was full. Passcode needs to be reset to get old messages.

Old Business

Commissioner Peel discussed the election issues regarding new regulations. Previous letters from Middlesex County Board of Elections were never received.

Commissioner Peel worked with Patty Guarnera to translate the 3 languages required to be on the ballot.

Ballots- 100 in English, 10 in Spanish, 10 in Gujarati

175 ballots were overnighted to Middlesex County Clerks Office, should have been received by Friday, February 8, 2019. Ballots were not received at the County Clerks office until Monday, February 11, 2019. County Clerk will be mailing out absentee ballots for District 4 Commissioner's Election.

Provisional ballots will be needed at the polling site. A voter with an absentee ballot may show up at polling site to vote, provisional ballot should be given to voter.

Commissioner Peel will make up provisional ballots.

Middlesex County Board of Elections should be providing a list of all absentee ballots mailed out, prior to election.

New Business

Commissioner Peel reported that IT was out twice to fix printers. IT will be out on Wednesday, February 13, 2019 to fix motherboard in printer at no cost to the Fire District.

Commissioner Peel will look into new printers.

Public Portion

Ann Peel spoke about some fire company members refusing to get on truck for a call, specifically a call at Wal-Mart. President Park Fire Company responded to call. Mrs. Peel questioned why Madison Park Fire Company members did not respond to this call. Chief Alfrey explained that this is the reason the new Radio/Response procedure was implemented and reviewed with all members.

Closed Session

Start time 7:59PM

Motion to enter into closed session made by- Commissioner Donahue

Seconded by- Commissioner Guarnera

Votes- Yes 4 (Donahue, Guarnera, Peel, Vagts) Absent-1 (Kerchner)

Board discussed personnel issues regarding LOSAP requirements

Motion to end closed session made by- Commissioner Donahue

Seconded by- Commissioner Guarnera

Votes- Yes 4 (Donahue, Guarnera, Peel, Vagts) Absent- 1 (Kerchner)

Conclude closed session End Time 8:10PM

Motion to adjourn meeting made by- Commissioner Donahue

Seconded by- Commissioner Peel

Votes- Yes 4 (Donahue, Guarnera, Peel, Vagts) Absent- 1 (Kerchner)

Adjourned at 8:10PM

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2019 at 7PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen Marcinczyk
Recording Secretary