

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
 Pennington Borough Fire District No. 1
 P.O. Box 387
 Pennington, NJ 08534
June 18, 2024

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled hybrid in-person and remote ‘Zoom’ meeting was called to order by Chairman Hofacker at 7:31 p.m. following adequate and electronic notice under the Open Public Meetings Law and N.J.A.C. 5:39. The meeting was also opened at Pennington Fire House for a hybrid meeting. Annual meeting notice including information on how the public could access and participate in the remote meeting, make public comment and where relevant documents, if any, would be made available published in the Times of Trenton and Hopewell Valley News, provided to the Hopewell Express, sent to the Borough Clerk for filing and public posting and posted on the board’s website, at the firehouse entrances and at board offices, as well as provided to any person requesting same in advance of the meeting.

Salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Present by roll call were Chairman Hofacker, Commissioner Robert DiFalco, Commissioner Sandra Radice, and Commissioner O’Connor. Commissioner Schaub was absent. Meeting is hybrid with remote access and in person at the Fire House. Quorum established.

Also present: Attorney Appleby via Zoom, Auditor not present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Hofacker opened the meeting up for public comments at 7:32 p.m. With no one else in the public asking to speak on Zoom or at the Fire House, public comments were closed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Attorney Appleby requested any edits or comments regarding regular open session minutes and executive session minutes from May 21, 2024. Motion made by Commissioner DiFalco to approve minutes. Seconded by Commissioner O’Connor. **All voted in favor. No abstentions.**

TREASURER’S REPORT

Resolution 2024-12

Resolution for payment of monthly bills (June 2024) in amount of \$63,069.74. Motion made by Commissioner O’Connor, seconded by Commissioner Radice.

Roll Call:

Chairman Hofacker	yes
Commissioner DiFalco	yes
Commissioner O’Connor	yes
Commissioner Radice	yes
Commissioner Schaub	absent

Chief’s Report:

PENNINGTON FIRE COMPANY 2024 ACTIVITY REPORT
 1-Jun-24

	MARCH TOTAL CALLS	DISTRICT %
<u>TOTAL FIRE CALLS</u>	69	
Pennington Borough	15	21.7%
Hopewell Township - 51	44	63.8%
Hopewell Borough	2	2.9%
Hopewell Township - 52	2	2.9%
Hopewell Township - 53	3	4.3%
Out-of-District - Ewing	0	0.0%
Out-of-District - Lawrence	1	1.4%
Out-of-District - Trenton	2	2.9%
Out-of-District - Other	0	0.0%
Hopewell Township - Total	49	

<u>TOTAL SERVICE-HOURS AT FIRES</u>		72
<u>TOTAL MAN-HOURS AT FIRES</u>		231
<u>WATER USED AT FIRES (gals)</u>		200
<u>FIRE CLASSIFICATIONS - BASED ON NFIRS SERIES CODES</u>		
100 Series - FIRE		
Building	1	1.45%
300 Series - Rescue & EMS		
Assist EMS	3	4.35%
MVA / Extrication	2	2.90%
Remove victim(s) from Elevator	1	1.45%
400 Series - Hazardous Condition		
Gas Leak (Natural/LP)	3	4.35%
Combustible/Flammable Gas/Chemical Spill	2	2.90%
Electrical / Power Line Issue - No Fire	3	4.35%
500 Series - Service Call		
Water Issues / Pump Out	1	1.45%
Animal Rescue/Assist	2	2.90%
Elevator Issues - No Occupants	1	1.45%
Smoke / Odor - No Fire	2	2.90%
Cover Assignment	1	1.45%
600 Series - Good Intent Call		
Good Intent	20	28.99%
700 Series - False Alarm and False Call		
False Alarm / CO Alarm NO CO found	2	2.90%
System Malfunction	15	21.74%
Unintentional Alarm	9	13.04%
900 Series - Special Incident		
Special Incident / Incident Report	1	1.45%
TOTAL	69	100.00%
Mutual Aid - Out of Town	3	4.3%
<u>TOTAL DRILLS HELD</u>		
Scheduled Drills	4	
Special Drills/Work Details/Events	7	
<u>FIRE INVESTIGATIONS PERFORMED</u>	0	

- **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Status of Audit – ongoing. Auditor not present.
- Hopewell Township Shared Services Agreement
Chairman discussed status of Agreement. No progress; township still working on it..
- Old First Aid Building – Attorney Appleby discussed at length the revisions to the proposed Use and Occupancy Agreement with the Borough for use of part of the First Aid Building. The Chairman will approach the Borough to try to finalize the Agreement.
- Tanker replacement and communications from Hopewell Township. The Chief discussed meeting with different manufacturers as to the tanker. Prices were up to about \$1 million, up significantly from last year. Discussion as to the process for capital purchases and need for voter approval if financing and possible special election. Hopewell Township would also need to have voter approval, since they contribute towards cost.
- Commercial properties and Township Fire Marshall. Common call under control. Township Commissioner to discuss with hospital regarding internal communications. Trapped in elevator and couldn't talk to each other. Discussion about the fire land and use for valet parking. Not sure if resolved.
- Election. Deadline for placement on ballot.

- **NEW BUSINESS:**

Discussion as to American Rescue Grant and need to pass a resolution to add to the budget. Assistant Chief advised that there is a matching amount for the grant. Attorney will amend the resolution to include the necessary language for the matching funds and line items.

Resolution 2024-13 Amend adopted budget and requesting approval of items of revenue and appropriation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:14-78.5 Motion made by Commissioner O'Connor and seconded by Commissioner DiFalco.

Roll Call:

Chairman Hofacker	yes
Commissioner DiFalco	yes
Commissioner O'Connor	yes
Commissioner Radice	yes
Commissioner Schaub	absent

Bylaws- decide to hold and let Rob Ingram address membership language. Attorney advised that she will keep it on the agenda so it does not fall off the radar.

Resolution 2024-14 approving the bylaws was tabled by motion made by Commissioner O'Connor and seconded by Commissioner Radice. All voted in favor to table until next meeting.

Discussion arose about OSHA requirements and qualifications required.

Chief discussed receiving three grants for high water truck/brush truck.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner O'Connor and seconded by Commissioner DiFalco. All voted in favor.

Meeting ended at 8:25 p.m.