

**Board of Fire Commissioners
District 2, Howell Township Fire Company No. 1
Adelphia, NJ 07710**

September 6, 2022

REGULAR MEETING

Notice of time, date, location, and agenda of the meeting, to the extent then known, was duly published in accordance with the requirements of the "Open Public Meeting Act" at least 48 hours in advance of this meeting by posting and by publication in the official newspapers of the district.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Robert Tice, at 8:00 PM.

A Roll call was taken showing George Patten, Frank Biddle III, Doug Howlett, Robert Tice, and Kathleen Carter present. Also in attendance was Joseph Youssouf, Board Attorney. The Chairman then led all in attendance with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Kathleen Carter and seconded by George Patten; to approve the minutes of the last meeting held on August 1, 2022, motion carried.

A motion was made by George Patten and seconded by Kathleen Carter; to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on August 29, 2022, motion passed.

The following Vouchers have been submitted for payment.

VOUCHER	LINE #	VENDOR	AMOUNT
4383	A11-2	Frank E. Biddle III	271.90
4384	A12-3	All Green Lawn & Landscaping	903.88
4385	A12-3	Big Bill's Welding, LLC	375.00
4386	A12-3	Brice's Auto Supply, Inc.	186.68
4387	A12-3	D & D Contractors Corporation	1,970.00
4388	A12-3	Electronic Measurement Laboratories, Inc.	265.25
4389	A12-3	Joseph Fazzio, Inc.	23.81
4390	A12-3	Howell Township Fire Company #1	1,800.00
4391	A12-3	Major Police Supply	1,132.08
4392	A12-3	R. K. Electric, LLC	7,000.00
4393	A12-3	Seacoast	2,733.54
4394	A12-3	TASC Fire Apparatus, Inc.	1,224.00
4395	A12-3	Techna-Pro Electric, LLC	422.00
4396	A12-3	Walter's Custom Painting	450.00
4397	A12-4	Access Health Systems	4,890.00
4398	A12-4	NetLink	199.00
4399	A12-6	J Swanton Fuel Oil Company	1,203.87
4400	A12-8	JCP&L	1,498.99
4401	A12-8	N J American Water	217.90

4402	A12-8	N J Natural Gas	452.46
4403	A12-8	Verizon	750.52
4404	A12-8	Verizon Wireless	469.40
4405	A12-9	N J American Water	9,864.80
4406	A12-9	N J American Water	7,919.28
4407	A12-10	EMR Power Systems, LLC	250.00
4408	A12-10	Freehold Cartage, Inc.	141.59
4409	A12-10	Jersey Coast Fire Equipment, Inc.	67.45
4410	A12-10	Republic Services, #873	101.92
Electronic	A9-1	Payroll by Paychex (for August 2022)	3,231.97
Electronic	A9-1	Tax Pay by Paychex (for August 2022)	658.85
Electronic	A9-1	Paychex Fees (deducted 09-10-22)	167.86
Electronic	A9-1	August 2022 PERS/DCRP Payment	235.88
			\$51,079.88

A resolution of the Board of Fire Commissioners of District 2, Howell Township was passed authorizing the payment of vouchers. The resolution was offered by George Patten, seconded by Doug Howlett, and a roll call vote was taken.

Robert Tice	yes
George Patten	yes
Frank Biddle III	yes
Doug Howlett	yes
Kathleen Carter	yes

The resolution, which was duly adopted on this day, is attached to minutes.

Communications

We received several e-mails from the State Division of Pensions, which will be on file. We also received several e-mails from the State GovConnect, which will be on file. We received two Service Reports, from EMR Power Equipment, for the two service checks performed on our two Emergency Generators on August 19, 2022. We received two letters, from N. J. American Water, stating that they will be raising the Fire Hydrant charges effective September 1, 2022. The rates will increase by anywhere between \$0.00 and \$7.14 per hydrant per month. They also want the Board to update contact information with them.

We received a check, from VFIS Claims Management, for the labor portion of the repair of the OPTICOM System at Route 9 and Strickland Road. The check, in the amount of \$3,798.00, was received and deposited on August 6, 2022. We received a statement, from New Jersey Motor Vehicle Services, for all abstract retrievals completed in July 2022. We received a letter, from Service Tire Truck Centers, stating that we have been approved for a line of credit with them. We received a communication, from the Howell Township Deputy Clerk, stating that early voting will take place October 29, 2022, thru November 6, 2022. Commissioner Howlett said that he would take care of them gaining access to the Route 33 Fire Station.

Our Norton 360 subscription was renewed on August 14, 2022. This subscription is for up to ten (10) PC's. We received a communication, from GovDeals Surplus Auctions, saying

that we have not used their services and wanted to know if we still wanted the account. Frank answered them with a yes and updated the contact information. Several emails were exchanged between Commissioner Biddle and Terex, for the purpose of receiving the Certificate of Origin for the Genie Trailer Lift. We ended up getting the Certificate and Frank will now register the unit with New Jersey Motor Vehicles. We received a letter, from the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, stating that there are changes to our agreement for Online Access.

A communication was received, from the New Jersey Division of Pensions, stating that it was time for our Certifying Officer and their Supervisor to renew our Annual Membership Certification. Both Frank and George have renewed for 2022.

Legal

Joe gave a report on the Radio Project and what parts he was involved in during the last month. A long discussion was held on the location of the new 150-foot tower and where it will be located and who will own it. Joe will prepare a formal Resolution on what was decided at the August 18, 2022, Joint Board Meeting. The Township is looking to Bond the entire project for an expected ten (10) years. As of now, the introduction of the project is scheduled for September 13, 2022. And the Adoption and Public Hearing would be October 11, 2022. After a lot of discussion, a resolution was offered by Frank Biddle III and seconded by George Patten, to schedule a Referendum for October 29, 2022, to seek voter approval to spend no more than \$1,000,000.00 for our share of the Radio Project. A roll call vote was taken.

Robert Tice	yes
George Patten	yes
Frank Biddle III	yes
Doug Howlett	yes
Kathleen Carter	yes

Joe read the ballot question, and the explanatory statement that would go with it, that was prepared by the Township Bond Council. More discussion was had on the New Tower and the ownership of it. Would we be able to lease the land that the Tower would occupy to the Township if they owned the Tower? A lot of questions and not many answers.

Chief's Report

Chief Dan Roth gave his incident report for the month of August 2022. The Chief asked to purchase the following items.

1) Two (2) Motorola Portable Radio Chargers, on State Contract #83909, from Wireless Communications & Electronics, for a total of \$658.00.

2) One (1) Pair of Haix Eagle Air Leather Structural Firefighter Boots, size 11M, on State Contract #00809, from Skylands Area Fire Equipment & Training, for a total of \$392.00.

3) Reimburse Fire Officer DePinto for a classroom book for Fire Officer II class, in the amount of \$92.43.

4) Several floor brooms for the Route 524 Fire Station and spare batteries to keep on the trucks to be used as needed on alarm calls, from Grainger, for around \$260.00.

After some discussion, a resolution was offered by Bob Tice and seconded by George Patten, granting the Chief's purchase requests. A roll call vote was taken.

Robert Tice	yes
George Patten	yes
Frank Biddle III	yes
Doug Howlett	yes
Kathleen Carter	yes

Committees

Bob said that he had nothing else to report on the Radio Project that we did not discuss during the Legal portion of the meeting.

Frank gave a report on the trucks and equipment as follows.

1) The fuel tank at the Route 524 Fire Station was sandblasted and painted. Frank installed some new warning placards for both gasoline and diesel.

2) 2-96 was dropped off at Defender on August 15, 2022, to have the pump gearbox parts installed and the battery charger. They found out that the parts are wrong and will be working with Hale for figure what to do next.

3) Campbell completed a recall on 2-85 and also looked at a couple other issues.

4) The water cans have been mounted in 2-98

5) The LED scene lights have come in for 2-78.

6) Had some issues with 2-90 and Absolute came out to investigate. They said the truck would have to go up to their facility for repair. As of now, the truck will be going up for this work on September 30, 2022.

7) R K Electric completed the work at the Route 33 Fire Station.

8) 2-68's Vehicle was repaired at Seacoast Chevrolet.

9) D & D completed the work on the training prop at the Route 33 Fire Station.

10) Techna-Pro Electric should be completing the OPTICOM repair at Route 9 and Strickland Road sometime soon.

Old Business

Chairman Tice asked the Board again about reimbursing a Firefighter for his medical co-pay costs following his Firefighter Physical on June 29, 2022. He did not complete his physical when Access Health said that he should get checked out after they reviewed his EKG. His co-pay costs are now around 4,368.20. The Board last month said that he had a preexisting condition that he was already being treated for this condition did not qualify for Worker's Compensation. Chairman Tice asked again for a resolution to reimburse this Firefighter. No one offered a resolution, and the subject was dropped.

New Business

New Jersey American asked the Board's permission to add one (1) Fire Hydrant on Fairfield Road around the intersection with Bennett. They will be adding Two (2) Private Fire

Hydrants at a complex off Fairfield Road and would like to add this public hydrant while completing the project. This new hydrant will be around 1,000 feet from the New Warehouse being constructed further north on Fairfield. A resolution was offered by George Patten and seconded by Bob Tice, to allow this hydrant to be installed on Fairfield Road. A roll call vote was taken.

Robert Tice	yes
George Patten	yes
Frank Biddle III	yes
Doug Howlett	yes
Kathleen Carter	yes

The Fire Company asked the Board to purchase a New Aerial Truck. They asked the Board to get voter approval to spend up to \$2,000,000.00 on a replacement truck for the aging 1997 E-One now being used. Lots of discussion was had on this purchase and even on a lot of other topics. After some time, a resolution was offered by Frank Biddle III and seconded by George Patten, to move forward with this purchase and ask for the Voters approval. A roll call vote was taken.

Robert Tice	no
George Patten	yes
Frank Biddle III	yes
Doug Howlett	no
Kathleen Carter	no

Lots of discussion was held on what the Board could or could not pay for at the Route 524 Fire Station, since this is a Fire Company owned property. The topic of Pay Per Call also came up as a way to get Firefighters to respond more.

With no further business to come before the Board, and the late hour, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:39 PM.