

TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
Board of Fire Commissioners
Fire District No. 2
Minutes of the Agenda and Regular Meetings
Wednesday, July 11, 2012

The Monroe Township Board of Fire Commissioners of District No. 2 met at the Monroe Township Fire District #2 & EMS building, 10 Halsey Reed Road, Monroe Township, New Jersey for an Agenda and Regular Meeting.

Chairman Mahler called the meeting to order with a Salute to the Flag at 7:00 pm. Chairman Mahler asked for a moment of silence for all firefighters and military who have died in the performance of their duties.

UPON ROLL CALL made by Commissioner Martin Berkowitz, the following members of the Monroe Township Board of Fire Commissioners of District No. 2 were present: Martin Berkowitz, Glenn Borsuk, Maurice Mahler, Edward Mitnowsky and Lawrence Reisch. **ALSO PRESENT:** Board Attorney Richard J. Shaklee, Esquire, and Val Cier, Recording Secretary. There was one career firefighters present: Chief Carbin
There was one volunteer/support firefighters present: Norm Olinsky
There were no members of the public present.

Chairman Mahler announced that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, having been published in the newspapers, and posted on the bulletin board of the Office of the Township Clerk.

AGENDA MEETING

Chairman Mahler asked if there were any corrections to last month's minutes.

Commissioners Borsuk clarified last month's minutes regarding the question on American Water was regarding the grants they had available. Commissioner Borsuk contacted American Water to see if they would be eligible and they are not. Commissioner Berkowitz had a grammatical correction on page 2 & 6.

Commissioner Reisch questioned Commissioner Borsuk about the grant writer. Commissioner Borsuk stated the open grant is the assistance to firefighter grant and it is being worked. It was awarded twice in past years. District 2 put in for new hydraulic rescue equipment. The deadline is 7/16 and the grant writer stated it's still in the works for the \$80,000, pending additional information.

Commissioner Reisch asked about \$4800 township reimbursement. Chief Carbin sent Wayne Hamilton and Pam, his secretary; an email on the progress on insurance portion township owes the board. Chief Carbin will call or stop by tomorrow township office. Chief Carbin will need to give them the 2012 bill also. They will owe for 2011 and 2012.

Chairman Mahler asked the board to review the claims. Commissioner Mitnowsky mentioned the claim of \$8000 for volunteer turnout gear: \$2000 for career turnout gear for a total of 4 firefighters.

Chairman Mahler asked if any building leaks. Chief Carbin stated there are no leaks.

Chairman Mahler reported the memorial was finished. Commissioner Mitnowsky stated the Chief and firefighters that did landscaping and did a beautiful job. Chairman Mahler said the Chief will spray clear krylon spray to protect it. Chairman Mahler received correspondence that the artifact will be in a coffee table book being created by 9/11 commissioner. It will have every monument and memorial in the book. Board should unveil it on 9/11. Chief Carbin stated there is a memorial service on Prospect Plains (Veterans Park) and one at the municipal building. Chief suggested sending a letter to the mayor to do service here instead of the municipal building this year for 9/11 ceremony. Chairman Mahler asked Commissioner Berkowitz to send a letter to Mayor and Council President.

Chairman Mahler stated the invitation should go to community management. Commissioner Reisch questioned what is plan if offer is turned down by township. Chairman Mahler would like to see what mayor says first.

7:19-Mel Nudelman arrived.

Commissioner Borsuk reported Mark Davis won't be able to make it tonight due to AC going out.

Chairman Mahler reported there will not be a closed session tonight. All questions regarding the consolidation report will be answered after July 30th township committee meeting. If there are questions to be asked of the township after the meeting, there will be additional meetings. Commissioner Borsuk questioned what the committee is doing that night. Chairman Mahler stated the results of the committee will be presented that night. All meetings for pay, salary, labor contracts will be after that.

Commissioner Reisch stated the budget starts in October so he has many questions. The union contract will end 12/31. In October, the board will be preparing budgets, if there is an increase or change in health benefits - is that increase going to be in the reduction they are looking for. Chairman Mahler stated they are giving us 4 years to accomplish the plan. Commissioner Reisch questioned if the board will negotiate the contract with district 3.

Commissioner Borsuk has a concern that there are things in the report that may need clarification and if the committee is accepting it, it may be too late to get clarification/ask questions. They should present and state what they are approving. Let the public ask questions and get clarification and no formal action should be taken. Chairman Mahler doesn't think anything will be solved at the meeting.

Chairman Mahler stated hiring the chief is the most important job to determine from this committee. District 3 commissioners are not aware of all happening at consolidation meeting since it has not been shared by their representative.

Chairman Mahler mentioned there was discussion of one large volunteer organization for Monroe and not sure how it would work yet. Commissioner Borsuk stated that was put in there last minute with no real thought and has many questions; will wait until after the July 30th meeting.

UPON MOTION MADE by Glenn Borsuk and seconded by Martin Berkowitz, the agenda meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

ROLL CALL: Aye Berkowitz
Aye Borsuk
Aye Mahler

Aye Mitnowsky
Aye Reisch

REGULAR MEETING

Chairman Mahler called the regular meeting to order with a Salute to the Flag at 7:31 pm.

Chairman Mahler asked for a moment of silence for all firefighters and military who have died in the performance of their duties.

UPON ROLL CALL made by Commissioner Martin Berkowitz, the following members of the Monroe Township Board of Fire Commissioners of District No. 2 were present: Martin Berkowitz, Glenn Borsuk, Maurice Mahler, Edward Mitnowsky and Lawrence Reisch.
ALSO PRESENT: Board Attorney Richard J. Shaklee, Esquire, and Val Cier, Recording Secretary.
There was one career firefighter present: Chief Carbin.
There were two volunteer firefighters/support present: Norman Olinsky and Mel Nudelman
There were no members of the public present.

Chairman Mahler announced that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, having been published in the newspapers, and posted on the bulletin board of the Office of the Township Clerk.

MINUTES

Chairman Mahler asked for a motion on the Minutes.

UPON MOTION MADE by Glenn Borsuk and seconded by Lawrence Reisch, a motion was adopted to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2012 agenda and regular meetings, as amended.

ROLL CALL: Aye Berkowitz
Aye Borsuk
Aye Mahler
Aye Mitnowsky
Aye Reisch

CLAIMS AGAINST THE BOARD

Chairman Mahler asked the board to review the claims against the board.

Commissioner Reisch read the report:

General Operating Claims Total	\$367,008.46
Capital Project Claims Total	\$0.00
Net Payroll Claims Total	\$ 74,233.45
Total Claims Against the Board	\$441,241.91

June 14, 2012 - July 11, 2012

UPON MOTION MADE by Lawrence Reisch and seconded by Martin Berkowitz, claims against the Monroe Township Board of Fire Commissioners of District No. 2 were approved in the amount of \$441,241.91.

ROLL CALL: Aye Berkowitz

Aye Borsuk

Aye Mahler

Aye Mitnowsky

Aye Reisch

TREASURER'S REPORT

Chairman Mahler asked for the treasurer's report.

Commissioner Reisch reported the following as of July 11, 2012

Hudson City Savings Bank:

Unrestricted Funds	\$737,800.32
Restricted Funds	\$246,080.15
Capital Projects	\$58,054.41
Cash on Hand	\$170.00
Total Balance	\$1,042,104.88

CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman Mahler asked for the correspondence to be read. Commissioner Berkowitz reported that a letter was sent to Tish O'Conner to offer the boards condolences on the passing of her husband. Commissioner Berkowitz read the a thank you card from the Borsuk family to the board and Chiefs condolences.

Commissioner Berkowitz read a letter from deputy Mayor of Plainsboro to Chief Carbin for appreciation on the June 15th response to a Hunter Glenn structure fire. Plainsboro fire company and County of Middlesex department of public health fire marshal also sent letters.

Commissioner Berkowitz asked what time the 9/11 ceremony should be held. Commissioner Borsuk suggested scheduling the time close to the hour of the incident. Chairman Mahler stated that many folks may be watching the ground zero ceremony; suggested doing at 12 and serve refreshments afterward. Include Bill Baroni, Chairman of the Port Authority, we are his fire district and he presented the artifact to the board. Chief Carbin has a list of all dignitaries (Dan Benson, Linda Greenstein, etc).

APPLEGARTH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

Chairman Mahler stated volunteer representation not available for report. Mr. Olinsky expressed his appreciation for what the board and Chief did for the fire police (providing equipment, etc)

Commissioner Reisch reported that he went to another bank looking for a better interest rates for GUDPA.

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU REPORT

Chairman Mahler asked for the Fire Prevention Report.

Chief Carbin reported on the following:

- More inspections now than the past 5 years, sales are up
- Reviewed Incident run log calls
- Memorial garden complete, except for the lilies
- Chief Carbin and Commissioner Mitnowsky attended an open house at Encore. Shared table with police dept (acting chief)
- Email received from Crown Trophy (\$980) quote for plaque is ready (going on Tower)
- Sent Email on Insurance to township

MEETING OPEN TO THE BOARD

Commissioner Mitnowsky mentioned that last month the chairman and commissioner spoke about firefighters and respect. Chief Carbin and Attorney Shaklee discussed it at length and drafted a memo on it. Commissioner Reisch stated the Chief is in charge of handling the situation.

Chairman Mahler clarified Commissioners Borsuk and Mitnowsky are running for office this election year.

Commissioner Borsuk reported he gave Chief Carbin items needed to complete the grant due 7/16. Commissioner Borsuk will look around for other grant writer opportunities. Chief Carbin stated the money sent for the grant writer was sent to Grantwell LLC. Alana is no longer with the company. She went from her own company to Grantwell. She is no longer with them.

Commissioner Reisch questioned why the board is using Alana if we paid Grantwell. Commissioner Borsuk stated when they split the company they took their own customers. We paid the retainer for her to look for grants. She always charged us for time. Attorney Shaklee would like to see the contract.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Chairman Mahler opened the meeting to the public. Public had no questions.

ADJOURN

Chairman Mahler asked for a motion to adjourn.

UPON MOTION MADE by Lawrence Reisch and seconded by Glenn Borsuk, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58pm.

ROLL CALL: Aye Berkowitz
Aye Borsuk
Aye Mahler
Aye Mitnowsky
Aye Reisch

MARTIN BERKOWITZ
Board Secretary
MAURICE MAHLER
Chairman

NOTE: Appendixes can be obtained upon request from the Board Secretary.

PREPARED BY: Val Cier