

TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
Board of Fire Commissioners
Fire District No. 2
Minutes of the Agenda and Regular Meetings
Wednesday, December 11, 2013

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, police 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 and Edward Mitnowsky. Lawrence Reisch was not present.

ALSO PRESENT: Board Attorney Richard J. Shaklee, Esquire, and Val Cier, Recording Secretary. There was one career firefighter present. Chief Carbin
There were no volunteer/support firefighters present.
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 the board to review the minutes and claims against the board.

Chairman Mahler will discuss putting in Ad's in paper for February election when the budget is reviewed. Chief Carbin reported that there is a bill not on claims for Verizon, but will be there next month. As a reminder, the phones received from state account, must be repaired through the state, not Verizon.

Chairman Mahler asked if there is any correspondence. The board had no correspondence.

Commissioner Borsuk reported the budget increase is a tenth of a cent from last year. Commissioner Borsuk also has LOSAP changes to discuss later in the meeting.

UPON MOTION MADE by Glenn Borsuk and seconded by Martin Berkowitz, the agenda meeting was adjourned at 7:22pm.

ROLL CALL: Aye Berkowitz
Aye Borsuk
Aye Mahler
Aye Mitnowsky

REGULAR MEETING

Chairman Mahler called the meeting to order with a Salute to the Flag at 7:30 pm. Chairman Mahler asked for a moment of silence for all firefighters, police 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 and Edward Mitnowsky. Lawrence Reisch was not present.

ALSO PRESENT: Board Attorney Richard J. Shaklee, Esquire, and Val Cier, Recording Secretary. There was one career firefighter present. Chief Carbin. There were no volunteer/support firefighters present. 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.

INTRODUCTION AND APPROVAL OF THE 2014 BUDGET

Chairman Mahler commended those that worked on the budget.

Commissioner Berkowitz reviewed the budget and mentioned the utility truck is under equipment acquisitions. The network expense is in and the board knew it was going to be in the budget. Tax rate for 2014 is 25.7, one tenth of a cent increase from last year.

Commissioner Berkowitz read the 2014 Fire District #2 Budget Resolution for \$3,698,715.00 with \$3,465,215.00 to be raised by taxation.

UPON MOTION MADE by Glenn Borsuk and seconded by Martin Berkowitz, a motion was adopted to approve the 2012 budget in the amount of \$3,698,715.00.

ROLL CALL: Aye Berkowitz
Aye Borsuk
Aye Mahler
Aye Mitnowsky

MINUTES

Chairman Mahler asked for a motion on the Minutes.

UPON MOTION MADE by Glenn Borsuk and seconded by Martin Berkowitz, a motion was adopted to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2013 agenda and regular meetings.

ROLL CALL: Aye Berkowitz
Aye Borsuk
Aye Mahler
Aye Mitnowsky

CLAIMS AGAINST THE BOARD

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

Commissioner Berkowitz read the report:

General Operating Claims Total	\$152,077.83
Net Payroll Claims Total	\$ 80,349.83
Total Claims Against the Board	\$232,427.66
Period ending December 11, 2013	

UPON MOTION MADE by Martin Berkowitz and seconded by Ed Mitnowsky, claims against the Monroe Township Board of Fire Commissioners of District No. 2 were approved in the amount of \$232,427.66.

ROLL CALL: Aye Berkowitz
Aye Borsuk
Aye Mahler
Aye Mitnowsky

TREASURER'S REPORT

Chairman Mahler asked for the treasurer's report.

Commissioner Berkowitz reported the following as of December 11, 2013

Hudson City Savings Bank:

Undesignated Funds	\$534,215.07
Designated Funds	\$228,789.33
Total Balance	\$763,004.40

CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman Mahler asked for the correspondence to be read. Commissioner Berkowitz had no correspondence.

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU REPORT

Chairman Mahler asked for the Fire Prevention Report.

Chief Carbin the following:

- CPR Training for career and volunteer
- YTD Smoke detectors are at 415, all time high in past 5 year

Chairman Mahler asked if the district can raise the smoke detector fees. Chief Carbin stated smoke detector fees are set by the state.

- 48 incidents for the month
- Insurance meeting held here today and Chief Carbin provided a tour of the firehouse
- Assistant Chief Borsuk was the top volunteer responder and Firefighter Grande top responder for career
- Ordered windshield for 57-2

APPLEGARTH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

Volunteer representation was not present tonight.

MEETING OPEN TO THE BOARD

Chairman Mahler asked the board if they had any business to discuss.

Commissioner Berkowitz made a motion to increase contributions to \$6.75 for LOSAP base. It is \$13.50 for each % point above the minimum and 13.50 for holding an office.

UPON MOTION MADE by Martin Berkowitz and seconded by Ed Mitnowsky, to approve the increase in the LOSAP base.

ROLL CALL: Aye Berkowitz
Recuse Borsuk
Aye Mahler
Aye Mitnowsky

Commissioner Berkowitz stated that Commissioner Reisch plans on running for election in 2014. The board is in a delicate position if the public asks any questions. Commissioner Mitnowsky initially thought Commissioner Reisch should run, but has reconsidered due to his health. Attorney Shaklee stated the only statute for this states any vacancy in membership should be filled at the next election, although nothing specific for fire districts. Commissioner Borsuk doesn't feel he should run in 2014 election, but it's Commissioner Reisch's decision.

Chairman Mahler asked Commissioner Berkowitz to contact Commissioner Reich since they are both up for re-election, then the board should consider providing the board consensus at that point. Chairman Mahler stated whatever his intentions are, Commissioner Reisch can carry them out. Commissioner Mitnowsky offered to call Commissioner Reisch. Commissioner Berkowitz stated the board should make an expression and public statement to Commissioner Reisch as an asset for the years of great service in the positions he's taken.

Commissioner Borsuk stated that the ratables come out on January 10th, therefore the board may need to move the January 8th meeting to January 15th. It will need to be advertised as the change of dates as one ad, and the other ad would include the January 15th date in the meeting to adopt the budget. The board agreed to move the date to January 15th.

Commissioner Berkowitz asked about contract negotiations. Attorney Shaklee stated to formulate the proposal, the board needs to hear from the board accountant, Dan Carlstrom. Attorney Shaklee will discuss with Mr. Carlstrom tomorrow.

Chairman Mahler displayed the proposed ad to go in the newspapers for the upcoming election in February. District 1 and District 2 will split the cost (\$831.60) of a ½ page ad in the Cranbury Press. For District 2 only, an ad will be placed in the Princeton Editorial for the 4 community papers (\$1076). Chairman Mahler will need to get prices for Ponds and Stonebridge. The other option is to print flyers instead, since the Princeton Editorial doesn't do their newspapers. The NJ Shopping and Dining guide will print the ad for free.

Commissioner Borsuk asked how the district can get on the township website. Chairman Mahler stated to contact Joe Harvey. He also does Monroe news and TV station.

UPON MOTION MADE by Glenn Borsuk and seconded by Martin Berkowitz, to approve the ads at the prices quoted, for the Cranbury Press and the Princeton Editorial regarding the February election.

ROLL CALL: Aye Berkowitz
Aye Borsuk
Aye Mahler
Aye Mitnowsky

Chairman Mahler stated flyers can be used in Renaissance Crossing. There is no need for a professional printer for the flyers. In addition, the voter response from the Ponds is very low. The publication in the Cranbury Press will be February 7th.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Chairman Mahler opened the meeting to the public. No Public was present.

ADJOURN

Chairman Mahler asked for a motion to adjourn.

UPON MOTION MADE by Glenn Borsuk and seconded by Martin Berkowitz, the meeting was adjourned.

ROLL CALL: Aye Berkowitz
Aye Borsuk
Aye Mahler
Aye Mitnowsky

ED MITNOWSKY
Board Secretary
MAURICE MAHLER
Chairman

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

PREPARED BY: Val Cier