

TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
Board of Fire Commissioners
Fire District No. 2
Minutes of the Agenda and Regular Meetings
Wednesday, May 13, 2015

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, EMS, police and military, who have died in the performance of their duties.

UPON ROLL CALL made by Commissioner Jason Martin, the following members of the Monroe Township Board of Fire Commissioners of District No. 2 were present: Martin Berkowitz, Glenn Borsuk, Maurice Mahler, Jason Martin and Edward Mitnowsky.

ALSO PRESENT: Board Attorney Richard J. Shaklee, Esquire, and Val Cier, Recording Secretary. There was one career firefighter present: Chief Carbin.

There was one volunteer/support firefighters present: President Jeff Dunham.

There were nine 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 May 1st edition of the Cranbury Press, posted on the bulletin board of the Office of the Township Clerk and ten public locations, and notices sent to those requesting such.

AGENDA MEETING-PUBLIC VOTE

Chairman Mahler asked Attorney Shaklee to read the public vote question to the public, and asked the public to cast their ballots:

Should the Board of Fire Commissioners of Monroe Township Fire District #2, Middlesex County, NJ be authorized to purchase or lease-purchase a PUC pumper truck for an amount not to exceed \$800,000.00

Chairman Mahler asked the board to review the minutes. Commissioner Borsuk had a correction to page 1.

Chairman Mahler asked the board to Review claims against the board. Chief Carbin explained the Motorola radio system claims to the board.

UPON MOTION MADE by Jason Martin and seconded by Martin Berkowitz, the agenda meeting was adjourned at 7:13pm.

ROLL CALL: Aye Berkowitz

Aye Borsuk

Aye Mahler

Aye Martin

REGULAR MEETING

Chairman Mahler called the regular meeting to order with a Salute to the Flag at 7:30 pm. Chairman Mahler asked for a moment of silence for all who lost their lives on 9/11.

UPON ROLL CALL made by Commissioner Jason Martin, the following members of the Monroe Township Board of Fire Commissioners of District No. 2 were present: Martin Berkowitz, Glenn Borsuk, Maurice Mahler, Jason Martin and Ed Mitnowsky.

ALSO PRESENT: Board Attorney Richard J. Shaklee, Esquire, and Val Cier, Recording Secretary. There was one career firefighter present: Chief Carbin.

There was one volunteer/support firefighters present: President Dunham.

There were nine members of the public (FD#2 residents) present and Ben Vivona.

Chairman Mahler announced that the meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, having been published in the May 1st edition of the Cranbury Press, posted on the bulletin board of the Office of the Township Clerk and ten public locations, and notices sent to those requesting such.

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 April 8, 2015 agenda and regular meetings, as amended.

ROLL CALL: Aye Berkowitz

Aye Borsuk

Aye Mahler

Aye Martin

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 \$229,786.36

Net Payroll Claims Total \$ 66,525.13

Total Claims Against the Board \$296,525.13

Period ending May 13, 2015

UPON MOTION MADE by Jason Martin and seconded by Glenn Borsuk, claims against the Monroe Township Board of Fire Commissioners of District No. 2 were approved in the amount of \$296,525.13.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Chairman Mahler asked for the treasurer's report.

Commissioner Berkowitz reported the following as of May 13, 2015.

Hudson City Savings Bank:

Undesignated Funds	\$962,758.17
Designated Funds	\$168,789.33
Total Balance	\$1,131,547.50

PUBLIC VOTE RESULTS

Chairman Mahler asked for the outcome of the public vote: Should the Board of Fire Commissioners of Monroe Township Fire District #2, Middlesex County, NJ be authorized to purchase or lease-purchase a PUC pumper truck for an amount not to exceed \$800,000.00.

There were 10 votes cast: 9 votes of yes; 1 vote of no.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU REPORT

Chairman Mahler asked for the Fire Prevention Report.

Chief Carbin the following:

- Training continues on the new truck
- 33 smoke detectors test for the month of April
- Reviewed incident log
- Received confirmation from HGAC and a password to get into their website
- Made offer to William Penn Fire Department on the truck for the volunteer fire department. It's still under what was appropriated. They wanted \$250,000.00. The last motion was at \$220,000.00.

UPON MOTION MADE by Glenn Borsuk and seconded by Martin Berkowitz, to authorize Chief Carbin to make a counter offer on the 2008 Toyne fire apparatus at William Penn Fire Department for an amount not to exceed \$230,000.

ROLL CALL: Aye Berkowitz
Aye Borsuk
Aye Mahler
Aye Martin

Commissioner Mitnowsky was not present during roll call.

- Tower has been sold to Exeter Fire Department and the money is in the bank.
- Pickup will be delivered tomorrow

Commissioner Martin read the Resolution to make the application to the local finance board for its review and/or approval of a proposed financing project, authorizing the entering into a lease purchase agreement in an amount not to exceed \$800,000.00 for the acquisition of a PUC pumper truck.

UPON MOTION MADE by Glenn Borsuk and seconded by Martin Berkowitz, to adopt the Resolution for the application to the local finance board.

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

UPON MOTION MADE by Glenn Borsuk and seconded by Martin Berkowitz, to purchase the Pierce, contingent upon approval of local finance board.

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

APPLEGARTH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

President Jeff Durham had nothing to report this month.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Chairman Mahler opened the meeting to the public.

Ben Vivona, retired firefighter, wanted to commend the chief on the good stop at the fire today in Greenbriar. Chairman Mahler stated that the cause of the fire was due to old 9 volt batteries placed in a recycling container.

Norman Olinski, past volunteer of Applegarth fire department fire police and he was forced to resign. He would like to meet with the board to find out why he had to resign. He stated he was told there were charges and he was to attend a hearing, but he was never told what the charges

were and he would like to know. He asked the board what the proper procedure is to find out what he had done wrong.

Commissioner Martin said that it may not be a board decision. The volunteer organization is their entity. Mr. Olinski stated the Board allocated \$4000 for fire police and he doesn't know what happened to those funds.

Chairman Mahler stated the board provides money for building and some resources. Chief Carbin stated up to \$4000 in funds were allocated to the fire police. The Chief and Deputy Chief went through the list of items requested and since this organization is new, they purchased the basics such as lights, batons and gloves. The \$4000 didn't go to volunteers, it was earmarked for the fire police. The items purchased were paid for out of the \$4000. About \$2400 to \$3000 was spent. The Chief never bought the parkas. Mr. Viona was the sergeant and returned all the equipment when the fire police were disbanded.

Chairman Mahler stated the board cannot get involved in how the volunteers run their organization. Mr. Olinski appreciated the response.

Chief Carbin explained it's a fire department, but the volunteers have their own rules and regulations on the administrative side and by-laws.

Mr. Olinski read an email from Chairman Mahler dated April 20th to attend a board meeting and have it investigated since he felt he was unjustly removed from fire department. He feels he can't talk to volunteers and can't talk to board. Attorney Shaklee stated the Board has no jurisdiction.

President Dunham stated a resignation received from one member and the other member was removed. He won't discuss the specifics in public, but they can meet with the volunteer organization to discuss further.

CLOSED SESSION

Chairman stated no closed session

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 Martin

Aye Mitnowsky

JASON MARTIN
Board Secretary
MAURICE MAHLER
Chairman

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

PREPARED BY: Val Cier