

MONROE TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2024

The Monroe Township Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District No. 1 met at the firehouse located at 467 Spotswood-Englishtown Road for a Regular Meeting. The meeting was called to order with a salute to the Flag at 6:30PM. There was a moment of silence for fallen soldiers, firefighters, EMS workers, etc.

UPON ROLL CALL the following members of the Monroe Township Board of Fire Commissioners of District No. 1 were present: Charlie Dipierro, Vincent DiLieto, Leandra Kane, Anthony Costa and Todd Grossman

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Lonnie Pipero, President Chris Alteria, Board Attorney Joseph Youssef, Board Bookkeeper Erin Perry and Ernie Zih

ABSENT: Fire Official Matt Jandernal

Board Attorney Joseph Youssef announced that the meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and that adequate notice of the meeting has been provided by the following: posted on the bulletin board of the Township Clerk in the Municipal Complex and published in the Home News Tribune.

UPON MOTION MADE by Todd Grossman and seconded by Leandra Kane, the Board approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 12, 2024 subject to the same being provided to the public, during and subsequent to this meeting.

ROLL CALL:	Commissioner Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Commissioner Vincent DiLieto	Aye
	Commissioner Leandra Kane	Aye
	Commissioner Anthony Costa	Aye
	Commissioner Todd Grossman	Aye

UPON MOTION MADE by Vincent DiLieto and seconded by Leandra Kane, the Board approved the minutes of Executive Session of June 12, 2024 subject to the same being provided to the public, during and subsequent to this meeting.

ROLL CALL:	Commissioner Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Commissioner Vincent DiLieto	Aye
	Commissioner Leandra Kane	Aye
	Commissioner Anthony Costa	Aye

INSURANCE REPORT: Commissioner DiLieto said we were asked to get a price quote for the historic E-1 Pumper that the Volunteers picked up and add it to the policy. They added 503 for this year, at no extra charge. Next year we will figure out what that addition is and take it from there. Vinny has the fleet card with no individual information that just has to be kept in there. There was a small accident by one of the members on the way to a night call, hitting an animal. We are going through the process of returning the deductible. We are also in the process of getting the quote certificates of insurance for the 75th Anniversary Celebration.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Lonnie Pipero was present and gave report. (Attached) There were (14) Residential Fire Alarms, (1) Motor Vehicle Fire, (4) CO Alarm, (5) Natural Gas Leaks, (3) Electrical Emergency, (2) First Aid Assists, (24) Tri-Punch and (4) Mutual Aid out of town, for a total of 57 calls. There are no firefighter(s) attending school and no injuries reported. There were 4 drills. Chief informed the Board that the PMS are all complete, except for the Brush Truck which will go out after the season is over. There have been problems/issues with the starter and the throttle. Lonnie touched on the 75th stating that nobody understands the amount of logistics that go into running an event like this. The County has definitely put a lot of pressure on us to go above & beyond. There's no turning back now, we are exactly 30 days out. The Committee is pushing ahead and meeting once/week. They have decided to leave Tuesdays open from now till the event to do stuff for the event.

Chief asked if the Board would entertain a commercial exhaust fan for the bays. The Big Ass Fans don't work efficiently, it's too hot in there. Charlie suggests we call Barry to take a look at it. Chief also would like us to revisit the storage shelves in the shed and receive sealed bids. Specs to include 3 foot shelves, 70 linear feet, secured to the rafters (off the floor) built out of plywood, 2x6 frame.

FIRE PREVENTION REPORT: Ernie Zih was present and gave report. There have been 22 inspections performed since the last meeting, 24 smoke inspections for the month. On June 28th a meeting was held with the Township Engineer, Fire Dept. Chief and the Developer for Monroe Parke. The Chief was able to express the department's safety concerns with the islands. After reviewing the agreed upon plans and taking the Chief's safety concerns into account, the developer has agreed to remove the islands completely and pave the areas and stripe them instead. The developer will also be relocating streetlights that were set to be installed in the islands. Ernie is also working with the representative from Georgetown Estates to develop a pre plan for non-ambulatory residents and helping them set up a fire prevention plan. Ernie helped coordinate and attended with the ladder and day crew to go over to the Academy Learning Center to spray down the kids for their field day and set up Fire Prevention month for October. Ernie set up the Fire Prevention

demonstration (with trailer) for Mill Lake School on October 22nd and 23rd. No new site plans have been submitted to Fire Prevention for review. There were no fire investigations.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Chris Alteria informed the Board that everything he wished to talk about regarding the 75th Anniversary celebration was already covered.

LEGAL REPORT: NONE

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT: Board Bookkeeper Erin Perry was present and gave report. Erin stated that the financial reports through June 30th were circulated to the Board and all bank accounts have been updated and reconciled to that date. She doesn't have much to report, however she will be incurring more hours in regard to the pension system. She would like Commissioner Kane to dedicate some time to her. Quarterly payroll is this week. Our obligation for the Township Radio agreement is also coming due August 1st in the amount of \$60,000. We should add this to the bill list tonight and Chairman Dipierro will obtain a copy of the invoice. Erin has been going back and forth with the Auditor on documents and requests/clarifications. For the record, we are holding strong around \$1.5M:

Cash Balance - \$168,714.39
 Fire Prevention - \$18,727.72
 Payroll Account - \$18,707.61
 BCB Money Market - \$405,592.39
 First Bank CD - \$447,437.69
 BCB Bank CD - \$500,000

Let the record reflect that Commissioner Costa left the meeting

TREASURER'S REPORT: Commissioner Todd Grossman read the list of July bills to be paid.

A Cut Above Landscaping	\$2,330.00	O-8
Absolute Fire Protection Co., Inc.	\$22,144.66	O-15
Amanda's Web, LLC.	\$225.00	O-7
Andrade's House Cleaning, LLC.	\$1,000.00	O-8
AT&T Mobility	\$288.98	O-7
Cintas	\$1,136.84	O-8
Complete Document Solutions	\$257.72	A-8
DELL Technologies	\$5,447.09	O-7
Erin Perry	\$1,750.00	A-11
Firefighters Equipment of N.Y.	\$12,758.49	O-17
Gerhardt's Dairy IV, LLC.	\$129.33	O-8
Great America Financial Services	\$290.01	A-8

JCP&L	\$3,176.15	O-8
Joseph D. Youssouf, Esq.	\$10,100.00	A-11
KT Mobile Detail	\$750.00	O-8
Monroe Township	\$60,000.00	O-6
National Fuel Oil, Inc.	\$1,717.21	O-9
PSE&G	\$136.61	O-8
RVR Computer Repair	\$2,700.00	O-7
Service Tire Truck Centers (STTC)	\$431.05	O-15
Skylands Area Fire Equipment & Training	\$35,135.27	O-4
Standard Waste Services	\$291.72	O-8
Todd Grossman	\$50.97	O-8
Verizon	\$579.09	O-8
Verizon Connect	\$227.40	O-8
Verizon Wireless	\$1,826.81	O-7
W.B. Mason	\$2,303.80	O-8
Total: \$167,184.20		

Commissioner DiLieto questioned the MTUD bills. The Township ordinance (2020-015) says no fees shall be acquired for the inspection of any municipally owned or operated facility and no municipal agency shall be required to pay permit fees. The Board asked Joe Youssouf to send a letter to the Township as to why we pay for our water usage. Erin will provide a breakdown of all monies the Fire Department has paid to each one of our accounts. Joe feels we should be exempt and refunded all monies paid from 2017 to date, either to MTMUA or MTUD.

UPON MOTION MADE by Todd Grossman and seconded by Vincent DiLieto, the Board approved the payment of the bills read (with corrections).

ROLL CALL:	Commissioner Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Commissioner Vincent DiLieto	Aye
	Commissioner Leandra Kane	Abstain
	Commissioner Anthony Costa	Absent
	Commissioner Todd Grossman	Aye

OLD BUSINESS: Commissioner DiLieto informed the Board that he met with the Township regarding the tri-party agreement for the 75th Anniversary celebration. He has a copy of Resolution No: R-6-2024-171 authorizing adoption and execution of a tri-party agreement by and between the Monroe Township Volunteer Fire Company #1, Monroe Township Fire District #1 and the Township of Monroe. Commissioner DiLieto read the agreement into the record indicating the Township hereby agrees to provide support for the celebration and parade

similar to the Township's support during the July 4th event. The Township will have representatives from the police department, emergency medical services, department of public works, recreation and parks department, and provide a senior ADA transportation bus to assist with the celebration and parade. The total cost of the Township's services for the event will be \$45,000. Each party shall be responsible for 1/3 of the cost, equaling \$15K for each party. This agreement does not cover the costs for any agency involved in the celebration and parade, including but not limited to Middlesex County, Jamesburg Borough and the Monroe Board of Education.

UPON MOTION MADE by Vincent DiLieto and seconded by Leandra Kane, the Board entered into the Tri-Party Shared Service Agreement with our contribution being \$15,000.

ROLL CALL:	Commissioner Charles Dipierro	Abstain
	Commissioner Vincent DiLieto	Aye
	Commissioner Leandra Kane	Aye
	Commissioner Anthony Costa	Absent
	Commissioner Todd Grossman	Aye

Chairman Dipierro asked how we did with the trailer. Commissioner DiLieto responded that we had it listed on GovDeals and it did not get up to a price we were comfortable selling it for. We have time to figure out what we are going to do. It's not killing us to insure it and leave it there, there's no wear and tear, and no maintenance.

NEW BUSINESS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: UPON MOTION MADE by Vincent DiLieto and seconded by Leandra Kane, with all in favor, the meeting entered into Executive Session at 8:14PM to discuss lawyer-client privileged material.

ROLL CALL:	Commissioner Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Commissioner Vincent DiLieto	Aye
	Commissioner Leandra Kane	Aye
	Commissioner Anthony Costa	Absent
	Commissioner Todd Grossman	Aye

The meeting reconvened to the Regular portion at 9:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT: UPON MOTION MADE by Vincent DiLieto and seconded by Todd Grossman, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:01PM.

Prepared by: Tricia Mercado