

**TOWNSHIP OF PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1
REGULAR MEETING
September 28, 2022, 7:30 p.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Township of ParsIPPany-Troy Hills Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No.1 was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Berry at the Tarn Drive Firehouse at 909 Tabor Road, Morris Plains, New Jersey.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Berry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. STATEMENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting of September 28, 2022 was included in a list of meetings notice sent to The Daily Record on December 10, 2021 and advertised in said newspaper on December 11, 2021, posted on the bulletin board in the Parsippany-Troy Hills Municipal Building, 1001 Parsippany Boulevard, Parsippany, New Jersey, and the Mount Tabor Firehouse, 909 Tarn Road on December 11, 2021, and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the statute. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Township Clerk and at the Mount Tabor Fire House.

4. ROLL CALL

Commissioners present: Berry, Ferdinandi, Jamieson, Masker, Hazel

Department representation: Deputy Chief Masker, Chief Crawford

Guest representative: Attorney Peter King

5. AGENDA REVIEW

President Berry reviewed the agenda for this meeting.

6. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Minutes from the regular August meeting were distributed by Commissioner Hazel to all Commissioners to review prior to this meeting. Minutes from the regular August meeting were approved via a motion by Commissioner Masker, seconded by Commissioner Jamieson, and carried by unanimous vote.

7. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

A letter from the Mount Tabor Volunteer Fire Department was received requesting the Commissioners contribute funds to purchase tee shirts for the membership.

8. RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 2022-09

RESOLUTION AWARDING BID AND A CONTRACT FOR BUILDING OUT OF DEPUTY CHIEF'S TRUCK #19 TO EAST COAST EMERGENCY LIGHTING, INC.

The resolution was adopted by the following roll-call vote:

Aye: Berry, Ferdinandi, Hazel, Jamieson

Nay: --

Abstained: Masker

9. REPORTS

i. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's monthly report for September 2022 declaring operating expenses of \$35,081.62, was read and distributed for all Commissioners to review and provide comments.

Significant expenses included 7,900.50 to Deputy Chief Masker for several items covered under the Chief's budget, \$5,954.94 to Absolute Fire Protection for pump shaft repair which will be substantially reimbursed by insurance, and \$5,468.67 to Phoenix Fire for several repairs and maintenance items including apparatus battery replacement.

Deposits included \$291,766.67 from quarterly tax revenue and \$175 from reimbursement for window cleaning from Par-Troy EMS.

The Treasurer's report was approved via a motion by Commissioner Jamieson, seconded by Commissioner Ferdinandi, and carried by unanimous vote.

ii. Truck Report

Engine 12 was temporarily out of service due to a melted wiring harness as a result of the placement during installation. Fire and Safety responded to investigate the issue and requested Cummings investigate. Cummings responded and managed the necessary repairs. These repairs were covered under a five-year warranty. Districts 4 and 6 offered to support District 1 with their reserve apparatus; Their offer was not needed.

Engine 13's pump shaft has been repaired. A substantial portion of the expense will be covered under insurance. An approximately \$1,500 bill for towing related to the initial pump shaft damage is outstanding and may be covered under insurance. Commissioner Ferdinandi will investigate. We have been advised that the dashboard check engine light is not a significant issue if there is no reading on the text display in the apparatus cab.

Rescue 14 has a new rear ladder for access to the top compartments and light tower. An expansion valve has also been repaired.

Engine 15's tachometer is not functioning correctly.

Car 18 received approximately \$2,000 worth of repair and maintenance work.

Tower 11's replacement timeline has been moved six months earlier as a result of efficiencies found in the manufacturer's engine line. Delivery of a new Tower may be as early as December 2023.

We should consider initiating the selling process for the current Engine 15 and Tower 11 given the lead time required to broker the sales and the advancement in their replacement's delivery timeline.

iii. Radio Report

Parsippany PD has our updated run cards and we have ProPhoenix access for fire prevention content.

We expect to obtain replacement mobile and portable radios for the new county system; This is an update to prior reports indicating that we would be denied county replacements given the cache of equipment acquired through the Parsippany upgrade.

2 pagers have been sent for repair.

iv. Insurance Report

Engine 13's pump shaft repair claim has been processed and we will be issued payment in the amount of \$5,929.94.

A claim for a motor vehicle accident involving Rescue 14 is pending.

v. Purchasing Report

No report.

vi. Fire Prevention

Several Gates Court items have been corrected. Others remain pending.

vii. Joint Board Meeting Report

The next Parsippany Joint Board meeting will be on Wednesday, October 5th at District 3's firehouse.

viii. Chief's Report

338 Calls to date (71 calls ahead of this time 2021)

1500 Littleton Road project (250 Senior Apartments + Assisted Living): Demolition of the old structure is in progress.

Training/Events: 9/29 - Tarn Clean Up, 10/6 - RIC Drill, 10/20 - Extrication (Cribbing & Stabilization), 10/27 - Extrication (Cutting & Patient Removal w/Par Troy EMS)

There have been 111 mutual aid responses this year. 53 of these responses were to District 2, 24 of these responses were to Dover, and 6 of these were to Denville, including a CO leak at a multi-family facility.

Engine into Denville for CO leak at multi family facility.

The number of personnel responding to alarms is still an issue. Inconsistent daytime response is the primary concern.

Engine 15 was moved to Tarn in mid-August due to staffing issues. Engine 15 responded to more calls in Q3 than Q1 and Q2 combined.

The line officers recommend removing and selling the Honda generator from Engine 15 and purchasing smaller inverter generators to support operating pump out equipment.

10. INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present to comment.

11. APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE

No bills were presented for approval.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session took place at this meeting.

13. OLD BUSINESS

We will get Taxes and PO for the quarter. On regular cycle.

After discussion on the potential budgetary risks and optionality, a motion to include an item for staffing expenses of \$150,000 for a 6 month provision in the 2023 District Budget Proposal was made by Commissioner Masker and seconded by Commissioner Jamieson. No further discussion was had.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Yea: Commissioner Berry, Commissioner Ferdinandi, Commissioner Hazel, Commissioner Jamieson, Commissioner Masker

Nay: --

Commissioner Masker will post the required notifications to hold a special public meeting to secure voter approval to utilize \$105,000 of Reserve Savings for the purchase of a 2022 Chevrolet Suburban and related up-fitting.

The upstairs patio at the Tarn Drive firehouse was repaired and recoated.

14. NEW BUSINESS

The Commissioners will not action the request from the Mount Tabor Volunteer Fire Department to purchase all members tee shirts citing the current incentive program to individual members.

It was determined that the action of removing and selling the generator from Engine 15 and subsequent purchase of smaller inverter generators to support pump out operations is under the purview of the chief's operating discretion and necessary additional funding based on estimated values would likely be accomplished through existing budget provisions. There was no formal vote on this matter.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, a motion to close was made by Commissioner Hazel, seconded by Commissioner Ferdinandi, and carried by unanimous vote at 8:45 PM.