

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FIRE DISTRICT No. 1
Bridgewater Township
PO Box 109, MARTINSVILLE, N. J. 08836**

Martinsville Station # 1
Martinsville, NJ
January 11, 2022

Meeting Minutes of the January 11, 2022 BOFC District #1

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Rosenberg at 8:06 pm. Present: Mr. Rose, Mr. Rosenberg, Mr. Kalafsky, Mr. Cowley, Mrs. Zampella, Chief Fernandes, Deputy Chief Bradley. Mr. Rose made a motion and Mr. Cowley seconded that we approve the minutes that were distributed electronically from the December meeting with noted changes from Mr. Kalafsky. Minutes approved.

Mr. Rose presented the bills being paid for January. Mr. Rose motioned, and Mr. Kalafsky seconded that the January bills be approved. Approved. Mr. Rose then presented the bills being paid this month for last year's budget. Mr. Kalafsky made a motion and Mr. Cowley seconded that the bills be approved as read. Bills approved. Mr. Rose presented the Treasurers report. Mr. Kalafsky made a motion and Mrs. Zampella seconded that the Treasurers report for December be approved. Approved.

Meeting opened to public at 8:14 pm. Public section closed at 8:15 pm

Correspondence: Mrs. Zampella reported that we received a letter from Barbara Lane a resident of Hawthorne Avenue section of town that was also sent to the mayor, council, zoning officer, fire marshal and all other fire district commissioners with her complaint about the maintenance of the property on her street that suffered a fire. Mr. Rose reported that the property was cleaned up previously by the town and that resident has filed complaints with the town in the past about that property. Not our district but will keep letter on file.

Mr. Rose received notice from Ford that our 2021 F350 Truck still needs to be serviced for the windshield recall. Still waiting for part. Mr. Rose also read the mileage reports for the vehicles for 2021. He also advised that he executed the renewal of the agreement with County to buy our fuel.

Chief's Report Mr. Rose made a motion and Mr. Kalafsky seconded that we approve December Chief's report as distributed. Chief's report approved.

Old Business:

Martinsville Rescue Squad: Mr. DiGiovanni presented the December report that was also sent electronically. 3 exceptions because MRS decons the rigs after each call and other rigs were being deconned. Mr. Rose made a motion and Mr. Cowley seconded that the report be approved. Approved. Mr. Rose asked for an explanation of the Rescue Squad cooperative that includes 6 districts. Mr. DiGiovanni explained how it works and advised that it has been running smoothly.

Insurance- No Report

LOSAP: No Report

Membership and Personnel: Chief Fernandes advised there were 5 resignations. The group discussed the resignations and confirmed several were not active for several years. The group discussed the need for retention and recruitment of more members.

Bridgewater Joint Board: Mr. Rose advised he spoke to Mr. Kurdyla who wants to get the joint board back together. We agreed to be involved.

Trucks out of the District: None requested

New Development: No Report.

Vehicle Training Ongoing. The Chief presented a list of all members who are qualified on each rig.

Vehicle Maintenance: Starter was replaced in Engine 4. Also took the engine for the windshield replacement to Maplecrest Ford. It will take 3 to 6 weeks. Mr. Rose asked why Ditschman Ford is not doing it since we purchased it from them and why is it taking so long. Chief advised Ditschman said they could not do it. It will take longer because they need to remove the light bar to replace the windshield and the charger for Engine is not working properly. The rear axle was also recalled so that will be done at the same time. Mr. Cowley advised that the Cozumel on the rescue is getting stuck so that needs to be addressed.

New Pickup- Mr. Fernandes reported just waiting for last item to be repaired and waiting for part.

Flood Issues –Bill Rose reported the work with FEMA is ongoing.

Software Update – No report

Truck Committee- Chief Fernandes requested a meeting for January 19th for the committee.

Budget – Mr. Rose advised he received a conditional approval from the state waiting on the resolution from the township committee approving the commissioner’s compensation. He informed the board of all of the extra information that the state required this year for the budget that was never needed in the past. Mr. Rose read the resolution to authorize the budget and called role call vote: Mr. Rose, Mr. Rosenberg, Mrs. Zampella. Mr. Cowley and Mr. Kalafsky all voted Yes. Resolution approved.

New Business:

Mr. Rose read a resolution regarding approval of the temporary budget that allows the board to operate and pay bills in an amount not to exceed 14% of the 2021 approved budget. Role call. Mr. Cowley, Mr, Rose, Mr. Rosenberg, Mr. Kalafsky and Mrs. Zampella approved.

Chief Fernandez requested. Mr. Rose made a motion and Mrs. Zampella that the board approve up to \$80,000 for the purchase of a side by side UTV with outfitting (stokes) and trailer. Motion approved.

Mr. Rose reminded everyone the election is next month. Mr. Rosenberg requested the forms needed for his petition and Mrs. Zampella advised she would email. Also, Mr. Cowley asked Mrs. Zampella to request the township correct the names on their website as he is listed as Chairman.

With no new business, a motion to adjourn the December 14, 2021 meeting was made by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mr. Cowley.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.