

The seven hundred and fifty-seventh meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, District #2, Gloucester Township was held in the Chews Landing Fire Station on Wednesday, September 9, 2020

Commissioners present were: Genzel, Reichert, Evans, Donahue and Grady. Also in attendance were Solicitor Dave Carlamere, Administrator Robb and Chief Millisky.

Chairman Genzel opened the meeting at 7:30 pm with the flag salute and acknowledgement of the meeting being held in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

A motion was made by Grady and 2nd by Reichert to accept the minutes of the previous meeting.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

Chief's Report: Chief Millisky reported that the County Chiefs meeting is scheduled for tomorrow September 10th. We have approximately \$5,300.00 left is SAFER Grant money for duty crews. The Officers discussed the future of the boat and were split 50/50 whether to keep it or get rid of it adding that we have 19 certified boat members but the boat is outdated. The Chief thought it was best to keep the boat.

Administrator's Report: Administrator Robb reviewed the agenda and discussions were held regarding the agenda items. Solicitor Carlamere acknowledged his agreement that controls are needed concerning the fire company photographs.

Solicitor's Report: None

Group Report: "A" Building Maintenance, Park (K. Donahue) Comm. Donahue reviewed the budget report.

Group Report: "B" Fire Prevention, EMS (J. Reichert) Comm. Reichert thanked Kenny and Nick for keeping up with the smoke-having already completed 210 so far this year and reported that the business inspections have resumed.

Group Report: "C" Apparatus & Equipment (R. Evans) Comm. Evans reviewed the monthly report supplied by FF Procopio outlining the many repairs and routine maintenance on both the apparatus and station.

Group Report: "D" Insurance, Hydrants, Radios & Uniforms (L. Grady) Comm. Grady thanked Administrator Robb and FF Procopio for their efforts in researching and negotiating the repairs of the mansards from the storm damage.

Group Report: "E" Training, Personnel, Office (G. Genzel) Chairman Genzel noted that his items shall be discussed in closed session as they pertain to personnel.

New Business: A motion was made by Donahue and 2nd by Evans to approve the bills presented for payment this evening in the amount of \$60,118.35.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

A motion was made by Donahue and 2nd by Reichert to accept the receipts presented this evening in the amount of \$52,817.33

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

A motion was made by Genzel and 2nd by Reichert to suspend the position of Company Photographer pending development and approval of Social Networking and Digital Imaging Policies.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

A motion was made by Genzel and 2nd by Evans to schedule a joint meeting with GTFD #4 for September 21st, (alternate date permitted if needed) to discuss shared services and all that entails. It was also decided that each district shall advertise the meeting individually.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

A motion was made by Evans and 2nd by Reichert to approved FF Ardecki and FF Wyatt to attend the Paratech training in Rockford Illinois October 13th & 14th.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

A motion was made by Evans and 2nd by Donahue to authorize and approve the quote provided by Security 21 of Deptford NJ in the amount of \$1,912.00 to supply and install 3 new security cameras to replace older cameras.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

Old Business: None

Good of the District: Comm. Evans thanked the Trustees for allowing the OEM to use the hall for HazMat training both this week and again at the end of the month.

A motion was made by Genzel and 2nd by Reichert to go into closed session at 8:08 pm.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

Contract issues were discussed in closed session and remain pending.

A motion was made by Reichert and 2nd by Evans to go back into open session at 9:42pm.

Roll Call: Reichert-yes, Genzel-yes, Evans-yes, Grady-yes, Donahue-yes

There being no other business a motion was made by Reichert and 2nd by Evans to adjourn at 9:43pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Read and approved:

Chairman: 

Submitted:

Clerk: 

Date: 10/14/20

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

From: Bill Robb – Administrator

RE: September Meeting – 9/9/2020

1. Shared Service Program:
 - a. The information presented at last week's workshop regarding the approximate value of E822 vs the depreciation fee payments from District 4 was forwarded via e-mail to the District 4 Commissioners today for their information.
 - b. Attached is a letter received from Fire District #3 indicating their willingness to meet to discuss participation in the current Shared Services Program between Fire Districts 2 and 4.
 - c. As noted at the workshop, District 1 sent a letter stating that they are not interested in participating in the Shared Services Program.
2. The trade-in of the old Dell computers approved at last month's meeting is in process. An invoice in the amount of \$168.00 is included with tonight's bills for the cost of shipping the computers to Dell (\$28.00 x 6). Once the computers are received and inspected by Dell, they will issue a check to us in the amount of \$352.00, resulting in a net gain of \$184.00.
3. Policies:
 - a. As noted at last week's workshop, a significant amount of feedback has been received from department members regarding the Social Media Policy. To allow adequate time to address the stated concerns, President Koehler has agreed to hold a discussion at the fire company meeting on Monday, September 14th, and the requested approval of the policy has been postponed until the October Fire District meeting.
 - b. On a related topic, the firefighter designated as the Company Photographer has expressed his opinion that photos taken by him at incident scenes are his "personal intellectual property," and not the property of the department. This opinion is contrary to the advice provided by Curt Varone, a licensed attorney and subject matter expert, and Fire District Solicitor Dave Carlamere. While the value of incident scene photos for their positive public relations and training value is well-recognized, there are also liability concerns that must be addressed. I've discussed this issue with Chief Millisky, and he is in support of placing the Company Photographer position on hold until this issue is resolved and policies are put in place to clarify the department's expectations regarding incident scene photos. **Request a Motion to temporarily discontinue the Company Photographer position pending development and approval of Social Networking and Digital Imaging Policies.**
4. The Apparatus Cameras in E82 and the Chief's Car will hopefully be activated within the next week.
5. A check in the amount of \$49,619.58 has been received from Glatfelter Insurance for replacement of the damaged mansard on the front of the station, and for painting the side mansards. FF Procopio will oversee the project on behalf of the trustees. A quote will also be obtained to paint the shop mansard to match the new station mansard. Same will be forwarded to the Board once obtained.
6. The alternate dates provided to District 4 for the joint meetings of the Boards conflicted with vacation schedules for two of their commissioners. Given the difficulty in agreeing on an alternate date, Commissioner John Grady and I determined the best course of action is to stay with the original proposed date of September 21, 2020 at 7:00 pm. As of our last discussion, Commissioner Reichert may be unavailable on that date, but all other District 2 Commissioners are available. **Request a Motion agreeing to meet with the District 4 Commissioners on Monday, September 21, 2020 at 7:00 pm at a location to be determined.** Topics to be discussed will include the Career Staff Shared Services Agreement and a closed session discussion of contract negotiations. If the motion is approved, I will work with District 4 to ensure the meeting is properly advertised.

7. Attached is a letter to be sent to Fire District 1 in response to their letter of complaint regarding the Engine 88 Best of South Jersey document that was reportedly mailed to Chief Ricciardelli in late June.
8. Lt. Wyatt and FF Ardecki have expressed interest in attending a Paratech University class in Rockford, IL on October 13th and 14th, 2020. The cost of the class is only \$50.00 and they're planning to travel by car so the costs will be relatively low. Chief Millisky has approved the request. **Request a Motion approving Lt. Wyatt and FF Ardecki to attend the listed training.** If approved, I will work with the members on reimbursement for lodging, meals and travel expenses.
9. As approved by the Board, a Money Market account has been established with TD Bank, with \$725,000.00 transferred from the General Account to the new account. Monthly interest on the General Account funds have averaged \$75.00. By contrast, interest earned on the Money Market Account for the period of August 5th through August 31st totaled \$160.89. Our current General Account balance is just over \$21,000.00 so we'll likely have to transfer some of the Money Market funds to cover expenses unless we receive a tax check from the township in the next couple of days.
10. Attached is a quote from Security 21 for the purchase of three (3) new security cameras and the labor to mount them. The cameras will replace three existing older cameras in the engine room. The new cameras offer higher resolution and a wider field of view. They will also be repositioned to provide a better view of the area covered. **Request a Motion authorizing approval of the quote provided by Security 21 of Deptford, New Jersey in the amount of \$1,912.00.**
11. The department will be hosting our Annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony in the Memorial Park this Friday at 7:45am. The itinerary will be similar to past years, except we will forgo the light refreshments and socializing inside the building due to the Covid pandemic.
12. A representative of VFIS Insurance is scheduled to meet with Chief Millisky and I tomorrow afternoon at 3:00 pm to conduct a Risk Assessment of department operations. The assessment will focus on policies for driver training, accident/incident reports, apparatus maintenance, and personal vehicle response policies.

Closed Session:

1. Contract Negotiations