

EVESHAM TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO.1
BOARD OF FIRE COMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
January 13, 2022
MINUTES

Commissioner John Behnke called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Evesham Township Fire District No. 1 to order at 6:32 PM in the bays of Station 221. President Behnke welcomed all in attendance. He opened the meeting with a flag salute and Pledge of Allegiance. The following statement of compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was given by Business Manager Maureen Mitchell: "This meeting is being held in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was transmitted to the Burlington County Times and Central Record on December 14, 2021, filed with the Township Clerk of the Township of Evesham, posted on the bulletin board in the Fire Administration Office that is customarily used for the posting of such notices and mailed to all persons requesting that they receive such notice."

ROLL CALL - The following individuals were present at the roll call, Commissioners: Baugh, Behnke, Guerrini, Rowe and Smith. Also present were: Chief Carl Bittenbender, Deputy Chief Freedman, Deputy Chief Donnelly, Solicitor Saginario, and Business Manager Maureen Mitchell.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETINGS

Commissioner Guerrini made a motion that the minutes of the December 23, 2021 Regular Meeting be approved. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion. A roll call vote on the motion produced the following result: AYES, Baugh, Behnke, Guerrini, Rowe and Smith; NAYS, none; ABSTAINED: none; ABSENT, none.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The following report for the month of December 2021 was submitted by the Treasurer for approval:

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|--|----------------------------|
| Treasurer's Report for the period ended: | |
| December 31, 2021 | |
| Beginning Cash Balance | 6,839,884.47 |
| Cash Receipts | 3,201,488.72 |
| Cash Disbursements | <u>(1,263,441.91)</u> |
| Ending Cash Balance | <u><u>8,777,931.28</u></u> |

Commissioner Smith made a motion accepting the Treasurer's Report as presented. Commissioner Guerrini seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a unanimous roll call vote.

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BILL LIST
January 13, 2022

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ELAN (P-CARD) | \$ 1,436.95 |
| Heartland | \$ 344.03 |
| Bill List Dated: 1/13/22 | <u>395,992.31</u> |
| | |
| TOTAL PAYMENTS THIS PERIOD | <u><u>\$ 397,773.29</u></u> |

Commissioner Rowe asked about the nature of the ELAN and Heartland bills. The Business Manager explained what they were. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the payment of bills as contained on the Bill List Report. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a unanimous roll call vote.

CHIEF’S REPORT

Chief Bittenbender gave a verbal summary of his report that was previously provided to the Board of Fire Commissioners. Chief advised the Board that process to fill our vacant firefighter positions and our anticipated Lieutenant vacancy are underway. Chief also advised that the Strategic Planning Workgroup has been identified and the Chief and President will be inviting about 20 members of the organization to participate in the process. The Chief advised that we, like the rest of the world, are seeing an uptick in positive COVID cases within the organization. Commissioner Rowe asked about the District’s current quarantine protocols and Chief reviewed the Medical Director’s recommendation that we are following. The Chief also asked the Board to table the proposed MOU with the County for further clarification. The Chief also advised the Board that he was holding a department meeting via Zoom on Monday 1/24/22.

Commissioner Guerrini asked how many applications we currently had submitted and Deputy Chief Donnelley said that there was a pool of approximately 30 applicants.

President Behnke commented on the recent Ice Rescue training, he was able to witness. The President was appreciative of the training opportunities that all of our members get to experience. We have exceptional training and equipment available for all our members.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT –Solicitor Saginario advised the Board that he was reviewing the Supreme Court’s recent ruling on COVID vaccination requirements and would advise the Board.

BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT - Ms. Mitchell gave a verbal summary of her report that was previously provided to the Board of Fire Commissioners.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

President Behnke opened the Public Comment section for the agenda items only.

Thomas Switick, 83 Elden Way Marlton asked the Board why they changed the time of the Board meetings. President Behnke indicated that they were changed in December when the new meeting schedule was set and that was what was properly advertised.

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There were no further comments from any members of the public, so President Behnke closed the public portion on agenda items only.

RESOLUTIONS

- Resolution No. 2022 – 1 Establishing a Petty Cash Fund
- Resolution No. 2022 – 2 Establishing a Cash Management Plan
- Resolution No. 2022 – 3 Authorizing Contracts with Certain Approved State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program
- Resolution No. 2022 - 4 Providing for Compensation of Board Members
- Resolution No. 2022 - 5 Appointment of Fire Sub-Code Official
- Resolution No. 2022 - 6 Enforcement of Uniform Fire Safety Act
- Resolution No. 2022 – 7 Appointment of Public Agency Compliance Officer

Commissioner Rowe made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2022 – 1 through 2022-7. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A roll call vote on the foregoing motion produced the following result: AYES: Baugh, Behnke, Guerrini, Rowe and Smith; NAYS: None; ABSTAINED: None; ABSENT: None.

RESOLUTIONS

- Resolution No. 2022 - 8 Authorize Asset Swap with Alloway Township Fire Company

Commissioner Guerrini made a motion to approve Resolution Number 2022 – 8. Commissioner Baugh seconded the motion. A roll call vote on the foregoing motion produced the following result: AYES: Baugh, Behnke, Guerrini, Rowe and Smith; NAYS: None; ABSTAINED: None; ABSENT: None.

- Resolution No. 2022 – 9 Authorize an Agreement with County of Burlington for USAR 22 Medium-Duty Utility Vehicle

Commissioner Smith made a motion to table Resolution Number 2022 – 9 at the request of the Chief. Commissioner Baugh seconded the motion. A roll call vote on the foregoing motion produced the following result: AYES: Baugh, Behnke, Guerrini, Rowe and Smith; NAYS: None; ABSTAINED: None; ABSENT: None.

NEW BUSINESS - None

OLD BUSINESS - None

MEMBERSHIP

1. New Fire Member: Jacob Foley-Fire

Commissioner Guerrini made a motion to approve the new members. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion. A roll call vote on the foregoing motion produced the following result: AYES: Baugh, Behnke, Guerrini, Rowe and Smith; NAYS: None; ABSTAINED: None; ABSENT: None.

2. Termination of Membership: Karlie Cunningham and John Maddox

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Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the termination of membership. Commissioner Baugh seconded the motion. A roll call vote on the foregoing motion produced the following result: AYES: Baugh, Behnke, Rowe and Smith; NAYS: Guerrini; ABSTAINED: None; ABSENT: None.

GOOD & WELFARE – President Behnke recognized a few of our Volunteer members who have recently been hired by Burlington Township Fire: FF Mike Nardi, FF Mike Alesandrini, and FF Zach Admodio. He also recognized FF John Maddox for recently completing the Philadelphia Fire Academy. President Behnke wished them all good luck and congratulations!

Commissioner Rowe recognized the following probationary firefighters who recently passed the academy: FF Christopher Bernardi, FF Michael Dimento and FF John Talvacchio.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Behnke opened the public comment portion of the meeting by asking the public to state your name and address for the record and address the Board. Comments are limited to five minutes per speaker.

Bob Costello, 321 Cloverdale Avenue, Villas – asked the Board what equipment we were getting with the trade from Alloway Fire. Chief Bittenbender advised it was a Turbo draft in exchange for nozzles and stabilizing struts we had in excess.

Seeing no further public comments President Behnke closed the public comment section at 7:00 pm.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Guerrini made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a unanimous roll call vote.

President Behnke adjourned the meeting at 7:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Mitchell
Business Manager