

Franklin Township Fire District No. 1
Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2020

Meeting opened with the Flag Salute

The 225th meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Franklin Township Fire District No. 1, Township of Franklin, County of Hunterdon, was called to order by President C. Patkochis at 7:00 PM.

ANNOUNCEMENT: "This meeting is convened in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate notice of the meeting has been provided by furnishing announcement thereof, to the *Hunterdon County Democrat*, and/or *The Express Times*, and/or the *Star Ledger*, and/or the *Courier News*, by posting notice in the Municipal Building and by filing a notice with the Municipal Clerk."

ROLL CALL: President C. Patkochis, present; Treasurer G. Reichert, present; Secretary P. Enea III, present; Vice President, E. Kolibas, present; Assistant Secretary, H. Laine present.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MONTH: Motion to dispense with the reading and accept the minutes of the December 10, 2019 meeting, as submitted. Motion made by E. Kolibas, seconded by H. Laine. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL END OF YEAR MEETING: Motion to dispense with the reading and accept the minutes of the December 26, 2019 End of Year meeting as submitted. Motion made by P. Enea, seconded by G. Reichert. All in favor, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: G. Reichert advised of a total in income of \$ 193.97 and bills totaling \$10,268.18 for the period of December 27, 2019 through January 14, 2020.

Motion to pay the bills for the period of December 27, 2019 through January 14, 2020 was made by E. Kolibas, seconded by P. Enea. Roll call vote, G. Reichert, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:

C. Patkochis advised that normally Reorganization of the Franklin Township Fire District No. 1 takes place during the March meeting but since we are changing our Election to take place in November, it will take place now and then again following the November Election in December. With that being said, C. Patkochis advised that we need to elect officers for 2020 going forward to November.

C. Patkochis asked for nominations for the office of President. G. Reichert nominated C. Patkochis who accepted the nomination, seconded by E. Kolibas. All in favor for President C. Patkochis.

C. Patkochis asked for nominations for the office of Vice President. G. Reichert nominated E. Kolibas who accepted the nomination, seconded by P. Enea. All in favor for Vice President E. Kolibas.

C. Patkochis asked for nominations for the office of Secretary. G. Reichert nominated P. Enea who accepted the nomination, seconded by H. Laine. All in favor for Secretary P. Enea.

C. Patkochis asked for nominations for the office of Treasurer. H. Laine nominated G. Reichert who accepted the nomination, seconded by P. Enea. All in favor for Treasurer G. Reichert.

C. Patkochis asked for nominations for the office of Assistant Secretary. E. Kolibas nominated H. Laine who accepted the nomination, seconded by P. Enea. All in favor for Assistant Secretary H. Laine

C. Patkochis read the following fourteen (14) Resolutions into the record by Resolution number and Name only unless the Resolution included naming of a specific person to the title.

• **RESOLUTION 2020-01** **APPOINTING FIRE OFFICIAL** (Richard Dziminski)

C. Patkochis asked for a Motion to accept the above Resolution as read, G. Reichert made the Motion; seconded by P. Enea. Roll call vote: G. Reichert, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. All in favor, motion carried.

• **RESOLUTION 2020-02** **APPOINTING FIRE INSPECTOR** (David Sulpy)

C. Patkochis asked for a Motion to accept the above Resolution as read, G. Reichert made the Motion; seconded by P. Enea. Roll call vote: G. Reichert, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. All in favor, motion carried.

• **RESOLUTION 2020-03** **APPOINTING PER DIEM FIRE FIGHTER / EMT** (Greg Bunting, William Crampton, Timothy Hinson, Thomas Hoffman Michael Hannigan, William Judd, Lewis Moore, Dave Sulpy, Nicholas Volpe, Robert Petrusky and Rohit Nallamala)

C. Patkochis asked for a Motion to accept the above Resolution as read, G. Reichert made the Motion; seconded by P. Enea. Roll call vote: G. Reichert, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. All in favor, motion carried.

• **RESOLUTION 2020-04** **APPOINTING FIRE DISTRICT RECORDING SECRETARY** (Elise Ennis)

C. Patkochis asked for a Motion to accept the above Resolution as read, G. Reichert made the Motion; seconded by P. Enea. Roll call vote: G. Reichert, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. All in favor, motion carried.

• **RESOLUTION 2020-05** **APPOINTING ATTORNEY FOR 2020-2021 YEAR** (Richard M. Braslow, Esq)

C. Patkochis asked for a Motion to accept the above Resolution as read, G. Reichert made the Motion; seconded by P. Enea. Roll call vote: G. Reichert, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. All in favor, motion carried.

• **RESOLUTION 2020-06** **APPOINTING AUDITOR FOR 2020-2021 YEAR** (William M. Colantano of Bedard, Kurowicki and Co.)

C. Patkochis asked for a Motion to accept the above Resolution as read, G. Reichert made the Motion; seconded by P. Enea. Roll call vote: G. Reichert, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. All in favor, motion carried.

• **RESOLUTION 2020-07** **APPOINTING ACCOUNTANT FOR 2020-2021 YEAR** (William M. Colantano of Bedard, Kurowicki and Co.)

C. Patkochis asked for a Motion to accept the above Resolution as read, G. Reichert made the Motion; seconded by P. Enea. Roll call vote: G. Reichert, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. All in favor, motion carried.

• **RESOLUTION 2020-08 ADOPTION OF CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN**

C. Patkochis asked for a Motion to accept the above Resolution as read, G. Reichert made the Motion; seconded by P. Enea. Roll call vote: G. Reichert, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. All in favor, motion carried.

• **RESOLUTION 2020-09 AUTHORIZING REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE**

Discussion regarding the regular meeting start time was raised by G. Reichert with P. Enea advising that 6:30PM would be the earliest time that all Commissioners would be available. E. Kolibas made a motion to change the meeting start time to 6:30 PM beginning with the February 11, 2020 meeting, seconded by G. Reichert. Roll call vote, G. Reichert, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. All in favor, motion carried.

• **RESOLUTION 2020-10 DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS FOR PUBLICATIONS 2020-2021**

C. Patkochis asked for a Motion to accept the above Resolution as read, G. Reichert made the Motion; seconded by P. Enea. Roll call vote: G. Reichert, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. All in favor, motion carried.

• **RESOLUTION 2020-11 AUTHORIZING APPROVAL AND PAYMENT OF CLAIMS**

C. Patkochis asked for a Motion to accept the above Resolution as read, G. Reichert made the Motion; seconded by P. Enea. Roll call vote: G. Reichert, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. All in favor, motion carried.

• **RESOLUTION 2020-12 ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT PROGRAM TO CHARGE MITIGATION RATES FOR THE DEPLOYMENT OF EMERGENCY AND NON-EMERGENCY SERVICES BY QFC FOR THE FIRE DISTRICT**

C. Patkochis asked for a Motion to accept the above Resolution as read, G. Reichert made the Motion; seconded by P. Enea. Roll call vote: G. Reichert, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. All in favor, motion carried.

• **RESOLUTION 2020-13 ENTERING INTO INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED COOPERATIVE ENTITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING FIRE APPARATUS**

C. Patkochis asked for a Motion to accept the above Resolution as read, G. Reichert made the Motion; seconded by P. Enea. Roll call vote: G. Reichert, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. All in favor, motion carried.

• **RESOLUTION 2020-14 DESIGNATING SURETY BONDING FOR COMMISSIONERS**

C. Patkochis asked for a Motion to accept the above Resolution as read, G. Reichert made the Motion; seconded by P. Enea. Roll call vote: G. Reichert, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. All in favor, motion carried.

C. Patkochis reported on hose testing. Fire Flow has been the company for the past two years that has done hose testing, pump and ladder testing. In regard to the hose testing, the QFC would like to look into other vendors as they are not happy with the testing in the past. It was agreed that other vendors will be solicited for quotes for hose testing.

C. Patkochis reported that we need to get prices to replace 1,050 feet of 5" hose.

C. Patkochis asked that any Commissioners available at 1pm on Friday, January 17th come to interview prospective Per Diem applicant. The applicant has an impressive background.

C. Patkochis made the following assignments to Commissioners to represent Townships within the Fire District. C. Patkochis and E. Kolibas, Alexandria Township and Union Township. G. Reichert and H. Laine, Franklin Township. Finally, Quakertown Fire Company, G. Reichert and P. Enea.

C. Patkochis advised that the Fire District will be approaching Alexandria Township for additional funding this year as their contribution has not increased in several years.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: N/A

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT: C. Patkochis gave the monthly report for the month of December, 2019. There was one Inspection, two Smoke Detector Inspections and two Re-Inspections.

QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY CHIEF'S REPORT: The Chief's report was given by Lt. 91.2, K. Kreyling. He reported a total of 679 call for 2019, 348 Fire and 331 EMS. All refreshers have been completed. C. Patkochis asked that future reports from QFC officers be submitted in writing at the request of the Attorney.

QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY PRESIDENT'S REPORT: D. Strange reported that the Fire Company continues to pursue Department of Health Licensing for BLS services; currently awaiting an ambulance inspection. A barbecue fundraiser is scheduled for Sunday, January 19, 2020. Operational and Executive officers for 2020 were sworn in on January 1, 2020. Fire Fighter/EMT Brian Morris has returned to active membership following the completion of his background check.

OLD BUSINESS: G. Reichert reported on the Shared Services agreement for Fire Code Inspections proposal submitted to Kingwood Township. As of today, there has been no response to the proposal which amounted to approximately \$ 10,000. G. Reichert advised that if he has not heard back in two weeks he will be contacting them. Regarding Union Township, it appears that they would be interested in our Code Enforcement services. G. Reichert will be meeting with Mark Strauss regarding this.

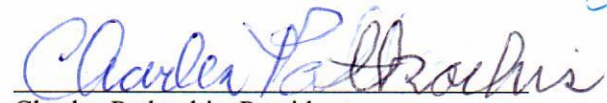
C. Patkochis advised that after speaking with Attorney today, any agreements are made between the Fire District and the other entity and does not involve Franklin Township. G. Reichert will continue to fact find with other agencies providing same or similar services. C. Patkochis advised that he feels Union Township would be much more lucrative. D. Strange agreed that Union has a lot of untapped revenue where inspections are concerned. There is concern that Kingwood Township Committee is not aware of the potential for negative response from their taxpayers once inspections begin if they were to use our Code Enforcement services.

NEW BUSINESS: N/A

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business a Motion was made to adjourn at 7:30 PM by, G.

Reichert, seconded by P. Enea. All in favor, Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,


Elise Ennis, Secretary
Charles Patkochis, President

