

Franklin Township Fire District No. 1

Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2022

Meeting opened with the Flag Salute

The 259th 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 6:30 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, absent.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MONTH: A Motion to accept the minutes of the April 12, 2022 meeting was made by G. Reichert, seconded by E. Kolibas. All in favor, Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: G. Reichert advised of a total income of \$97,563.02 and expenses totaling \$16,201.75 for the period of April 13, 2022, through May 10, 2022. The second quarter installment from Franklin Township for taxes was received.

Motion to pay the bills for the period of April 13 2022 through May 10, 2022 was made by G. Reichert, seconded by P. Enea. Roll call vote, G. Reichert, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:

C. Patkochis briefly discussed the legalization of Marijuana in our State and the potential repercussions it would have on the District and QFC enforcement of use. We are within our right to request testing if there is an accident or incident that may have been caused by or effected by the use of suspected Marijuana but cannot refuse employment based on admitted use by an applicant or a positive test. No input has been received from the Insurance company. If there is an accident or suspected use while on duty a Drug Recognition Expert would be called for testing to be administered.

C. Patkochis advised that there has been no contact with Union or Alexandria Townships regarding contracts but both are due to approve their Budgets. Signed contracts will be required with the District and we will consider potentially suspending services until one is received.

C. Patkochis proposed the following purchases:

500' of 3" hose to replace hose that was removed during hose testing due to the age. The hose will have Franklin Township Fire District and the year of purchase stamped on each length. The cost will be \$2750.00 from Wittmer. G. Reichert made a motion to purchase, seconded by P. Enea. All in favor, Motion carried.

Class "B" foam, 2 – 5 gallon pails, NFPA approved from Wittmer for a total of \$ 410.00.

Tool Service for TFT tools on Rescue 91 by Fire Fighter 1 for a total of \$2,015.00. A Motion was made by P. Enea, seconded by G. Reichert. All in favor, Motion carried.

P. Enea reported on vehicle maintenance and repairs needed per B. Crampton. Rescue 91 scene lights are still not working properly, 12 volt module, working on a price to replace. Ladder 91 steering box bolts that were replaced are now loose again, D. Desaulniers will install. Ladder 91 is due for ladder inspection on June 13 and will be serviced by Fire and Safety as BCI will not do. Oil changes are due on Brush 91 and Pumper. Fire Extinguishers are scheduled for inspection. Engine 91 and Tender 2 are due for pump service and Fire Marshal's car is leaking.

C. Patkochis reported that the Fire Marshal has told him that he will be leaving our employment at the end of the year due to personal reasons. Anticipating finding a replacement in the next month or so and a smooth transition.

QFC presented a completed application for membership from Joe Shardien for Per Diem employment. The application is in order and P. Enea made a Motion to approve, seconded by G. Reichert. All in favor, Motion carried.

C. Patkochis relayed that the Audit for 2021 is complete with minor suggestions regarding vouchers and business registrations as well a political disclosure form from vendors. Expect to have final document by next meeting.

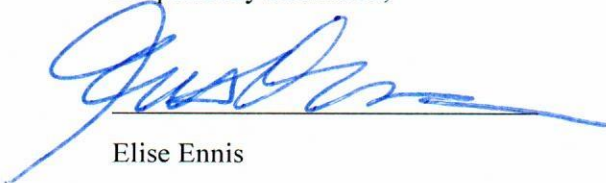
FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT: C. Patkochis advised of 8 Inspections, 2 Re-Inspections and 1 Permit. It was noted that home sales are down from last year.

QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY CHIEF'S REPORT: R. Medine read the report for the month. QFC responded to 50 calls during April. Training on forcible entry, water supply drill and EMS training took place. There will be no pool fills this year. Daytime staffing continues to be a problem as volunteerism is down. There are 50 fully qualified fire fighters at QFC having the required Fire Fighter 1 training, FIT testing and mandatory refreshers.

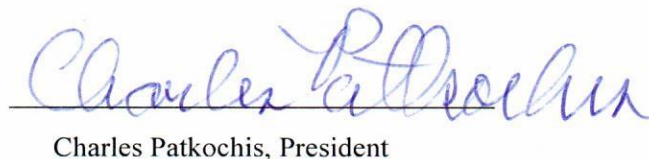
QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY PRESIDENT'S REPORT: R. Geib reported a smooth transfer of the phone lines. R. Geib clarified a concern over an \$800.00 yearly administration from First Net. This isn't necessary unless you have 15 or more routers. Ours can be manually maintained in house. The cradle mounts are in the Chief's car, Ladder 91, Rescue 91 and Engine 91.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business a Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 PM by P. Enea, seconded by E. Kolibas. All in favor, Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Elise Ennis



Charles Patkochis, President