

## Franklin Township Fire District No. 1

### Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2022

Meeting opened with the Flag Salute

The 264th 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 D. Stephens, 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 September 13, 2022 meeting was made by E. Kolibas, seconded by D. Stephens. All in favor, Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** D. Stephens advised of a total income of \$135,431.20 and expenses totaling \$63,208.36 for the period of September 14, 2022 through October 11, 2022. A check from Franklin Township was the majority of income for this period for tax revenues. Expenses included the 3<sup>rd</sup> installment due to Quakertown Fire on the Fire Contract.

Motion to pay the bills for the period of September 14, 2022 through October 11, 2022 was made by P. Enea, seconded by E. Kolibas. Roll call vote, D. Stephens, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. Motion carried.

### **COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:**

RESOLUTION 2022-07 CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR 2021 AUDIT was read and signed by C. Patkochis as part of the State of NJ filing.

C. Patkochis advised that he will have a meeting with ESOP at 1PM on 10/29 to discuss insurance. Following that meeting he will be in touch with our current insurance provider, Nottingham, for a quote for insurance for next year. It has long been our largest operating expense and shopping around for a better price is warranted.

C. Patkochis reported that we have not received a signed contract from Alexandria or Union Townships and both have been advised by both the DCA and our Attorney that a signed contract is required. That being said, they will both be advised at meetings over the next two weeks that services will no longer be provided unless we have a signed contract. Additionally, we will be advising them that more money will be necessary to continue providing services, \$40,000 annually does not cover the expenses for coverage.

C. Patkochis proposed a November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting on our 2023 Budget. It was agreed that Tuesday, November 1, at 6:30 PM worked for everyone. The meeting will be advertised and posted accordingly. C. Patkochis advised that we should present the 2023 Budget at the November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting for adoption at December meeting.

P. Enea advised that there was nothing new to report on vehicle maintenance. The Ladder is out for service.

C. Patkochis asked R. Geib if there was a way to make the phone's ring louder. The phone is almost impossible to hear over the regular noise in the fire house, kitchen, bays, etc. R. Geib advised that they are looking into a light or bell system to improve the volume.

C. Patkochis advised that a price of \$1260.00 for 4 faces pieces was received from Mid Atlantic under sAtate Contract. P. Enea made a motion to purchase, seconded by D. Stephens. All in favor, Motion carried.

C. Patkochis advised of a contract received from Compressed Air for \$1301.50. P. Enea made a Motion to accept this price, seconded by E. Kolibas. All in favor, Motion carried.



**FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:** C. Patkochis read the Fire Marshall's report. There were 4 Inspections, 5 Smoke Certs, 2 Re-inspections and 1 permit for a Fireworks event at South Ridge Church.

**QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY CHIEF'S REPORT:** R. Medine advised of 76 calls for service during September. 44 fire and 42 EMS. Various training was held including a Low Angle rescue class. The QFC participated in several Standby's for football games and fireworks events.

**QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** R. Geib advised of a successful Octoberfest with over 300 attendees. Additionally, a fundraising event selling food at the South Ridge Church fireworks was a great success. The QFC participated in Fire Prevention programs as well as welcoming a new Junior member. T. Hinson is on medical leave until further notice.

**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