

## Franklin Township Fire District No. 1

### Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2024

Meeting opened with the Flag Salute

The 292<sup>nd</sup> 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 10, 2024 meeting was made by E. Kolibas, seconded by D. Stephens. All in favor, Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** D. Stephens advised of income of \$202,945.86 and expenses totaling \$63,831.74 for the period of September 11, 2024 through October 8, 2024.

Motion to pay the bills for the period of September 11, 2024 through October 8, 2024 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:** C. Patkochis advised the Board that monies from Alexandria were received in the amount of \$ 59,983.00 following the approval of their budget. The Alexandria consultant for the coverage study will be coming to review the report on October 24, 2024.

C. Patkochis advised that he has not received any information from the State on the Union Township Fire Marshal's office.

C. Patkochis reported that we have not received the needed information from the Tax Assessor on rateables to work on the Budget for 2025. A Budget will need to be introduced at the November meeting.

C. Patkochis advised R. Medine and R. Geib that the District will be dropping the insurance for the old Brush 91 and the old Tender at the beginning of the year.

D. Stephens reported that he has application for a new Worker's Compensation insurance carrier and will be filling that out for a new quote for next year.

C. Patkochis advised that an Attorney for the Board has to be appointed at the December meeting. Interviews are being arranged.

**FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:** C. Patkochis advised the Board that the Fire Marshal has submitted quotes for the purchase of a camera and related equipment for use by the Fire Marshal's office. P. Enea made a Motion to approve the purchase, not to exceed \$ 1500.00, seconded by E. Kolibas. All in favor, Motion carried. See attached detailed report from the Fire Marshal's office.

**OUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY CHIEF'S REPORT:** R. Medine advised of 78 total calls for the month of September. Fire Prevention visits to the local schools will take place this week. Equipment

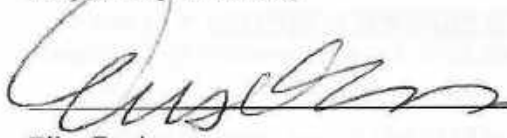
installation on the new Brush truck is almost complete and driver training will take place prior to putting the truck into service.

**QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** R. Geib advised that a successful Oktoberfest fundraiser was held last weekend. Additionally, the annual fundraiser at the South Ridge Church Fall Picnic was also well attended. Several members took part in the Tunnel to Towers Run, honoring the memory of FDNY Firefighter Steven Siller who lost his life on 9/11.

R. Geib was asked by C. Patkochis to provide the Board with an explanation of the stipulations related to the monies awarded the QFC through the Safer Grant. R. Geib advised that the Grant is to be used for recruitment and retention of new members. W. Hockin, who will start later this month, was hired to manage the Grant and associated activities. It is still unclear how this will affect the Fire District with the additional members being recruited.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Elise Ennis



Charles Patkochis, President