

Franklin Township Fire District No. 1

Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2024

Meeting opened with the Flag Salute

The 286th 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, absent; Secretary P. Enea III, present; Vice President, E. Kolibas, present; Assistant Secretary, H. Laine, present.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MONTH: A Motion to accept the minutes of the March 12, 2024 meeting was made by E. Kolibas, seconded by H. Laine. All in favor, Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: C. Patkochis advised of a total income of \$ 4825.42 and expenses totaling \$24,5020.77 for the period of March 13, 2024 through April 9, 2024.

Motion to pay the bills for the period of March 13, 2024 through April 9, 2024 was made by P. Enea, seconded by H. Laine. Roll call vote: P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:

C. Patkochis advised the Board the yearly financial Audit will take place April 24 and 25th with representative of BKC-CPA's

C. Patkochis informed the Board of a quote for ladder and pump testing in the amount of \$2490.00 for Ladder 91 to be performed by Fire Apparatus of Hamilton, NJ. P. Enea made the Motion, seconded by E. Kolibas to have the service performed by Fire Apparatus. All in favor, Motion carried.

C. Patkochis advised that the Chief's Tahoe is in need to 4 new tires. They will be acquired from a vendor under the State Contract. P. Enea made the Motion to purchase the tires, seconded by H. Laine. All in favor, Motion carried

Engine 91 will be going to Fire and Safety for pump service in the amount of \$ 550. It will then go to BCI for rear brakes.

C. Patkochis advised that a driver training program is being devised and implemented by QFC and has asked to see their proposed plan.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT: A. Buterbaugh advised the board that Penalty letters went out today for Registrations being overdue. Home sales are down this year. Discussions continue with Union Twp regarding shared Fire Marshal services plan. Revisit to 24 Baker Road revealed that barn on the property that was emptied is now full again and there are bunk beds in the residence that are in violation, fines have been issued. Township Zoning Officials are only looking at the outside.

OUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY CHIEF'S REPORT: C. Vallat advised of 69 calls for the month of March, 47 fire, 29 EMS. It was determined that there are just too many incidents of apparatus being

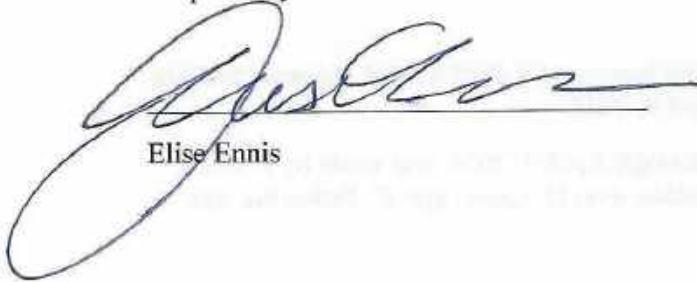
driven by people without proper training; there have been 3 incidents in recent days. With that being said, a new Driver Training program is being developed. C. Vallat will be in charge of fire apparatus and A. Kreyling will be in charge of ambulances. There will be a procedure coming to include documentation of the training that each member receives. New Tender will be delivered on or about April 20. Tender will receive a maintenance check and have equipment installed prior to being put into service. The new Brush truck is in production as of yesterday.

QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY PRESIDENT'S REPORT: R. Geib advised that the Junior recruiting program is strong with several new young adults expressing interest. A very successful "Coin Toss" fundraiser was held over Easter weekend and will become a regular event each year.

OLD BUSINESS: H. Laine advised of no new developments with LexPol. H. Laine updated the board on his research into implementing a False Alarm Ordinance related to Hampton Inn alarm activations. There needs to be a clear definition of "false alarm" and who will be fined. There are some towns where ordinances already exist and he will continue to research one that would work for us.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business a Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 PM by P. Enea seconded by H. Laine. All in favor, Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted



Elise Ennis



Charles Patkochis, President