

## Franklin Township Fire District No. 1

### Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2024

Meeting opened with the Flag Salute

The 291st 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, present.

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MONTH:** A Motion to accept the minutes of the August 13, 2024 meeting was made by D. Stephens, seconded by H. Laine. All in favor, Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** D. Stephens advised of income of \$1,701.96 and expenses totaling \$78,306.39 for the period of August 14, 2024 through September 10, 2024.

Motion to pay the bills for the period of August 14, 2024 through September 10, 2024 was made by P. Enea, seconded by H. Laine. Roll call vote: D. Stephens, aye; P. Enea, aye; E. Kolibas, aye; H. Laine, aye; C. Patkochis, aye. Motion carried.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:** C. Patkochis reported that a report from the Alexandria Township response area study has not been received. D. Stephens advised that B. Patkochis advised him that the report is done and there is a Township Committee meeting this coming Thursday and hopefully that will be discussed. C. Patkochis reported that Alexandria Township's budget was approved and a check should be received soon, but will not include the additional \$5,000. Signed contracts with Alexandria and Union Townships going forward are a must, we cannot continue to provide the level of response we do without a contract in place to ensure we are getting a set amount for the services provided.

C. Patkochis advised that repairs have been made to Engine 91's check engine issue. Fire and Safety was here, problem was diagnosed as a Turbo problem, sensor reset but tripped again. Cummins was here and actuator in Turbo was replaced.

D. Stephens advised that the punch list for the new Tender is still not complete. Dashlights and pulling issues (left/right) are a couple that he is aware of. Need a list so they can be addressed.

**FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:** C. Patkochis advised that the Fire Marshal provided a detailed report of year-to-date operations of the Fire Marshal's office, copy of report attached. Additionally, the State Fire Marshal's office has been on site 4 times performing their Audit of our operations. The State Fire Marshal has inspected the Township Building and has advised of needed changes to a door as well as a sprinkler in the crawl space. A formal Audit report is forthcoming.

**QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY CHIEF'S REPORT:** No report

**QUAKERTOWN FIRE COMPANY PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** R. Geib reported that August was a busy and successful month for QFC. The company took receipt of our long-awaited replacement for Brush 91 this month. The new apparatus will be ready for service soon following tooling and

some minor modifications. Repairs were completed to the blacktop at the firehouse, including crack fill, sealant, and new line striping. QFC received an award of nearly \$600,000 from the SAFER grant. The funding will provide additional resources to support member Recruitment and Retention of career and Volunteer members. Steps have already been taken to interview agencies to help with this effort and a new position created to administer the project, a stipulation of the grant. This month 2 volunteer members successfully completed EMT certification and added a new Volunteer member, C. Carole of Holland Township.

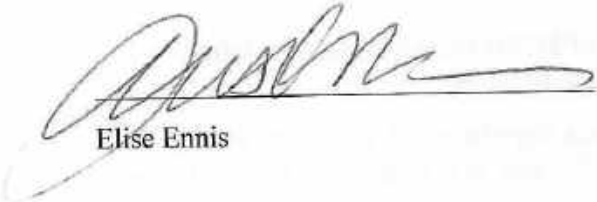
**OLD BUSINESS:** H. Laine advised the Board that he had no update regarding submission of False Alarm Ordinance to the Franklin Township Committee. Will hopefully attend the next meeting.

H. Laine advised that the local Attorney he had in mind to represent the Board is not available. He will continue to look for suitable replacements for the Board to interview.


**NEW BUSINESS**

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business a Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 PM by H. Laine, seconded by P. Enea. All in favor, Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Elise Ennis



Charles Patkochis, President