

Dennis Township Fire District No. 1
Regularly Scheduled Monthly Meeting
Board of Fire Commissioners
February 18, 2015

Meeting called to order by Chairman Moran at 7:02 p.m. on the above date at the Ocean View Volunteer Fire Company. Mr. Moran said that we are in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Sunshine Law); and, that notice of the meeting was posted in Township Hall and the notice of this meeting has been advertised in the Cape May County Herald.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

All Commissioners, except Mr. Brown (absent for the eighth consecutive month), were present. There were six members of the public and five members of the Ocean View Volunteer Fire Company present.

Reading & Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meetings:

The minutes of the January 29, 2015 regular monthly meeting were summarized by me. With a statement that the complete January minutes would be on the website within a week. A motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Mr. Sutton and seconded by Mr. Fry. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Correspondence (Received and Sent) – None reported.

Fire Company Chief's Report

Chief Michael Deluca had previously submitted the Fire Company Chief's report. Mr. Moran read the report for the period of 01/01/2015-01/31/2015. The Fire Company responded to a total of sixteen (16) calls for the month, handling four (4) unintentional; one (1) good intent; four (4) motor vehicle accidents; six (6) fires and, one (1) down power line, with a total of 11.1 hours in service.

Treasurer's Report - Mr. Sutton reported that:

- 1). The **approved** 2015 budget was certified on February 2nd by the Division of Local Government Services in the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and uploaded to the Dennis Township Fire District #1 website on February 6th.
- 2). The 2014 LOSAP contracts were approved by **Lincoln Financial Group** and the seven (7) completed contracts have been returned, with copies retained for the Dennis Township Fire District #1; and, the originals provided to the fire Company's Secretary for distribution to the firefighters.
- 3). The final, unaudited year-to-date 2014 income and expense report, as well as the final unaudited statement of financial condition, plus a listing of the seven (7) invoices (two of which are 2014 accounts payable) needing approval for payment tonight were is attached to his report.

Mr. Sutton reported that the bills needing approval and payment were:

1	Lincoln National Life Ins. Co. (2014 LOSAP)	\$22,230.00
2	Ocean View Vol. Fire Co. (Mar. 1, 2015 Payment.)	\$13,666.66
3	Brown & Brown of New Jersey, LLC (Policy Renewal)	\$264.00

4	Richard Braslow, Esquire (Professional Services)	\$680.00
5	Monzo Catanese Hillegass, P. C. (Professional Services)	\$1,705.00
6	The Press of Atlantic City(Legal Advertising)	\$10.20
7	Paul Sutton (Postage, Supplies, Mileage)	<u>\$230.14</u>
		Total: \$38,786.00

Mr. Fry, seconded by Mrs. Tozer, made a motion to approve and pay the seven invoices. The motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business

Mr. Moran and Mr. DeLollis noted that there was nothing new to report relative to the litigation by the Ocean View Volunteer Fire Company against the Fire District.

Mrs. Tozer reported that the NJ State Police accident report copies had been received concerning the accident report involving truck #1712.

Mr. Moran asked that Mr. DeLollis give an update on the 2014 – 2015 contracts. Mr. DeLollis said that he believed that some headway had been made. Mr. Moran noted that the contract negotiations would be discussed in Executive Session later this evening.

New Business

Mr. Sutton raised the matter of the purchase of the replacement for #1712. The fire district would have to “lay out” approximately \$31,000 for a new vehicle projected to cost approximately \$50,475.00, as the fire district has received \$19,475.00 from JIF-Atlantic. Mr. Moran will discuss this with Mr. Braslow.

Mr. Fry said that the suspensions of two fire company members needed to be discussed; and, that provisions need to be put in place that, while reversing those suspensions, to ensure that anyone previously suspended and returning to duty will have to be certified as “able-bodied” and re-apply for membership in the fire company, with the Commissioner’s approval.

Public Participation & Comment

Mrs. Sandra Izzi made a number of observations concerning other expelled members of the fire company and taxpayer funds spent illegally, resulting in a good deal of “back and forth” between Mr. Sutton and Mrs. Izzi concerning procedures not in place and a lack of oversight by previous members of the Board of Fire Commissioners. Mr. Jim Haysworth of Ocean View stated that back in the day that the firemen worked together to get the things needed done around the fire house. If the grass needed mowed – we mowed it. If the stones needed raked we raked them – He made the statement that there needs to be an appreciation for everything that the Fire company has and gets and that seems to be lacking. Lou Delossi made the statement that he was confident a resolution was close to the contract and that we were heading in the right direction to which Sandra Izzi stated “We have heard that for the last two years now!” Mr. Al Izzi said he just wants to see the expelled firemen come back to Ocean View. They were kicked out unlawfully and they should be able to come back.

Executive Session – At 7:53 p.m., Mr. Moran said that the Commissioners would go into a closed session to discuss the substance of this afternoon’s meeting. The Commissioners would return to open session at the conclusion of that closed meeting.

At 7:53 p.m., until 9:30 p.m., the Commissioners (Mr. Moran, Mrs. Tozer, Mr. Sutton and Mike Fry) met in closed session. The decision to bring back Bob Clayton and Joe Grudigrel was discussed and Voted 3 -1 by Commissioner.

Back to Public Meeting -

A Motion was made by Mr. Paul Sutton and Seconded by Tammy Tozer to bring Robert Clayton and Joseph Grudigrel back on the LAST CHANCE stance.

Adjournment

With a motion by Mrs. Tozer, seconded by Mr. Sutton, the Commissioners approved adjournment of the Dennis Township Fire District #1 regular monthly meeting of at 9:07 p.m.

Next Scheduled Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Dennis Township Fire District No. 1 shall convene at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 in the Ocean View Fire Company Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by
Tammy Tozer
Secretary of Fire District #1