

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS,
TOWNSHIP OF DENNIS, DISTRICT #2**

September 5, 2023

A meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Township of Dennis, District #2, was held on September 5, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Dennis Volunteer Fire Company in Dennisville, New Jersey.

Commissioners **Cliff Lockwood, Carla Coffey, Ed Beck and Bruce Knoll, Jr.** were present. Commissioner **Bob McClure** was unable to attend. **Cheryl Ward, CPA**, Accountant and Recording Secretary was not in attendance as this was not one of her scheduled meetings. **Jon Batastini, Esquire** called in after the meeting started.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman **Cliff Lockwood**, who read the appropriate notice in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey.

Minutes of the meetings for May, 2023 and July, 2023 were approved.

The Board reviewed the Treasurer's Report. The Board also reviewed the vendor invoices to be approved for payment and approved the payment of same.

The 2022 Board of Fire Commissioners Audit and the 2022 LOSAP Audit were distributed to the members present.

The current contract with ESO is through July 31, 2024. It was agreed that this contract will not be renewed at that time and a contract will then be entered into with Zoll as previously discussed at prior meetings.

Resolution No. 23-02 (Re: Firefighter Certification Program - Authorized Signatory) was approved and signed by the appropriate parties.

The Audit Resolution and Synopsis and other related documents were also signed by the appropriate parties.

The meeting was then opened to the public. Chief Michael Gihorski indicated that he would like to put the purchase of a truck on the 2024 ballot. He is looking into the purchase of a used Quint. The average price for a used Quint is \$800,000.00 and he would like to add an additional \$300,000.00 to \$600,000.00 to that figure for any outfitting that would be necessary. He also advised that the price of a new Quint would be \$1.6 million plus, without equipment, and there is a waiting time of 2 to 4 years.

Jon Batastini, Esquire called in to the Commission meeting at this time. He advised that there will be a meeting on September 18, 2023, to which he has been invited, to discuss the issue of whether the Fire Company Volunteers are employees of the Fire Commission or not. Jay Newman is getting this meeting together to begin the process of gathering information. He asked Chief Michael Gihorski if he had any information, to which Chief Gihorski advised that he did not. **Jon Batastini** asked Chief Gihorski to reach out to Jay Newman to see what he could find out.

Jon Batastini also advised that Butch is back as Acting Chief in Belleplain. They are trying to reorganize. He should have an update on the situation after their Commission meeting on September 19, 2023.

Bruce Knoll advised **Jon Batastini** that the Commission is trying to arrange a Zoom meeting with a representative from Glatfelter regarding the LOSAP program and the tentative date is October 3, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. so as to not interfere with the regular Commission meeting or the Fire Company meeting that follows. If this can be arranged, **Jon Batastini** was asked to prepare the appropriate notice for publication. **Bruce Knoll** will confirm the date and time with **Jon Batastini**.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. (or 6:30 p.m. if the Zoom meeting with Glatfelter is confirmed).

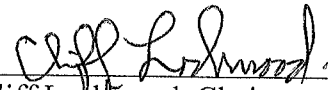
There being no further business for the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved and Submitted,



Carla A. Coffey, Acting Recording Secretary



Cliff Lockwood, Chairman