

Eastampton Board of Fire Commissioners

Minutes, Regular Meeting of the Board, July 22, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Chairman David Osworth. In the absence of the Board Administrator, Chairman Osworth directed Commissioner Paolini to take the minutes. Chairman Osworth acknowledged the fire exits in the building. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Osworth read the Open Public Meeting Statement.

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District No. 1 has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, place and agenda to the extent known thereof posted as follows:

- *Burlington County Times (Published)*
- *Courier Post (Informational Purposes)*
- *Eastampton Fire Rescue Department*
- *Municipal Building*

Roll call:

- Commissioner O'Reilly – present
- Commissioner White – present
- Commissioner Paolini – present
- Chairman Osworth – present
- Commissioner Luisi – absent

Also present: Department Chief Polios, Council Liaison Springer

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were not available.

Correspondence: The Board was not in receipt of any correspondence.

Fire Official's Report: The Fire Official was unable to attend and provided a verbal update to the Chairman. All responsibilities of the office are up to date. The township has requested a permit for the Halloween bonfire for October 23. This will be discussed under new business.

Fire Chief's Report: The Chief had submitted his report in writing prior to the meeting and it was distributed to the Board members. In addition, he reported that the station was having a serious issue with the automatic transfer switch for the standby generator. He is awaiting an estimate for repairs. It may need a new controller module. Two members previously brought before the Board are in the Fire Academy. One new member has just joined and the Fire Company is awaiting his background check clearance.

Payment of Bills: There was no bill list available. The Chairman stated that once the Board Administrator can prepare a bill list, it will be distributed to the Board members. If he does not hear any objections, he will order the bills paid at that time.

Committee Reports:

- Personnel – Commissioners White and O’Reilly: No report.
- Budget & Finance – Chairman Osworth and Commissioner O’Reilly: No report.
- Insurance – Chairman Osworth and Commissioner White: No report.
- Policy & Procedures – Commissioner Paolini, Commissioner White, and Chief Polios: No report.
- Future Planning – Commissioner O’Reilly, Commissioner Paolini, and Chief Polios: The Command Vehicle resolution will be read tonight. The Fire Department will not be participating in this year’s Fun Day.

Old Business:

1. There was much discussion about the accounting system research. Commissioner White reported that the Mt. Holly Fire District uses QuickBooks. Commissioner Paolini reported that the Not-for-Profit version of QuickBooks supports Fund Accounting. The Chairman directed that we will make a final decision at the July meeting.

New Business:

20210722-1. Resolution 2021-7 (attached) for the purchase of a Command Vehicle using capital funds was introduced.

Motion by Commissioner Paolini, seconded by Commissioner White, to open discussion of this resolution to the public. The motion carried without objection. Hearing no public comment, the Chairman closed public comment.

Motion by Commissioner O’Reilly, seconded by Commissioner White, to adopt Resolution 2021-7 as introduced. Roll call vote:

- Commissioner O’Reilly – Aye
- Commissioner White – Aye
- Commissioner Paolini – Aye
- Chairman Osworth – Aye
- Commissioner Luisi – absent

Four votes were needed to adopt. The resolution passed 4 – 0. The item will be added to the 2022 budget.

20210722-2. The township has requested a permit for the Halloween event bonfire. The Fire Official has indicated that he will not issue a permit unless all state and local requirements for the safe operation of a bonfire are met. Only the Fire Department appears to be able to help the township meet the requirements. The Department Chief requested direction from the Board.

Motion by Commissioner Paolini, seconded by Commissioner O’Reilly, that the Fire Department be authorized to participate in the bonfire preparation and operation provided the township has met all other requirements, the Fire Official has issued

the permit, and the Fire Chief believes the bonfire can be provided safely. The motion carried without opposition.

Open to the Public: There were no comments from members of the public in attendance.

Comments of Commissioners: There were no comments by Commissioners.

Adjournment: Motion by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner O'Reilly, to adjourn at 8:07 PM. The motion carried without opposition.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel J. Paolini

Daniel J. Paolini
Commissioner
Secretary Pro Tem