

OCEAN GROVE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES November 9, 2017

OPENING

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m., followed by the flag salute. The clerk announced the meeting was held in compliance with the provisions of Chapter 231, New Jersey Public Laws of 1975, "Open Public Meetings", having been published in a March 2017 issue of the Asbury Park Press and The Coaster.

Roll Call:	Present	Commissioner Robert McEwan, Chairman
	Present	Commissioner Paul Bagdanov
	Absent	Commissioner William Ball
	Present	Commissioner Edwin Deuchar
	Absent	Commissioner Matthew Gannon

MINUTES of LAST MEETING

Minutes of the October 12, 2017 meeting were approved on the motion of Commissioner Deuchar, and Second of Commissioner Bagdanov
Vote: unanimously approved by the commissioners present

COMMUNICATIONS

1 st Asst Chief San Felice	Request to address the Board in closed session on personnel matter.
2 nd Asst Chief Benfer:	Request for 2018 purchases (gas meter, search kit) Request to add tenders (tankers) to MARP

ACTION ON COMMUNICATIONS

The chairman directed the Clerk and the Fire Official to work with the fire chiefs to assure tenders were added to the Mutual Aid Response Plan

The request concerning the gas meter and search kit was deferred to New Business in this meeting.

Approved 12/14/17
David M. Shorrock
DAVID M. SHORROCK, CLERK

TREASURER'S REPORT

The report of the treasurer was accepted and the bill list was unanimously approved by the commissioners present following the motion of Comm. Deuchar and second of Comm. Bagdanov

OLD BUSINESS

Neptune Township has agreed to provide photo identification for Ocean Grove Fire Department personnel.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion by Comm. Deuchar, with a second by Comm. Bagadnov to purchase gas meter and search kit as recommended by 2nd Asst Chief Benfer was unanimously approved by the commissioners present.

Motion to authorizing closed session for personnel and legal matter.

Offered by: Deuchar Second by: Bagdanov

Roll Call:	Yes	Commissioner Robert McEwan, Chairman
	Yes	Commissioner Paul Bagdanov
	Absent	Commissioner William Ball
	Yes	Commissioner Edwin Deuchar
	Absent	Commissioner Matthew Gannon

Resolution 2017-10-1

A Resolution Acknowledging, Authorizing, and Endorsing a Fire Explorer Post

Whereas E.H. Stokes Fire Company No. 3 is a duly recognized volunteer fire company serving within the Ocean Grove Fire Department of Neptune Township Fire District No. 2; and

Whereas E.H. Stokes Fire Company No. 3 recently resolved to sponsor a Fire Explorer Post through the Boy Scouts of America, and

Whereas the Board of Commissioners of the fire district recognize the benefit of the establishment and operation of a Fire Explorer Post as serving the interest of the community and the fire department, as well as assuring continuity and the development of future members of the fire service, now therefore it is

Resolved, that

The Board of Commissioners of Neptune Township Fire District No. 2, endorses, acknowledges, and authorizes the sponsorship of a Fire Explorer Post by E.H. Stokes Fire Co. No. 3.

To the extent prior resolutions or acts of the Board of Commissioners conflict with this Resolution, those prior resolutions and actions are superseded by the Resolution.

Offered by: Commissioner Deuchar Second by: Commissioner Bagdanov

Roll Call:	yes	Commissioner Robert McEwan, Chairman
	yes	Commissioner Paul Bagdanov
	absent	Commissioner William Ball
	yes	Commissioner Edwin Deuchar
	absent	Commissioner Matthew Gannon

Resolution 2017-10-2

A Resolution Directing Reassignment of Vehicle

Whereas the Board of Commissioners has become aware of prolonged suboptimal utilization of response and command vehicle due to exclusive control exercised by the current fire chief; and

Whereas the Board has the responsibility to assure appropriate and efficient use of fire district assets, and

Whereas the Board recognizes that reassignment of the response and command vehicle from the exclusive control of the fire chief to the control of the Board or its responsive designee will promote the appropriate and efficient use of the vehicle, it is hereby

Resolved, that

The Clerk is directed to contact the current fire chief and arrange the prompt return of control of the vehicle to Board by delivery to the Olin Street Firehouse; and

The 1st Assistant and 2nd Assistant fire chiefs shall coordinate to assure the vehicle is used for responding to, and establishing or supporting command functions at dispatched incidents until such time as the Board may promulgate additional guidelines for the use and deployment of the command vehicle.

To the extent prior resolutions or acts of the Board of Commissioners conflict with this Resolution, those prior resolutions and actions are superseded by the Resolution.

Offered by: Commissioner Bagdanov Second by: Commissioner Deuchar

Roll Call:	yes	Commissioner Robert McEwan, Chairman
	yes	Commissioner Paul Bagdanov
	absent	Commissioner William Ball
	yes	Commissioner Edwin Deuchar
	absent	Commissioner Matthew Gannon

FIRE OFFICIAL AND CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief: not present

Official: verbal: State of NJ imposed a substantial increase in fees for life hazard properties, ladder testing is in progress and will complete next week

PUBLIC HEARING

Motion to reopen meeting following closed session

Offered by: Comm. Bagdanov Second by: Comm. Deuchar

Roll Call:	Yes	Commissioner Robert McEwan, Chairman
	Yes	Commissioner Paul Bagdanov
		Commissioner William Ball

Yes Commissioner Edwin Deuchar
Commissioner Matthew Gannon

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Board Attorney James Hundley reported findings if an incident that occurred on September 9, 2017 wherein it was reported that an OGF D firefighter engaged in public conduct of a grossly inappropriate and disturbing nature in the presence of one or more Neptune Township Police Officers responding to a report of a parking violation at the Olin Street Firehouse.

In reviewing the matter, the Board Attorney considered a report provided by Neptune Township Police Department, and interviewed the one available witness. It was further noted that NTPD referred the matter for action by the Board, but declined to make the other known witnesses available to the Board Attorney. The clerk indicated that notice of the hearing was mailed to the firefighter involved, and a voice mail message was also left for the firefighter. The firefighter was not present at the meeting.

Acting on the only information available to the Board, the Board members present unanimously moved and resolved directing the clerk to issue a letter of reprimand to the involved firefighter, indicating the conduct displayed by the firefighter while at the firehouse on September 9, 2017 was objectionable, and inconsistent with the behavior the Board, and the general public, expects from firefighters.

Jointly moved and seconded by Commissioners McEwan, Bagdanov and Deuchar, Unanimously approved by Commissioners McEwan, Bagdanov, and Deuchar

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn

Offered by: Comm. Deuchar Second by: Comm Bagdnaov

Unanimously Approved