

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO.1
THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was held on January 27, 2022 virtually via Zoom at 7:00 PM.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER / STATEMENT OF NOTICE

Chairperson Burd called the meeting to order and stated that the notice of the meeting had been posted on the Hopewell Township Municipal Bulletin Board and forwarded to the Hopewell Valley News and Times of Trenton, and had been posted on the Hopewell Township Fire District Web-Site in accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meeting Act.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Burd.

ROLL CALL

Chairperson Burd-	Present
Vice-Chairperson Novak	Present
Secretary Jones-	Present
Treasurer Tomaro-	Present
Commissioner Agarwal	Present

MINUTES SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL

Commissioner Agarwal moved and Treasurer Tomaro seconded to approve the regular and executive session minutes from 01/13/2022. Secretary Jones asked for the spelling of Chief Deforte's name to be corrected. The motion passed to approve the minutes with the noted corrections.

Commissioner Agarwal moved and Vice Chairperson Novak seconded to approve the regular and executive session minutes from 01/25/2022. The motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA)

President Swanson gave an update on the UFCRS sprinkler system project. President Swanson said Deputy Chief Tunnicliffe and himself are working with the architect to establish what the options are for fire stopping the building. President Swanson also reported that Vice President Sullivan is working with Vice Chairperson Novak to investigate other options for remediating the sprinkler system.

NEW BUSINESS

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Tomaro read the summary of the Bills and Claims dated January 27, 2022 and was seconded by Vice Chairperson Novak. Treasurer Tomaro reported on notable bills. A roll call vote was held and the following amounts were authorized:

Bill List:		\$72,757.48
Payroll Ending	January 15, 2022	\$75,488.00
Total Disbursements:		\$148,245.48

Commissioner Agarwal asked about an \$11,000 charge for pro phoenix Software. Chief Martin explained that this is our records management software and fielded some additional questions from the board.

PUBLIC COMMENT (NON-AGENDA)

Chairperson Burd asked Chief Martin to let him know when he is compete with the written history of the Board and the Township.

Chairperson Burd asked the Board subcommittees to start negotiations with their assigned groups

Chairperson Burd also stated that at the next meeting he would like to discuss the hiring of someone to complete minutes for the board and the hiring of a part time inspector. Chief Martin explained the process of hiring these two positions.

Chairperson Burd would like to meet with the Valley Chiefs, Central, the Board, and possibly the Township Mayor to discuss issues with the dispatching services being provided by central.

Vice chairperson Novak informed the board that he had spoken to a contractor that could come out and perform a study on the pond at the old Pennytown. Chief Martin informed the Board that he believes the Township has it in their capital budget to remediate the pond.

Deputy Chief Tunncliffe thanked those involved in getting the new power stretcher for the ambulance. He reported it is working out great.

Commissioner Agarwal asked Counselor Hart to speak about the open public meetings act in regards to social events. Counselor Hart explained that 3 or more board members attending social events together is not an issue as long as business is not conducted. Chairperson Burd asked for clarification regarding a board member emailing the rest of the board members to inform them of something. Counselor Hart explained that as long as you are not asking for a vote on the matter there is no reason you cannot communicate. Counselor Hart further explained that subcommittee meetings should be limited to two Board members.

ADJOURNMENT

Treasurer Tomaro motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Vice Chairperson Novak at 7:33 PM. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Bailey
Lieutenant

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