

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO.1
THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was held on April 14, 2022 in person and 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

No minutes were submitted for approval

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA)

None

NEW BUSINESS

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1**

RESOLUTION 2022-21

**A RESOLUTION OF THE HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT # 1, COUNTY OF
MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE DONATION TO ANOTHER
BODY POLITIC, HAVING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA**

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of Hopewell Township Fire District # 1 (the Board) may dispose of unneeded equipment to any foreign nation which has diplomatic relations with the United States, as per N.J.S.A.40A:11-36(2); and

WHEREAS it is the desire of the Board to donate unneeded equipment to the government of the sovereign nation of Ukraine, holding diplomatic relations with the United States in accord with N.J.S.A.40A:11-36(2); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the District are desirous of donating unneeded equipment consisting of:

Qty	Item	Make	Model
	FIRE EQUIPMENT		
2	Gas Powered Ventilation Fans	Ramfan	GF 164SE
1	Gas Powered Ventilation Saw	Echo	QV-8000
6	Low Pressure SCBA harnesses w/ steel bottle	MSA	Workmask
6	Low Pressure SCBA bottles (2200 psi)	MSA	5-978-1
6	SCBA masks	MSA	Ultra Elite
2	High pressure SCBA harness	MSA	
2	High pressure 60-minute bottles	MSA	
5	Various size hydraulic bottle jacks	Unknown	Unknown
2	Gas powered hydraulic power units	Hurst	5000
1	Electric truck mounted hydraulic power unit	Hurst	
2	Combination cutter/spreader tools	Hurst	
1	Cutter	Hurst	
2	Electric hydraulic hose reels with hose	Unknown	Unknown
2	Portable water tanks	Indian Tanks	
	FIREFIGHTING PPE		
27	Fire gear – Pants (Years 1993 – 2001)	Cairns	
24	Fire gear – Jackets (Years 1993 – 2001)	Cairns	
9	Fire gear – Pants (Years 1987 – 1989)	Globe	
4	Fire gear – Jackets (Years 1987 – 1989)	Globe	
3	Fire gear – Pants (Years 2002 – 2003)	Securitex	
3	Fire gear – Jackets (Years 2002 – 2003)	Securitex	
37	Fire Gear – Pants (Greater than 10 years old)	Morning Pride	
32	Fire Gear – Jackets (Greater than 10 years old)	Morning Pride	
29 pairs	Fire boots	Various Mfgs.	
15 pairs	Fire gloves	Various Mfgs.	
11	Fire helmets	Bullard	Turtle shell
9	Fire helmets	Cairns	

CLOTHING			
6	Nomex flight suits		
1	Fleece jacket	Galls	
4	Rain jackets	Spiwalk	
1	Button down uniform shirt		
1	Water rescue dry suit		
2	Winter jackets	Morning Pride	
EMS EQUIPMENT			
2	Stretchers with mattress pads	Ferno	35A
10	Back rafts	Thomas Transport	THS100
6	Back raft hand pumps	Thomas Transport	
1	Foldable Cot	Unknown	Unknown
3	Traction splints	Hare	
76	Disposable pillow cases	Unknown	
4	Stabilization straps	EP&R	Spider-Strap
1200	Disposable face shields	Unknown	
1	Scoop stretcher	Unknown	
1	Ambulance portable child seat	Unknown	
1	Air splint	Evac-U	
1	Pedi Pal Transport Device	Pedi-Pal	
6	Portable radios	Motorola	HT1000
3	EMS supply bags	Unknown	
3	EMS hard hats	Bullard	
MISCELLANEOUS			
4	Assorted sizes portable floatation devices		
23	High visibility traffic safety vests		

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Hopewell Township Fire District #1, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that the unneeded equipment listed above shall be donated to the government of the sovereign nation of Ukraine in accord with N.J.S.A.40A:11-36(2)

RECORD OF BOARD VOTE ON PASSAGE

Commissioner	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Novak		x	X			
Tomaro			X			
Jones	x		X			
Agarwal			X			
Burd			X			

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1
RESOLUTION 2022-22**

A RESOLUTION ASKING THE HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE TO ADOPT A NEW SCHEDULE OF UNIFORM FIRE CODE FEES VIA ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, the “Uniform Fire Safety Act” (P.L. 1983, c.383 N.J.S.A.52:27D-192 et seq.) permits local fees to be collected for registrations under the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code (N.J.A.C.5:70 et seq.) in a municipality having a local enforcing agency, and those fees are to be based on actual or anticipated costs or incurred for the enforcement of the Code; and

WHEREAS, the Uniform Fire Safety Act (P.L. 1983, c.383 N.J.S.A.52:27D-192 et seq.) requires this fee adoption to be done by municipal ordinance with the last adjustment to fees being completed on October 10, 2006 [Ord 06-1378] and has not been adjusted since that time; and

WHEREAS, since the time of the last fee adjustment in 2006, the time needed and expenses associated with conducting fire inspections have all increased and the Fire Official has reviewed the current fee schedule and costs associated with enforcement of the fire code and found it is no longer adequate to cover the costs of enforcing the fire code; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Official has recommended the following fee schedule be presented to the Township for ordinance amendment and the Board of Fire Commissioners have reviewed the current fee schedule and found it is no longer adequate to cover the costs of enforcing the fire code.

Fees for inspection of uses not classified as life hazard uses and fees for inspection of multiple dwellings

- (a) Owners of businesses or other uses constituting industrial, commercial, educational, professional, services and other uses not classified as life hazard uses by the Uniform Fire Code shall pay to Hopewell Township Fire District No.1 (HTFD#1) for each inspection pursuant to this chapter fees determined by the gross floor area of the use as follows:

Square Feet	Fee
0 – 999	\$50.00
1,000 – 1,999	\$125.00
2,000 – 4,999	\$150.00
5,000 – 9,999	\$350.00
10,000 – 19,999	\$520.00
20,000 – 49,999	\$572.00
50,000 – 100,000	\$624.00 *
One and two story parking garages	\$50.00 per deck
Three or more multiple story parking decks	\$110.00 per deck

** An additional fee of \$75.00 for each 50,000 square feet or part thereof above 100,000 square feet will be added to cover the expense of performing the fire safety inspection*

- (b) Where a multiple family dwelling not classified as a life hazard use by the Uniform Fire Code contains common areas which require inspection in accordance with this section, the owner of the multi-family dwellings shall pay for said inspections a fee of

\$30.00 per dwelling unit for each building requiring inspection, except that no building owner shall be required to pay more than \$500.00 per building.

Fees for certificate of smoke alarm and carbon monoxide alarm and portable fire extinguisher compliance at the time of resale or change of occupant in one and two family dwellings

(a) The fees for certificate of smoke alarm, carbon monoxide alarm and portable fire extinguisher compliance (CSACMAPFEC) shall be as follows:

Initial Inspection	\$50.00*
First re-inspection	\$0.00
All Subsequent re-inspections	\$50.00 per re-inspection*
Certificate	As set forth in the Uniform Fire Code N.J.A.C.5:70-2.9(d) based on the amount at the time remaining before the change of occupancy/sale is expected at the time the application is received.

* A no-show inspection shall be subject to a fifty (\$50.00) fee payable prior to setting the next inspection.

No-Show inspection defined:

- (1) The owner/agent fails to meet the inspector within the appointed time for inspection or re-inspection.
- (2) The owner/agent does not have a key or is unable to give the inspector access to the premises for the scheduled inspection or re-inspection.
- (3) Electrical power to the premises is disconnected and the smoke [detectors] alarms to be tested are powered by electrical current from the building wiring system.

(b) All fees shall be paid prior to the inspection.

(c) Exceptions for affordable housing units sold through the Hopewell Township Affordable Housing Program:

Initial Inspection	\$0.00
First re-inspection	\$0.00
All Subsequent re-inspections	\$0.00 per re-inspection
Certificate	\$45.00 or lowest fee set by the Uniform Fire Code N.J.A.C.5:70-2.9(d) based on the amount at the time remaining before the change of occupancy/sale is expected at the time the application is received.

Fire Safety Permit Fees:

(a) Type I Fire Safety Permit	\$65.00
(b) Type II Fire Safety Permit	As set forth in the Uniform Fire Code N.J.A.C.5:70-2.9(c)
(c) Type III Fire Safety Permit	As set forth in the Uniform Fire Code N.J.A.C.5:70-2.9(c)
(d) Type IV Fire Safety Permit	As set forth in the Uniform Fire Code N.J.A.C.5:70-2.9(c)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Fire Commissioners of Hopewell Township Fire District No.1 do hereby request that the Hopewell Township Committee review and amend ordinance 06-1378 adjusting code enforcement registration fees as outlined in the above fee schedule.

RECORD OF BOARD VOTE ON PASSAGE

Commissioner	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Novak			X			
Tomaro		x	X			
Jones	x		X			
Agarwal			X			
Burd			X			

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1

RESOLUTION 2022-23

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT #1 TO ENTER INTO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE HOPEWELL VALLEY UNIFORMED FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION LOCAL 3897 OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS AFL-CIO-CLC PENDING LEGAL REVIEW AND MUTUAL ACCEPTANCE OF ALL PARTIES

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, (the Board) recognizes the Hopewell Valley Uniformed Firefighters Association Local 3897 of the International Association of Firefighters AFL-CIO-CLC (HVUFFA) as the bargaining unit for certain employees of the Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1; and

WHEREAS, the Board and HVUFFA agreed to certain terms and conditions as part of the Collective Bargaining Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Board and HVUFFA now desire to enter into a formal Collective Bargaining Agreement for a term of three years, from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Fire Commissioners of Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey is hereby authorized to execute a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Hopewell Valley Uniformed Firefighters Association Local 3897 of the International Association of Firefighters AFL-CIO-CLC.

RECORD OF BOARD VOTE ON PASSAGE

Commissioner	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Novak		x	X			
Tomaro			X			
Jones	x		X			
Agarwal			X			
Burd			X			

RESOLUTION 2022-24: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PENNINGTON BOROUGH FOR BASIC LIFE SUPPORT SERVICES was withdrawn to be discussed further.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1

RESOLUTION 2022-25

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT #1 TO EXECUTE AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH LIEUTENANTS AND FIRE OFFICIAL PENDING LEGAL REVIEW AND MUTUAL ACCEPTANCE OF ALL PARTIES

WHEREAS, the current employment agreement between the Board of Fire Commissioners of Hopewell Township Fire District #1 (the Board) and Lieutenants/ Fire Official was reviewed; and

WHEREAS, terms for revision of the current agreement have been mutually agreed upon and accepted by all parties; and

WHEREAS, the Board and Lieutenants/ Fire Official now desire to enter into an employment agreement for a term of five years, from April 2, 2020 through December 31, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Fire Commissioners of Hopewell Township Fire District #1, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey is hereby authorized to execute an employment agreement for the Lieutenants and Fire Official and put it into effect as of April 2, 2020.

RECORD OF BOARD VOTE ON PASSAGE

Commissioner	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Novak	x		X			
Tomaro			X			
Jones		x	X			
Agarwal			X			
Burd			X			

TREASURER’S REPORT

Treasurer Tomaro read the summary of the Bills and Claims dated April 14, 2022 and was seconded by Vice Chairman Novak. Treasurer Tomaro reported on notable bills. A roll call vote was held and the following amounts were authorized:

Bill List:		\$206,029.45
Payroll Ending:	March 26, 2022	\$58,789.91
Payroll Ending:	April 9, 2022	\$63,698.52
Total Disbursements:		\$328,517.88

Commissioner	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Novak		x	X			
Tomaro	x		X			
Jones			X			
Agarwal			X			
Burd			X			

STATION REPORTS

- A. UNION FIRE COMPANY AND RESCUE SQUAD REPORT: Chief Pedersen reported happenings from the latest Active Chiefs Meeting, addressed dispatching of calls during the day hours, and the latest update on new telesquirt. Regarding dispatching asked for a meeting with commissioners from each district, 3 valley chiefs and Station 50 chief and lieutenants. Meeting must be advertised to the public.
- B. PENNINGTON FIRST AID SQUAD REPORT: Discussed mutual aid call volume and staffing.
- C. HOPEWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT AND EMU REPORT: Mentioned Pancake Breakfast held on 4/10/22
- D. PENNINGTON FIRE COMPANY REPORT: no report
- E. HOPEWELL VALLEY EMERGENCY SERVICES UNIT REPORT: Discussed Lt Bailey graduation and grants applying for.

PUBLIC COMMENT (NON-AGENDA)

Treasurer Tomaro mentioned Deputy Chief Tunnicliffe's ice rescue on Rosedale Lake has been noted throughout the state.

Discussed Tanker 53-1 repairs and status.

EXECUTIVE SESSION 2022-20

The Board of Fire Commissioners went into closed session at 8:10pm and returned to open session at 9:34pm.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1

RESOLUTION 2022-26

EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS the Open Public Meetings Act permits the Board of Fire Commissioners of Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1 to exclude the public from a portion of the meeting in order to discuss matters requiring confidentiality per N.J.S.A. 10:4-12; and

WHEREAS, the Board is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Commissioners of Fire District No. 1 in the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer as follows:

1. The Board intends to discuss certain matters which are deemed confidential pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 in Executive Session.
2. The scope of the aforesaid executive session will be limited to the following:
 - A. Litigation
 - B. Subcontracts

3. Minutes of the Executive Session will be disclosed to the public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

RECORD OF BOARD VOTE ON PASSAGE

Commissioner	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Novak			X			
Tomaro			X			
Jones	x		X			
Agarwal		x	X			
Burd			X			

REGULAR SESSION – CONTINUED

NEW BUISNESS

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1

RESOLUTION 2022-27

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT #1 TO ENTER INTO A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH ASHLEY COBLE

WHEREAS, The Board of Fire Commissioners of the Hopewell Township Fire District No.1 on behalf of Hopewell Township Fire District No.1 having been named as Defendants along with Hopewell Valley Bureau of Fire Safety, Hopewell Valley Bureau of Fire Safety Board of Fire Commissioners for Fire District 1 (collectively Hopewell) in a complaint filed in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Mercer County, entitled, **Ashley Coble vs. Hopewell Bureau of Fire Safety et. als., Docket number MER-L-1276-19** (Litigation).

WHEREAS, Hopewell has been advised that a settlement has been reached whereby the Litigation will be dismissed with prejudice pursuant to a Settlement Agreement.

FURTHER, Hopewell has denied and continues to deny all the allegations asserted in the Litigation by Plaintiff Ashley Coble. Pursuant to the terms of Hopewell’s applicable Insurance Contract, Hopewell is required to consent to the settlement under the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, after having reviewed the Settlement Agreement, the Board of Fire Commissioners of Hopewell Township Fire District, hereby affirms and consents to the settlement of the Litigation pursuant to the terms set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

RECORD OF BOARD VOTE ON PASSAGE

Commissioner	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Novak		X	X			
Tomaro			X			
Jones	X		X			
Agarwal			X			
Burd			X			

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Tomaro motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Vice Chairman Novak at 9:36 PM. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Randi Knechel
Admin Clerk

TITLE	4/14/22 Regular Session Meeting Minutes
FILE NAME	Regular Board Mee...tes 04-14-22.docx
DOCUMENT ID	a3ffb355ffb6f3e64ff8c7097e9d22603f8d9a62
AUDIT TRAIL DATE FORMAT	MM / DD / YYYY
STATUS	● Signed

Document History



SENT

05 / 20 / 2022

13:36:45 UTC

Sent for signature to Randi Knechel
 (rmalkiewicz@hopewelltpfire.org) from
 jmoore@hopewelltpfire.org
 IP: 173.61.41.5



VIEWED

05 / 21 / 2022

12:05:13 UTC

Viewed by Randi Knechel (rmalkiewicz@hopewelltpfire.org)
 IP: 98.110.89.163



SIGNED

05 / 21 / 2022

12:05:39 UTC

Signed by Randi Knechel (rmalkiewicz@hopewelltpfire.org)
 IP: 98.110.89.163



COMPLETED

05 / 21 / 2022

12:05:39 UTC

The document has been completed.