

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO.1
THURSDAY, APRIL 22ND 2021**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was held on April 22, 2021 virtually via Zoom at 7:00 PM.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER / STATEMENT OF NOTICE

Chairperson Malkiewicz 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 Malkiewicz.

ROLL CALL

Chairperson Malkiewicz-	Present
Vice-Chairman Burd-	Present
Secretary Agarwal-	Present
Treasurer Tomaro-	Present
Commissioner Tackacs-	Present

MINUTES SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL

- A. REGULAR SESSION MINUTES AND PART 1 OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES FROM 4/8/21
 - a. Regular session minutes approved. Executive session tabled until completed.

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA)

None.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 2021-29:A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1 TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR FIRE INSPECTION SERVICES WITH THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1 OF HOPEWELL BOROUGH

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District No. 1 of Hopewell Borough (the "Borough"), is responsible for certain fire inspection services pursuant to the Uniform Fire Safety Act (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-195, et. Seq.) (the "Fire Safety Act"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act (N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, et. Seq.), the Borough desires to contract with the Board of Fire Commissioners of Hopewell Township Fire District No.1 (the "Board") for the provision of fire inspection services and other certain services required by the Fire Safety Act from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Borough and the Board are both “local units,” and the fire inspection services and other certain services required by The Fire Safety Act are “shared services” within the meaning of N.J.S.A. 40A:65-3.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board Chairman is hereby authorized and directed to execute a Shared Services Agreement between the Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District No. of Hopewell Borough and the Board of Fire Commissioners of Hopewell Township Fire District No. 1 for the provision of fire inspection services and other certain services required by The Fire Safety Act, substantially in the form annexed hereto (the “Agreement”).

RECORD OF BOARD VOTE ON PASSAGE

Commissioner	Moved	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Burd	X		X			
Tackacs		X	X			
Agarwal			X			
Tomaro			X			
Malkiewicz			X			

TREASURER’S REPORT

Treasurer Tomaro read the summary of the Bills and Claims dated April 22nd 2021 and was seconded by Commissioner Tackacs. Treasurer Tomaro reported on notable bills. A roll call vote was held and the following amounts were authorized:

Bill List:		\$7,290.27
Payroll Ending	April 10, 2021	\$56,429.39
Total Disbursements:		\$63,719.66

WORK SESSION / SUB COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS

A. VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT

Chief Martin shared emails from Liza from the recruitment company referencing the new price and additional benefits that would be included know. ChairPerson Malkiewicz asked Chief Martin to forward this information to the Board members and the Valley Chiefs. Vice Chairperson Burd stated it he would like to have buy in from the Valley Chiefs and organizations before spending any money. Chief Pedersen asked Chief Martin to get the cost of individual items. A discussion

ensued about recruitment by those in attendance. Vice Chairperson Burd stated this should be something handed off to the companies to run. Chief Pedersen stated that 53 has not gotten a single member from the recruitment effort and he cannot see spending any more money on it. Vice Chairman Burd said if we are not getting what we want we should look elsewhere. Chairperson Malkiewicz asked Chief Martin to just send the information to the board so they can look at it before sending it to the Valley Chiefs.

B. UFCRS SPRINKLER TANK

Chairperson Malkiewicz asked President Swanson if he is in agreement with the plan to do away with the sprinkler tank. Chairperson Malkiewicz asked Counselor Hart if there needs to be an agreement stating the same. Vice Chairperson Burd stated he would like the fire company to take the lead on this project and this should be their decision not the boards. Counselor Hart agreed since the fire company owns the building. President Swanson agreed. A short discussion ensued between President Swanson and Chairperson Malkiewicz regarding the specifics of the projects. Chief Martin stated he would forward over an email he received from the architect today. Chief Martin gave some specifics from the email. A discussion was had those in attendance regarding the correct architect to have involved for this project.

C. SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT – HBFD & PBFD

Chairperson Malkiewicz stated he met with Chairperson Morehouse from the Borough board and it was mutually agreed upon to hold off on renewing the agreements.

D. VEHICLE REPLACEMENT SCHEDULE

Vice Chairperson Burd reported that QPA Ocicki had sent out some numbers but he feels the board needs to take a deeper dive into the information and project forward. Chairperson Malkiewicz stated the only thing this is hindering is when Telesquirt 53 can be replaced. Chief Pedersen reported that a truck from KME will be coming next week and he will advise the board.

E. EMS BILLING AND AMBULANCE STATE LICENSING

No report

F. UPCOMING DEVELOPMENT IN HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP

Chairperson Malkiewicz said Fire official Fosina has been providing reports periodically. Furthermore, he stated that the only thing he saw in the report that stood out is that they will not be installing sprinklers in attics.

G. EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS

Treasure Tomaro contacted the union and informed them that the board would need more time to review the contract and that they would reach out after one of the May meetings.

H. PRESENTATION ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Chief Martin gave a presentation on the progress the fire district has made regarding information technology. Chief Martin also gave recommendations for the future including approvals to move forward with some of the recommendations. Some discussions were had and questions were answered by Chief Martin throughout the presentation. Vice Chairperson Burd made a motion to approve moving forward with recommendations made by Chief Martin. Secretary Agarwal seconded the motion. All Board members were in favor of the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT (NON-AGENDA)

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION 2021-28

RESOLUTION 2021-30: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. Policy
 - B.
 - C.
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
Burd	X		X			
Tackacs			X			
Agarwal		X	X			
Tomaro			X			
Malkiewicz			X			

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Burd motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Treasurer Tomaro at 7:15 PM. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Bailey
Lieutenant