

PORT READING BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FIRE DISTRICT NO. 2
PORT READING, NJ 07064
May 7, 2012

The Board Clerk read the "Open Meeting Act" requirements. The Port Reading Board of Fire Commissioners Monthly Public Meeting of May 7, 2012 was called to order by Commissioner Galvach at 7:30 pm. Four Commissioners were present: Comm. Galvach, Comm. Huber, Comm. Zullo and Comm. Santorelli. Board Accountants John Ur and Maria Bucsanszky were present. Board Attorney Tom Buck was present. Board Clerk Marianne DeSantis was present.

Comm. Nardiello was absent due to an out of town emergency.

Reviewed minutes from the April 2, 2012 monthly meeting.

MOTION to accept April 2nd minutes made by Comm. Santorelli, seconded by Comm. Zullo. All in favor 4-0.

BILLS TO BE PAID: \$44,979.34

Comm. Santorelli inquired about Bill 27053 for Ramm Environmental for \$750.00, which was for the asbestos monitoring in the boiler room per Comm. Huber.

Comm. Galvach inquired about Bill 27059 for Lawn Doctor, which Comm. Huber stated was for services for the entire year.

MOTION to pay May bills was made by Comm. Zullo, seconded by Comm. Huber. All in favor 4-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Balance	\$ 389,403.02
Deposits	\$ 3,412.32
Interest	\$ 220.12
Payroll	\$(68,383.24)
Payroll Tax/Adjustments	\$ (3,466.50)
Disbursements for the Month	<u>\$ (44,979.34)</u>
Ending Balance	\$ 276,206.38

MOTION to accept Treasurer's Report was made by Comm. Huber, seconded by Comm. Santorelli. All in favor 4-0.

Board Accountant Bucsanszky reported that temporary financial adjustments needed to be made to make payroll and pay bills by using the engine reserve fund until we get the taxation money in mid-May.

FIRE OFFICIAL'S REPORT:

Fire Official's report was not available at this time and tabled until the June meeting.

CAPTAIN'S REPORT:

Comm. Galvach questioned if the Captain had contacted anyone regarding Bill 27061, in the amount of \$549.47, made payable to, "New Jersey Fire Equipment", for an air pack purchase and if it was an emergency.

MOTION to accept the Captain's report made by Comm. Santorelli, seconded by Comm. Huber. All in favor 4-0.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief reported calls for the month of April for a total of 11 calls, 1 drill, 1 special event and 1 meeting for a total of 14 calls.

Chief stated that this past Wednesday the entire fire company, with the exception of one, attended a class at Miller GMC to learn about hybrid vehicles in the event of a fire or entrapment.

Chief took a class with Keith Repace on terrorist bombing.

Chief reported that Memorial Day preparations are under way and our Chaplain Father Smith has been notified and will be available for the Memorial Day Service between 9:00 – 9:30 am.

Chief reported that they will be sponsoring a Coin Toss on Saturday, May 19 from 9am-1pm on the corner of Port Reading Ave and East Tappen and requested the use of the engines.

Comm. Galvach thanked the Chief for organizing the seminar at Miller GMC.

MOTION to accept the Chief's Report made by Comm. Huber, seconded by Comm. Santorelli. All in favor 4-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Comm. Zullo reported that concrete work has been completed in the parking lot across the street and D'Orsi's Bakery paid the bill.

Comm. Huber reported that there was no asbestos found after the boiler was removed, however Peter Alvarez, a Representative from the NJ Department of Labor & Workforce came to the building and recommended that an air test be conducted. Comm. Huber stated that the findings show that there is no asbestos in the building and that Board Accountant Bucsanszky has a copy of the report for the Union Representative who requested it.

Comm. Zullo stated that it was both his and Comm. Huber's decision to shut down the downstairs until the final report was completed.

Comm. Galvach requested that a copy of the report be distributed to all career firefighters, first aid squad members and volunteers and that they each sign off on the report before the downstairs is re-opened.

Comm. Huber reported that the handyman Mike Majur is back and will work on the bathroom sink and is getting quotes to reinstall the steel door downstairs, as well as replacing more shingles.

Comm. Huber stated that he received a quote from Welstead Landscaping for \$500.00 to clean up the parking lot across the street since the vegetation growth is becoming a hazard. Comm. Huber stated that once the initial work was completed, the career men can maintain the parking lot.

Comm. Galvach recommended that the Board reviews their funds before a decision is made regarding the parking lot.

NEW BUSINESS:

Comm. Huber reported that he will get quotes to have the Monument cleaned and Comm. Zullo will look into getting the proper names on the Monument for Memorial Day.

Comm. Huber requested that the curbing be repainted and that the floors upstairs and downstairs be cleaned and waxed before Memorial Day.

Comm. Huber requested the chairs and dais be roped off during hall rentals.

Comm. Zullo stated that hall renters are advised not to use the chairs and dais and that he is currently working on the hall rental contract with the attorney.

Comm. Huber stated that the Commissioners office needs to be cleaned.

Comm. Zullo reported that he will give Fire Official Brian Small the letter from the insurance company requesting a copy of the report on the house fire at 205 Port Reading Avenue, along with a \$10.00 check made payable to the "BFP".

MOTION to give \$100.00 donation from the Barbato Family to the Port Reading Volunteer Fire Company for the hall rental was made by Comm. Santorelli, seconded by Comm. Zullo.

Comm. Zullo reported that the water problem downstairs is still an issue, which requires having sump pumps on hand.

Comm. Galvach inquired about Bill 27048 "General Sewer Services", for \$211.86, which Board Accountant Bucsanszky stated would be voided and reissued since we are tax exempt.

TAXPAYER COMMENTS:

Keith Repace, Local 290 President inquired about where the Board planned on getting the money from for the beautification of the firehouse and property prior to Memorial Day. Comm. Galvach explained that the landscaping out front is part of the contract that we have in place with the landscaper and that it is already paid for and anything additional would need to be voted on. Comm. Galvach indicated that the Monument is part of our ceremony and out of respect for our deceased members, the necessary work will be done to the Monument. Comm. Zullo stressed that the parking lot across the street is in bad shape and does not want the public to hurt themselves. Comm. Huber reported that initially the career staff was going to do the work in the parking lot, however they stated that the job is too big, but will maintain it in the future.

Mr. Repace inquired as to who would be painting the curbs and if it is part of the career staff job functions. Comm. Huber would like the career staff to do the curbing and Comm. Galvach stated that the career men are requested to do light maintenance, however, if they feel certain jobs are in violation of the contract it will be addressed.

MOTION to enter Executive Session at 8:19pm to discuss a legal matter and personnel issue made by Comm. Santorelli, seconded by Comm. Zullo. All in favor 4-0.

MOTION out of Executive Session at 8:40pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Matters discussed during Executive Session were a legal issue regarding contract negotiations and we will be in contact with our attorney to go forward with further negotiations and possible arbitration.

Comm. Santorelli stated that a letter will be sent to the career staff stating that in the future they have to request a personal day off and not just put it on the calendar.

Comm. Galvach requested that a letter be sent to the career staff regarding starting an in and out log for the pick up truck.

MOTION to pay add on bill for \$150.00 to "Steve White", \$7,000 to "Valic" and \$250.00 for the Chiefs gift, was made by Comm. Huber, seconded by Comm. Santorelli. All in favor 4-0.

MOTION to hire our landscaper to take care of the initial cleanup in the parking lot across the street, due to safety hazards and for insurance purposes, made by Comm. Zullo, seconded by Comm. Huber. All in favor 4-0.

Comm. Galvach stated that due to ongoing negotiations between the Board and the Union, the Board has decided that we will forward our final offer to the Union and if we do not hear back within 30 days of being filed, the Board will file for arbitration.

MOTION to file for arbitration if the Board does not hear back from the Union within 30 days of final offer being filed made by Comm. Santorelli, seconded by Comm. Zullo. All in favor 4-0.

Ex-Chief Dan Nimitz expressed his opinion that as a taxpayer he feels the paid men could do maintenance work to help defray some costs.

Comm. Zullo stated that throughout the years the paid staff and volunteers have gone above and beyond and do their share of light maintenance.

Mr. Nimitz stated that the Exempts are short on money and requested an increase if possible in the future. Comm. Zullo stated that they are currently at \$1250 and it will be looked at for next year's budget.

Mr. Keith Repace, President of Local 290 clarified that the comments regarding the curb painting was not a contract issue, but a general question and suggested that the Board contact the traffic maintenance department at town hall requesting their assistance.

MOTION to adjourn meeting at 8:48pm made by Comm. Zullo, seconded by Comm. Santorelli. All in favor 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne DeSantis
Board Clerk