

**MONROE TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 3
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2011
16 CENTRE DRIVE**

The Monroe Township Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District No. 3 met at the new Firehouse, 16 Centre Drive, Monroe Township, New Jersey for a Regular Meeting. The meeting was called to order with a salute to the Flag at 7:00 PM.

Vice Chairman Gerald Kaplan announced that the meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and that adequate notice of the meeting has been provided by the following: posted on the bulletin board of the Township Clerk in the Municipal Complex and published in the Home News Tribune and the Cranbury Press.

UPON ROLL CALL the following members of the Monroe Township Board of Fire Commissioners of District No. 3 were present: Leslie Barta, Joseph Haff, Gerald Kaplan and Joel Kaplan

ALSO PRESENT: Board Attorney Robert M. Schwartz, Chief/Administrator Peter J. Gasiorowski, Sr. and Captain Raymond LeBrun

ABSENT: Douglas S. Martin and Board Auditor Joseph Massoni

PUBLIC GUESTS PRESENT: Charlie Dipierro, Adam Durando, Stephen Gorbe, John Kuehns, Robert LeBrun, Robert McCloskey and Charlie Reid

UPON MOTION MADE by Joel Kaplan and seconded by Joseph Haff, with all in favor, the Board approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 14, 2011.

Copies of the June Financial Report were distributed in the packets and Board Treasurer Joel Kaplan discussed details of the report. (**Attached as Appendix A**)

UPON MOTION MADE by Leslie Barta and seconded by Joseph Haff, with all in favor, the June Financial Report was accepted.

REPORT FROM BOARD AUDITOR: NONE

OPERATIONS REPORT:

A copy of the June 2011 Fire Prevention Bureau Report was distributed in the packets and Captain Raymond LeBrun discussed details. **(Attached as Appendix B)**

- F/O was called out for 1 fire investigation for a vehicle fire in Baltusrol Court
- The Bureau conducted an Extinguisher Training Class at Rossmoor to maintenance employees.
- The Department conducted Extinguisher Training in Rossmoor to the public and gave a Fire Prevention presentation at Monroe Village.
- The prizes for winners of the poster contest at the local level were issued.

Copies of the Activity Report/Incident Run Log were distributed in the packets and Chief/Administrator Peter J. Gasiorowski, Sr. explained details:

- June Activity Report/Incident Run Log
(Attached as Appendix C)

Chief/Administrator Peter J. Gasiorowski, Sr. stated the following:

- On 6/15/11, the Pumper was returned to the Fire District. There were minor discrepancies that are covered under warranty which will be taken care of when sent out for our first service.
- There is no progress with regards to the traffic warning beacon at the intersection of Applegarth Road and Centre Drive. It's in the hands of the attorney at this point.
- On 6/30/11, Monroe Township Fire District No. 3 sold the 1986 E-One Fire apparatus to the Ringold Fire Department in Oklahoma for \$8,000.00. The money was forwarded to our TD Bank account with a 10% commission to FIRETEC, Fire apparatus broker.
- Ladder 8 is going out of service on a date to be determined.

PURCHASE AND SERVICE REQUESTS:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>LI#</u>	<u>Description</u>
Mounting Bracket	1	\$142.00	E-03	Vertical wall/shelf mounting bracket for junction box, Engine 5
Total:		\$142.00		

UPON MOTION MADE by Leslie Barta and seconded by Gerald Kaplan, the Board approved the purchase and service request in the amount of **\$142.00**

ROLL CALL:

- Aye Leslie Barta
- Aye Joseph Haff
- Aye Gerald Kaplan
- Aye Joel Kaplan

CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

GENERAL BUSINESS: NONE

PUBLIC PORTION:

Stephen Gorbe of 113 Gravel Hill-Spotswood Road questioned the fire consolidation study. Vice Chairman Gerald Kaplan responded by saying that many questions cannot be answered until the committee meets on these issues. Mr. Gorbe also asked if the Chief responds to fires or if he has ever responded to a fire. Board Attorney Robert M. Schwartz interrupted to say that the public portion is a comment section, not an opportunity for cross examination. He added that the structure that is currently in place has been in place since 2002/2003. Mr. Gorbe stated that the Chief's contract, which expired on 6/30/11, requires him to respond to fires. He asked the status of the Chief, is his contract expired or what? Mr. Schwartz stated that personnel matters are not subject to public discussion. Mr. Gorbe responded that if his contract is up, he should be gone; it's that simple.

Robert LeBrun of 17 Lower Matchaponix Road requested to review the resolution that dissolved the Central Monroe Volunteer Fire Company. As past Chief to Central Monroe Volunteer Fire Company, a past commissioner for 7 ½ years and a lifelong member, he would like to know how the Volunteer Fire Company was dissolved. He believes he could help the District's problem with the tax rate being so high by bringing back Volunteers. His suggestion is also to have the Chief and/or Captain respond to fires and take command as part of the 4 man crew and get rid of a Lieutenant per day shift. He's trying to gather Volunteers and bring them back to Central Monroe. Board Attorney Robert M. Schwartz stated that Konowicz, Russell, Kane sent a letter in 2001, indicating the termination of Central Monroe Fire Company due to a 70% reduction of Volunteers and other various factors. A copy of the letter can be reviewed through an OPRA request.

Charlie Dipierro of 404 Spotswood-Gravel Hill Road wanted to clear his name. The Board said at a prior meeting that he didn't receive a copy of the Firefighters Union contract. He has a letter from Board Attorney Robert M. Schwartz dated 2/16/11 attaching the Memorandum of Agreement signed by representatives of Monroe Township Fire District No. 3 and IAFF Local 3170, to fulfill an OPRA request. He just wanted to clear his name because the Board doubted he had this information. Board Attorney Robert M. Schwartz assured him that he received the contract in error. He should've only received the signed 3-page Memorandum of Agreement. Mr. Dipierro also asked the status of his OPRA request for individual bill invoices for the Board Attorney totaling \$12,562.85 from 12/15/10 through 5/3/11. He also questioned his request for overtime.

John Kuehns of 11 Fox Run is against sitting by for Summer Nationals at Raceway Park. He feels it's not an emergency and doesn't think we should be sending our guys there on taxpayer dollars. It's not a good economic practice.

CLOSED SESSION: NONE

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ADJOURNMENT:

UPON MOTION MADE by Leslie Barta and seconded by Joseph Haff, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Leslie Barta
Board Secretary

Douglas S. Martin
Chairman

Prepared by: Tricia A. Mercado