

**January 6, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Wesolowski. All Commissioners were present.

Others present included Chief Ruggiano, Chief Dan Shields, Rob Grant, Matt Orsini and Auditor, Ed Paul.

President Wesolowski called for a salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

President Wesolowski stated we will be deviating from our regular order of business to discuss budget matters. Specifically, we will be holding a public hearing on the 2010 Budget and vote to adopt the resolution on said budget.

Ed Paul, our Auditor stated a formal copy signed by the state has not yet been received; however an email was received from the state on Monday, January 4 stating that the 2010 Budget was approved and it is "ok" to go ahead with a public hearing and adoption of budget.

President Wesolowski read by title our approved 2010 budget. Amount to be raised by taxation is \$671,441.00.

President Wesolowski opened the meeting to the public and called for any comments. There were no comments from the public. President Wesolowski closed the public portion of the meeting and turned it back to the Board for deliberation.

President Wesolowski introduced by Title the "2010 Adopted Budget Resolution" for fiscal year January 1 through December 31, 2010. He stated the Annual budget as presented for adoption reflects total revenues of \$893,352.02 which includes the amount to be raised by Taxation in the amount of \$671,441.00 and that this budget will be presented to the voters for approval on February 20<sup>th</sup> 2010. A motion by Commissioner Niedermayer 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Grant to pass this Resolution to adopt the 2010 budget was unanimously approved by a roll call vote.

Grant -Aye

Niedermayer -Aye

Maahs -Aye

Wesolowski -Aye

Absent and no longer with us as a Commissioner is Mr. Gotthardt.

Ed Paul stated he will mail signed documents to the state tomorrow.

Getting back to the regular order of business, President Wesolowski asked if the members received and reviewed the minutes of the preceding meeting. The

commissioners stated they had. A motion by Commissioner Grant, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Niedermayer to approve minutes was unanimously approved.

### **Chief's Report**

1. Chief submitted December, 09 report along with the annual percentages for Firefighters.
2. Chief mentioned we received two bills from Glick, one for repairing the rollover sensors on Truck 3135 and another bill for them to come back out and look at the ladder because it appeared that the bucket was "freefalling" when tested. After discussion with Glick, Chief had the second bill rescinded since the repair should have been part of the cylinder repairs previously performed. He was not able to have the first bill rescinded. Chief mentioned he then called Pierce and they stated that since the truck was over two years old they will not guarantee electrical components. Therefore, the bill was given to the administrator for payment. The bill represents an expense against the 2009 budget. President Wesolowski asked how Glick was able to determine that the rollover sensors needed to be repaired. Chief replied the truck had a "check engine" light come on and Glick's computer was able to interpret the code to determine it was the rollover sensors.

### **Captain's & Engineer Report**

1. Chief Ruggiano gave report.
2. Truck 3132-no problems; Truck 3133-no problems; Truck 3135-no problems other than what was mentioned previously in the Chief's Report.
3. Fuel used:

<u>Squad</u>	<u>Fire Co</u>	<u>Total</u>
261.4G	131.0G	392.4G

- President Wesolowski asked if we were getting deliveries more frequently now. Chief Ruggiano responded in the affirmative. He said utilization has been high, he mentioned that he does not remember ever having three working fires in four hours which is what they experienced in December.
4. Chief also mentioned that the outside lighting around the hall was changed to utilize more efficient bulbs as discussed/approved at the last Board Meeting.
  5. Report submitted and filed.

### **Hall Rental Chairman Report**

1. Matthew Orsini gave report for December 09. During the month of December, there was one paying affair and two non-paying affairs scheduled. Updated dates are posted in the lounge. Three booking were made during the month. A security deposit is scheduled to be refunded and one cleaning bill is to be paid.
2. Mathew Orsini provided a brief summary of his appearance in court with Greg McCloskey, our solicitor, concerning the Max Case. Discussion ensued. The settlement agreed upon was to pay \$750.00 to Steve Max pending Board approval. As a result of this case, Greg McCloskey added wording to the contract

- for all affairs booked going forward to help prevent what has occurred in this case. President Wesolowski mentioned everybody should have a copy of a note from Greg McCloskey as to what transpired that day and we will discuss further later in the meeting.
3. President Wesolowski asked when the three new bookings contracted in December are scheduled for. Matthew Orsini replied one affair was scheduled in each of the months of January, February and July.
  4. Matthew Orsini asked if the Board of Fire Commissioner's credit cards were issued and if so, would the board consider transferring the Vonage Hall Telephone bill from his personal credit card to the Board's credit card. President Wesolowski stated that we would need to discuss and work out the mechanics of the transfer.
  5. Report Submitted and filed.

### **Squad Report**

1. Financial report for December and the 2009 Emergency Squad Statistics report for year-end were submitted by Chief Shields.
2. Chief Shields provided an update of the Squad's task of obtaining their own insurance. Chief mentioned that they ran into a problem with obtaining their own Workman's Comp Policy since the Squad was still "associated" with (not covered under) the Board of Fire Commissioner's Policy. Liz Booth prepared a letter to the NJ Compensation, Rating and Inspection Bureau copying all Board Members addressing issue. All insurances for the Squad were in effect as of January 1, 2010.
3. President Wesolowski asked if the Lease provided to the Squad at the last Board Meeting was signed. Chief Shields will check with Linda Dye tomorrow and let President Wesolowski know..

### **Bills/Communications**

The bills to be paid in January were read.

In addition, President Wesolowski and Matt Orsini further discussed the settlement of the Max Case. Questions were raised by Commissioner Maahs and Grant regarding the specifics of the settlement. After a brief discussion, a motion by Commissioner Niedermayer and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Maahs to pay the \$750.00 to settle the Max Case was unanimously approved.

A motion by Commissioner Niedermayer and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Grant to pay the following bills was unanimously approved.

(List of Bills paid in January is available upon request.)

Maahs abstained on all C. Maahs Knobbs' invoices.

**Communications:**

Liz Booth discussed the following Communications:

1. Proof of Publications were received from Burlington Times, Inc. for the following Public Notices:
  - a. Notice of Public Hearing on 2010 Budget.
  - b. Notice of Annual Election to be held on Saturday, February 20, 2010: Petition Closing Date, Friday, January 22, 2010; Reorganization Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners to be held on Wednesday, March 3, 2010.
  - c. Notice to Person desiring Absentee Ballot
2. Received a request from the New Jersey State Firemen's Association for use of the hall on Tuesday, August 24, 2010 for their annual caucus of the Chief's Delegates, Exempt Delegates and Life Members of Burlington County. A motion by Commissioner Niedermayer and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Maahs was unanimously approved granting use of the hall to New Jersey State Firemen's Association on August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

President Wesolowski discussed the following communications:

1. President Wesolowski received a change of date request from Rob Grant to use hall on April 11<sup>th</sup> instead of April 4<sup>th</sup> since the original date was inadvertently booked on Easter Sunday. The new date is available. The approval was transferred to the new date of August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010.
2. President Wesolowski read aloud the request received from the Moorestown Township Office of Emergency Management for use of the hall on Thursday, April 29, 2010 from 1900 – 2200 hrs for their Coordinators meeting. A motion by Commissioner Maahs and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Niedermayer was unanimously approved granting use of the hall to Moorestown Township Office of Emergency Management on April 29, 2010, pending availability of date.

**Old Business:**

1. Commissioner Grant asked Chief Ruggiano if he heard back from Bernard's Carpet regarding the carpet issue. Chief replied he had not heard back from the company. President Wesolowski asked if the seam in the carpet was still coming up. Matt Orsini replied that for the most part it is down. Wesolowski asked if it is a tripping hazard and the response from both Matt and Chief Ruggiano was it is not currently a tripping hazard. Wesolowski stated that if anyone determines it is getting any worse or it may become a tripping hazard; please bring it to the Board's attention to address.

2. President Wesolowski asked if all Commissioners received a copy of Resolution 09 – 03 regarding the 2009 Budget Offsets. This resolution formalizes a motion by Commissioner Niedermayer and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Maahs at the December 2, 2009 Board Meeting that called for the transfer between over spent and under spent accounts. The motion was already made; President Wesolowski wanted to bring it to everybody's attention and to see if anyone had any questions. There were no questions.

### **New Business:**

1. President Wesolowski stated as the Board is aware, we have the potential to borrow funds from Susquehanna Bank if the voters approve the question on the ballot to raise money for the purchase/ lease of air packs. Susquehanna bank has asked if we would consider opening accounts with them in an effort to build a business relationship. During this process, they forwarded a list of fees and services to Liz Booth for her to review to determine if what was presented by Susquehanna Bank was equal or better than what we are currently receiving from Wachovia.

Liz Booth stated overall, the rates and fees from Susquehanna Bank were competitive with Wachovia Bank. The rates depend on how much you hold in the respective accounts. Discussion ensued. A motion by Commissioner Maahs and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Niedermayer was unanimously approved to transfer all three of the Board's checking accounts (Operating, Hall and Fire Inspection) to Susquehanna Bank.

2. President Wesolowski mentioned our annual election will be held on February 20, 2010 and asked how many petitions has the Board received to date. Liz Booth stated we have received one so far. Commissioner Grant added that a second one will be submitted this evening.

### **Meeting opened to public:**

1. Chief Ruggiano mentioned that the automatic light switch in the men's room was damaged and subsequently, the light would not go off. The light switch was disconnected. JLL Electric was called and it will take approximately one week for the switch to come in. Discussion ensued regarding ability to use light during a function before repair can be made. Chief Ruggiano assured the Board, the light issue will be managed for the affair scheduled.

A motion by Commissioner Grant and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Maahs to close the public portion of the meeting and return to New Business was unanimously approved.  
Return to New Business:

1. Commissioner Grant asked how much would it cost to have a diaper changing table installed in the handicap stall of the Ladies Room. Commissioner Grant has received several requests during functions. Discussion ensued. Matt agreed to look into the cost and space needed to install item and report back to the Board.

**Executive Session (Closed)**

**Board returned to public section of meeting:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, by Proper Action, meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Elizabeth A. Booth  
Board Administrator  
Malin and Murphy Financial Services