



BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

DISTRICT NO. 1

Township of Pittsgrove, Salem County

P.O. Box 111

Norma, NJ 08347-0111

**Regular Meeting
FEBRUARY 25, 2013**

PRESENT:

Henry Mayerfeld
Louis J. Vasile, Secretary
Pat Heer, Treasurer
Krystal Bates, arrived 7:55

Absent:

Elbert Johnson
Linda Kurtz, Chief

Audience:

Roselinda Pearce
Jim Colby

Henry Mayerfeld called the meeting to order at 7:55 pm. The flag salute and a moment of silence and reflection for the LODD and or dignitaries were held. The sunshine law was read.

Swearing in of new Commissioners:

Lou Vasile was sworn in for a three year term and Krystal Bates was sworn in for one year of an uncompleted three year term.

MINUTES FOR JANUARY 14, 2013:

The minutes were reviewed and approved by Pat Heer and seconded by Lou Vasile. With corrections to the first line on page 3," 24-2" and under Solar Panels it should be "Sparks Electric" replacing Atlantic City Electric.

Vote: All in favor

TREASURERS REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 25, 2013:

Roselinda Pearce told the Commissioners the Fire Company was having trouble getting the pagers fixed by Tekk Communication because of bills being paid late.

Henry Mayerfeld asked when the bills were from; she said she thought 3 or 4 years ago.

Lou Vasile said he has been working with this Company for several months since they are putting in the radios for the new ambulance. He asked that the Fire Company to let him take care of dealing with them. He is in direct contact with the President and Vice President of the Company.

Henry told Roselinda the bills are picked up by the Recording Treasurer before the meeting so they can be added to the treasurer's report.

The Recording Treasurer reminded Henry that Lou had changed this procedure at the November meeting. The Chief now gives her the bills at the meeting. By doing it this way she can justify any bills she hands in, and answer questions if they are asked.

Roselinda Pearce gave the Recording Treasurer bills for:

Nat Alexander, gear, \$ 262.26 and \$ 268.95

Sam Stinger, classes, \$ 500.00

Richard Braslow, services rendered, \$ 1240.00

There was a question about the lawyer's bill for \$ 1240.00. Lou Vasile said he approved the contacting of Richard Braslow by the Fire Company to go over questions they had about laws regarding the Fire Company and the Commissioners.

Pat Heer refused to sign the lawyer's bill, saying she did not feel right about signing it. The voucher for the lawyer will be tabled until the next meeting.

The Recording Treasurer told the Board she had gotten an adjustment for the workers comp. insurance. It was an additional \$ 1732.00.

Henry and Lou asked her to get in touch with the carrier to see why the coverage has gone up so much.

The Commissioners reviewed the Treasurers Report and it was approved on a motion by Lou Vasile and seconded by Pat Heer.

Vote: All in Favor

Radios for both ambulances:

Lou Vasile said the radios will be installed in the ambulances on March 14, 2013. He will make sure he is here to supervise the job.

Elections for February 16, 2013:

The Recording Secretary went over the results of the election for February 16, 2013.

The Recording Secretary failed to get a new list of the registered voters to be used during the election. The following Tuesday, (Monday was Presidents Day), she called the lawyer, Richard Braslow to find out what to do to fix the situation. He told her to get a list now and review the voters. As long as the number of unregistered voters does not change the outcome of any of the results it would be OK.

There were 36 voters. One needed to be disqualified because they were not registered.

The budget was approved by a vote of 32 to 3.

The Acquisitions was approved by a vote of 27 to 8.

Lou Vasile received 35 votes.

Debbie Springer received 14 votes.

Krystal Bates received 20 votes

It was mentioned the marquee should have the notice of the election on it at least a week before the elections.

Operating Procedures for Elections:

The Recording Secretary prepared a list of things which needs to be done in the months before and through to the elections as requested by Lou Vasile.

Remotes for trucks:

All trucks now have remote for the yellow blinking light.

Outcome of County Clerks obligation of mail in ballots:

The Recording Secretary explained to the Commissioners everything that transpired through the past 2 ½ months in regards to the County Clerk and the mail in ballots. Next year the County Clerk will be doing the mail in ballots.

NEW HEATER:

Henry Mayerfeld said as soon as he is feeling better after his surgery he will be ordering the new heater.

Chiefs Report:

There was no Chiefs report. She sent a message of congratulations to Lou Vasile and Krystal Bates on their election as Commissioners.

Lou said the Fire Company received a 250.00 gift card from *School Kids Health Care* card to buy supplies.

SOLAR PANELS:

At this time Lou Vasile would like to table going any further with the solar panels since the green credits are so low. He has spoken to Burlington Meats and Upper Pittsgrove Schools. They are both very unhappy with payback on the panels. Both said they are not getting the return expected when they installed them. He would like to revisit this in April or May to see if the green credits have stabilized.

A motion was made by Lou Vasile and seconded by Krystal Bates to table the decision on the solar panels until April or May.

Vote: Henry Mayerfeld- yes
Louis J. Vasile- yes
Pat Heer-yes
Krystal Bates-yes

REPAIRS TO 24-1:

Henry said he will be sure to contact Eddy Myers again about repairing 24-1. He may have more time now that he has retired from Pittsgrove.

Titles for 24-1 and 24-9:

Henry said he thinks he may have one of the titles in his safe at the store. He will look and let the Recording Secretary know.

Lou and Henry said they know that 24-4 does not have a title.

Bank Security Box:

Lou mentioned to the Commissioners he thought it would be a good idea for the Commissioners to get a security box at the bank for the titles of the trucks and the other important papers.

Filing Cabinets:

The Recording Secretary told the Commissioners she doesn't have much more room in the filing cabinet located in the parking bay.

Henry did not have the time to find out about another filing cabinet for the Recording Secretary.

Lou wants to get an executive size cabinet because it gives more room for the papers. He also wants it to lock.

List of Equipment valued over \$ 5000.00:

The recording Secretary is doing the inventory list of all items owed by the company which cost \$ 5000.00 or more. She needs to have this done for the 2012 audit.

LOSAP TOTALS FOR 2012:

The Recording Secretary did get a total of LOSAP for 2012. She will get it worked up for the next meeting.

Siren:

Lou Vasile said he needs to get wire from Henry to finish up the siren. He is working on the box in the basement.

Lou went over a few things he would like to see completed:

- The bay lights to be on a timer so they are not mistakenly left on.
- The bay doors to close once the trucks have left. This would save on the heating and cooling cost.
- The remotes don't always work. Lou is not sure if it is the strength or what.

Henry suggested it could be the lights interfering with the remotes.

LOSAP:

GeorgeVellaringattu was not available for the meeting.

JIM COLBY'S REQUEST:

Jim Colby attended the meeting with a list of documents he wants copies of. He has requested and stated the following in his letter to the Commissioners:

1. Meeting dates, published in the Board's newspaper of record.
2. All resolutions for 2012 and 2013 published in the Board's newspaper. All legal notices published in the Board's newspaper. In the event that I do not receive these copies, I anticipate filing notice under the provision of the OPERA Act.
3. What is the Board's newspaper of record?
4. Copies of the Board's minutes for the past 8 months. In the event that I do not receive these copies, I anticipate filing notice under the provision of the OPERA Act.
5. View the roll roster from the election held on February 16, 2013. In the event I cannot review them, I anticipate filing notice under the provision of the OPERA Act.
6. Did the Clerk of the Board have a list of Registered Voters at the February 16, 2013 election?
7. Why were there no numbers on the ballots mailed to me?
8. My Attorney of Record states that the un-numbered ballots are a clear violation of Title 19 and as a result the Annual Budget and Commissioners Election were illegal and must be re-casted, with numbered ballots.
9. The Salem County Board of Elections must distribute the "numbered" absentee Ballots to registered voters requesting same.
10. Does the Board have the original copy of the boundary lines of the Fire district in their records? Were they aware the Fire District boundary on the westward side of Parvin Road extends to the back of each property line?
11. What is the position and legal framework being contemplated by both the Board and Volunteer Fire Company regarding the lawsuit being undertaken by the parents of the boy who died at Almond Road and Gershal Ave., in the community of Norma, NJ?

Henry Mayerfeld told Jim Colby he was always welcome to attend the meetings. He did not have to make a written request to get records.

The Recording Secretary answered the following questions:

3. The official newspaper of the Board is the Daily Journal and the Elmer Times. This is done since the Elmer Times only comes out on Thursdays.
5. The voting Roster was given to Mr. Colby and he reviewed it during the meeting.
6. The Recording Secretary explained she did not have a list of registered voters. That she had called Mr. Braslow the first day he was available after the elections and as stated during the decision about the election, she did what he told her to do.
7. There were no numbers on the ballots sent to him because the Recording Secretary explained since she tore off the numbers before the voters voted during the election she thought she needed to tear off the numbers before she sent them to him in the mail. She went on to explain that she tried to get the rules from the Township Clerk and was told to call the County Clerk. The Deputy County Clerks said it was not his job and told her to call the Board of Elections. The Board of Elections told her to call the State Board of Elections. When she spoke to the States Board of Elections they wanted to know why the County Clerks was not taking care of the absentee ballots. They told her to call the Commissioner's lawyer. Mr. Braslow told her there was no way she could comply with all the laws that needed to be obeyed, because there are special forms that need to be sent etc. He told her to do her best and that would have to do, since the County Clerk should be doing it.
10. Henry and Lou answered his questions about the boundary lines off of Parvin Mill Road. Lou disagreed with him about how far back the lines went. He said it is just the first 100 feet off the road. The Clubhouse is not district #1.
11. The Recording Secretary told him she had received a Tort on the lawsuit a few years ago, but has not received anything since.

Mr. Colby gave the Recording Secretary his e-mail address. All the documents requested will be e-mailed to him with the next week. Everyone will get a copy of this e-mail.

GENERATOR:

None

Hardware on the Windows:

None

REPAVING THE PARKING LOT:

Tabled

For the good of the company:

Lou read a thank you letter from Mr. Johnson thanking the Fire Company on a job well done during a barn fire he had on January 16, 2013. He commended them on their dedication and said many stated the whole night to make sure the fire did not flair up.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

Sandra M. Comparri
Recording Secretary