

**MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING**

**November 11, 2013**

Chairman Hansch called the meeting to order on the above mentioned date at 8:00 pm, at the Fire Commissioner's office at 434 Route 10, Whippany, NJ.

Commissioners present: Commissioners Barz, M. Mihalko, & Hansch

Absent: Cobane, J. Mihalko

Also Present: Chief Cortright

At this time the Chairman read the following: Pursuant to statutes made and provided, let the minutes show that notice of this meeting was transmitted to the following newspapers: The Regional weekly and the Daily Record and filed with the clerk of the Township of Hanover and the Clerk of this Board.

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The chairman called for the acceptance of the pre-meeting minutes and the regular minutes from last month. Comm. M. Mihalko made a motion to accept last month's minutes. The move was seconded by Comm. Barz and it was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Barz, M. Mihalko & Hansch

ABSENT: Cobane, J. Mihalko

NAYS: None

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The following Treasurer's report was submitted. Comm. Barz moved that we accept the Treasurer's Report. Comm. Hansch seconded the move and it was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Barz, M. Mihalko & Hansch

ABSENT: Cobane, J. Mihalko

NAYS: None

**General Checking Account #7859643244**

**TD Bank**

Balance On Hand - September 30, 2013	<b>\$177,520.24</b>
October Checks	(\$81,598.21)

**Deposits for the Month of October 2013**

Mondelez Internationals	Permits & Fees	\$42.00
Mondelez International	Permits & Fees	\$497.00
Mondelez International	Permits & Fees	\$497.00
Memorial Junior School	Permits & Fees	\$42.00
Township of Hanover	4th Quarter District Taxes	\$150,000.00
Township of Hanover	Permits & Fees	\$42.00
Township of Hanover	Permits & Fees	\$42.00

**Balance on Hand, October 31, 2013**

**\$247,084.03**

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**TD Bank Money Market**

Balance on Hand October 31, 2013 **\$2,833.46**

**Payroll Checking Account # 7859643251****TD Bank**

Balance on Hand October 31, 2013 **\$747.75**

**Active Assets Account #615 108684 107****Morgan Stanley/Smith Barney**

Balance on Hand October 31, 2013 **\$816,250.62**

**Provident Bank**

Balance on Hand October 31, 2013 **\$167,964.92**

Checks Submitted This Month's Meeting **\$103,220.75**

**CHIEF'S / FIRE OFFICIAL REPORT and COMMENTS**

The following Chief's report was submitted for approval.

A motion to accept this report was made by Comm. M. Mihalko and seconded by Comm. Barz. It was passed by the following vote:

AYES: Barz, M. Mihalko & Hansch

ABSENT: Cobane, J. Mihalko

NAYS: None

**Supplies, Equipment, and Maintenance**

- Equipment was purchased from Firefighter One.
- Supplies were purchased from Home Depot.
- Office supplies were purchased from Staples.

**Apparatus**

- The rear in Unit 86 broke it is at Florham Park Transmission for repairs.
- Unit 85 is parked in the parking lot here at 434 so it can be easily plugged in due to the cold weather.

**Training**

- Training for the month of November we will be going to the fire academy on both the 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> the department is split into two groups, and also conducting a drill at the station on the same nights for those who are not at the academy.
- Drills for the month of October consisted of a ladder drill and ventilation drill. We also attended a training drill at the airport.

**Purchases**

- After evaluating the ladder drill last month that was conducted it was discussed among the officers and career staff that we replace the ladders on E83 and E82 due to the fact they are too heavy and awkward for the members to safely deploy. The ladder on E83 currently is a

35' fiberglass ladder that weighs 170 pounds. We are looking to replace this ladder with a 24' aluminum ladder that weighs 75 pounds. The ladder on E82 currently is a 24' fiberglass ladder that weighs 105 pounds. We are looking to replace this ladder with a 20' aluminum ladder that weighs 66 pounds. Total cost for these ladders will be approximately \$1500.00 from the manufacturer which is Alco Late Ladders.

### **Fire Prevention**

- (22) Inspections / re-inspections were conducted last month. We collected \$1,162.00 in permit fees.
- We conducted 8 fire prevention classes at the schools for 446 kids and 64 adults.

### **EMS**

- (31) Calls were answered last month and we assisted with 1 transport.

### **Fire**

- (52) Calls were answered last month.

### **Other Matters and Announcements**

- We assisted with the Bayer Ribbon Cutting Ceremony last month. The building should be finished by the end of November.
- There will have a personnel meeting tomorrow evening. We will be getting 4 new junior members.
- I held a joint meeting between the officers and career staff last week. We discussed training, equipment and other matters during this meeting.
- I spoke to Bob Cobane on Saturday and he mailed everything to the state on Saturday morning.
- I am in the process of filling out a grant request from Bayer to purchase a new Thermal imaging Camera to replace the one on Engine 83.
- 5 members completed the Swift Water Tech. class last month conducted by FF1.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

- Thank you note to Paul & Josh for training the school children. From Mrs. Proud – kindergarten.
- Thank you for the firemen's school training from Ms Frey – kindergarten.
- Thank you from Ms. Lisa Healy from Bee Meadow School for children's training.
- Thank you from 3 kindergarten classes at bee meadow for the Fire Safety classes.
- Ms. Laura Berlin - Lester Senior Housing Staff – a thank you to Paul for teaching Fire Safety class to the seniors on the first anniversary of Superstore Sandy. He covered, not only fire safety, but what to do in an emergency, having a safety plan, when to call 911, family backup, etc...

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Personnel:** 3 or 4 junior members joining.

**Building:** Chief fixed the thermostat.

**Apparatus:** Reviewing the contract. We passed along the information from KME – warranty info and insurance info to our attorney. We can't go after them for damages, but we can for loss of time. Engine has been out for quite a while now. But if we sue, he gets 30%. Or he could bill us hourly. Or the 3<sup>rd</sup> option is a combination of both. He was concerned that the engine was so old, but then he read where the warranty says 'lifetime'. Waiting for more information from him.

**Insurance:** Rates for next year haven't come yet. Will check emails for info from NJ Division of Pensions and Benefits.

**Dinner:** All good.

**First Aid:** It was reported that EMS responded to 31 calls this month, 1 transport.

## **FIRE COMPANY AND RELOCATION:**

Nothing at this time.

## **TOWNSHIP:**

George Coppola couldn't make this meeting and sent his regrets.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Nothing at this time.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Chief Reported: They did a training drill – Ladder Evolution. The ladder on 83 weighs 170 lbs and takes 3 men to lift down. He would like to get a 24' aluminum ladder weighing 75 lbs. Much easier for 2 people to move.

On 82, there is a 24' ladder that weighs 105 lbs. he'd like to replace that with a 24' aluminum ladder, weighing 66 lbs.

This would cut the risk of people getting hurt with these. We don't need it often, so losing 11" in height shouldn't be an issue. The brackets will fit the new ladders.

Joe Mihalko may be able to use the old ones.

Comm. Barz made a motion to accept the purchase of the new ladders for the 2 trucks. The motion was seconded by Comm. M. Mihalko and passed by the following vote;

M. Mihalko – AYE, Barz – AYE, Hansch – Aye.

ABSENT – J. Mihalko, & Cobane

The generator on #83 has a band-aid fix on it. To repair the on-board generator, we have 2 options:  
#1: replace all components, generator assembly, hydraulic lines, etc... It will have the same warranty as a new one. Cost - \$12,680.00

#2: Repair the existing generator - \$5,200.

Ron – what is the warranty on the repaired one?

Chief – Probably not much of a warranty.

Mike asked about the generator and Ron explained what it does. For convenience, you don't have to go outside and hook one up. When it works, you flick one switch and it lights the whole scene. He considers it a necessity.

The repair is half the cost of the replacement. The Chief recommended the repair because the truck is old. Mike had questions about the pricing.

A motion was made to get the generator fixed, but only after looking at a few other prices to repair it - And at the worst case scenario, paying the \$5,200 from First Priority. This motion was made by Comm. M. Mihalko and seconded by Comm. Barz. It passed by the following vote:

M. Mihalko – AYE, Barz – AYE, Hansch – Aye.

ABSENT – J. Mihalko, & Cobane

The Chief discussed getting prices for replacing Car 84. This will be the EMS car. It has to be purchased under government contract.

The price for the car with graphics – a 2014 Ford Expedition – was \$31,500 with no lights. We will reuse the existing cabinet from 84 on it. Lights and their installation and center console would be around \$7900. Chief will try to get more prices also. Around \$40,000 total.

This can tow a trailer and is \$3,500 cheaper than the Tahoe with No graphics on nit. Can tow 8900 lbs.

Should have other commissioners here for that – before we vote on it so tabled for now.

Do we have extra money to buy these without going into our savings?

Bayer will bill the lights and things next year if we need to show them in next year's budget instead. It's a SSV (Special Service Vehicle) – meant for Fire and police. This is the state contract price.

Water rescue – weekend class – 5 from Whippany attended.

Was supposed to be at the Boonton firehouse and ended up on the Delaware River. Very good course.

## **PUBLIC PART OF THE MEETING**

There were 2 members of the public in attendance.

FF Lori questioned whether people who have moved out of town should still be on our insurance rolls. He was told that at the end of the year, if people don't make 45% of calls, they are usually dropped. With some people, it's obvious, or they resign. With others, we won't know till the end of the year. This doesn't include leaves of absence.

## **BILLS**

Comm. Barz moved that the following bills be paid. The move was seconded by Comm. M. Mihalko and was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Barz, M. Mihalko & Hansch

ABSENT: Cobane, J. Mihalko

NAYS: None

10/01/2013	6189	Verizon Wireless	Utilities	-215.64
10/01/2013	6190	State of New Jersey - Division of Pension	Pension Expense	0.00
10/01/2013	6191	Whippany Fire Company	Other Rentals	-5,000.00
10/01/2013	6192	BP	Fuel Vouchers	-474.00
10/01/2013	6193	ACECO Industrial Packaging Co.	Operating Materials & Supplies	-128.40
10/01/2013	6194	First Priority Emergency Vehicles	Engine 83	-64.76
10/01/2013	6195	Hanover Sewerage Authority	Utilities	-110.06
10/01/2013	6196	Politi Auto Parts	Operating Materials & Supplies	-73.17
10/01/2013	eft	NJ Division of Pensions & Benefits	Medical Benefits	-7,713.71
10/01/2013	6197	Whippany Fire Company	Training and Education	-300.00
10/01/2013	6198	Batteries Plus	Batteries	-25.92
10/01/2013	6199	Firefighter One, LLC	Gear Cleaning	-61.00
10/01/2013	6200	Continental Fire & Safety	Operating Materials & Supplies	-235.54
10/01/2013	6201	Clean Air Company	Operating Materials & Supplies	-791.20
10/01/2013	6202	Verizon Wireless	Utilities	-114.03
10/07/2013	6203	State Line Fire & Safety, Inc.	Operating Materials & Supplies	-505.95
10/07/2013	6204	McNeil & Company	Insurance Premiums	-6,851.41
10/07/2013	6205	STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	Office Supplies	-39.99
10/07/2013	6206	Brunners Garage	#86	-433.50
10/07/2013	6207	J C P & L	Utilities	-38.78
10/07/2013	6208	Division of Fire Safety	Membership Dues & Subscriptions	-240.00
10/14/2013	6209	PSE&G	Utilities	-435.27
10/14/2013	6210	Liberty Mutual Insurance Group	Workers Compensation	-1,146.53
10/14/2013	6211	J C P & L	Utilities	-910.73
10/14/2013	6212	Fail Safe, Inc.	Hose	-2,365.65
10/14/2013	6213	ACE Com	Operating Materials & Supplies	-257.00
10/14/2013	6214	Police & Firemen's Insurance Association	Police & Fire Insurance	-452.72

10/14/2013	6215	Joseph Cortright	Operating Materials & Supplies	-29.85
10/15/2013	EFT	Board of Fire Commissioners	employee Payroll	-13,966.13
10/17/2013	6216	Absolute Fire Protection Co.	Operating Materials & Supplies	-97.77
10/17/2013	6217	Fail Safe, Inc.	Hose Uniforms and Personal Equipment	-160.65
10/21/2013	6218	About Me	Gear Cleaning	-108.00
10/21/2013	6219	Minerva Cleaners	Gear Cleaning	-473.50
10/21/2013	6220	Firefighter One, LLC	Operating Materials & Supplies	-219.80
10/21/2013	6221	Nestle Pure Life Direct	Water	-8.99
10/21/2013	6222	Robert Cobane	Wildwood	-886.00
10/21/2013	6223	Joseph Cortright	Wildwood	-599.00
10/21/2013	6224	William Dixon	Wildwood	-536.00
10/21/2013	6225	John V. Keena	Wildwood	-536.00
10/21/2013	6226	Anthony Lori	Wildwood	-636.00
10/21/2013	6227	Julie Mihalko	Wildwood	-250.00
10/21/2013	6228	Ken Schleifer	Wildwood	-599.00
10/21/2013	6229	William Wodynski	Wildwood	-636.00
10/21/2013	6230	Raymond Woytas	Wildwood	-636.00
10/25/2013	6231	Cablevision	Utilities	-242.82
10/25/2013	6232	US Bank Equipment Finance	Copy Machine lease	-255.00
10/25/2013	6233	Standard Insurance Co	Life Insurance	-1,736.50
10/25/2013	6234	Minerva Cleaners	Gear Cleaning	-416.00
10/25/2013	6235	Firefighter One, LLC	Operating Materials & Supplies	-232.28
10/25/2013	6236	Firefighter One, LLC	Operating Materials & Supplies	-2,161.00
10/25/2013	6237	PERS	Pension Expense	-10.13
10/25/2013	6238	PFRS	Pension Expense	-81.74
10/25/2013	6239	Township of Hanover	gasoline / diesel	-413.32
10/31/2013	6240	POSTMASTER	Office Supplies	-92.00
10/31/2013	6241	Morristown Medical Group	Medical	-1,690.00
10/31/2013	6242	BP	Fuel Vouchers	-678.50
10/31/2013	6243	Witmer Associates, Inc	Gloves	-78.77
10/31/2013	6244	Firefighter One, LLC	Training and Education	-1,625.00
10/31/2013	6245	Daily Record	Advertising	-50.08
10/31/2013	6246	Home Depot Credit Services	Operating Materials & Supplies	-43.07
10/31/2013	6247	Verizon Wireless	Utilities	-215.76
10/31/2013	6248	Verizon Wireless	Utilities	-114.03
10/31/2013	6249	Brunners Garage	Car 202	-647.10
10/31/2013	6250	Technical Fire Services, Inc	Pumps	-675.00
10/31/2013	6251	McNeil & Company	Insurance Premiums	-5,729.00
10/31/2013	eft	Board of Fire Commissioners	employee Payroll	-15,047.46
11/04/2013	eft	NJ Division of Pensions & Benefits	Medical Benefits	-7,713.71
11/04/2013	6252	John R. Woytas	Wildwood	-599.00
11/11/2013	6253	Fire Fighters Equipment Company Inc.	SCBA	-6,588.00
11/11/2013	6254	Parker Publications	Advertising	-12.09
11/11/2013	6255	Daily Record	Advertising	-44.88
11/11/2013	6256	New Jersey Labor Law Poster	Operating Materials & Supplies	-125.50
11/11/2013	6257	J C P & L	Utilities	-749.70
11/11/2013	6258	STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	Office Supplies	-130.47
11/11/2013	6259	PSE&G	Utilities	-424.00
11/11/2013	6260	Police & Firemen's Insurance Association	Police & Fire Insurance	-452.72

11/11/2013	6261	Liberty Mutual Insurance Group	Workers Compensation	-4,668.47
11/11/2013	6262	William Wodynski	Membership Dues & Subscriptions	-45.00
11/11/2013	6263	ACE Com	Operating Materials & Supplies	-69.00
				<u>-</u>
				103,220.75

8:50 At this time the Board went into Executive Session.  
Discussed EMS and personnel.

9:45 The Board came out of Executive Session.

At this time, Comm. Barz made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Comm. M. Mihalko and passed by the following vote;

AYES: Barz, M. Mihalko, & Hansch

ABSENT: Cobane & J. Mihalko

NAYS: None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45.

Respectfully submitted: Janet Gant Hammond, Board Assistant

## Notes from Executive Session: 11-11-13

8:50

Just a short discussion about the EMS program.

1. Training as an option.
2. How it's going to affect Cedar Knolls.
3. How many guys would want to do it – or wouldn't.

Mike Mihalko – We need a plan before we start throwing it out there to be misconstrued. Maybe we need to have a confidential executive discussion this week.

Ron – Our board should kick it around first and see where we want to go. Atlantic has to understand that we're looking at others also.

If we say to Cedar Knolls, - we want an ambulance running out of our side of town and is that feasible, they'll think we're stealing their glory and their money.

Mike – this past weekend, they had tons of calls.

Ron – perfect scenario – Atlantic takes over the whole thing and we have our own people and Cedar Knolls have theirs and we run 1 man.

Mike – Would like to see 1 rig on each side of town.

Ron – How many calls are refusals too?

Mike – We'd have to have the same type of agreement with East Hanover during the day.

Ron – Common sense would be – Let's break the EMS squad out of the Firehouse over there.

Mike – Hanover twp First Aid Squad - he's fine with painting CK on 1 and Whippany on the other but use 1 umbrella.

Ron – We'd only run 1 rig at a time anyway. To get 2 rigs with Atlantic, we'd need about 2000 calls.



Mike – The 5 Commissioners need to discuss where we want to end up. Then discuss this with Cedar Knolls with the proper people. How can we improve the service? Here's our idea – whattaya think?

We could even give them a few scenarios.

Chief – Maybe with an ambulance here, it would help with volunteers. Some EMS guys live over here. They have to drive over there to pick up the rig and then back here to answer a call on Beaumont Place.

Training should be the same across the board so every guy can ride on any call. They'd make money if there was more volume. Once we pay the per diems and VOver5time, you break even or lose money.

Decided to meet at Mihalko home on Nov 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 for a short EMS meeting.

Out of executive Session at 9:40.

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