

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING

September 9, 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, J. Mihalko, M. Mihalko, Cobane, & Hansch

Absent: None

Also Present: Chief Cortright, & George Coppola, liaison to the Township Committee

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. Cobane made a motion to accept last month's minutes. The move was seconded by Comm. J. Mihalko and it was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Barz, M. Mihalko, J. Mihalko, Cobane & Hansch

ABSENT: None

NAYS: None

TREASURER'S REPORT

The following Treasurer's report was submitted. Comm. Michael Mihalko also reported that money was transferred into our Provident bank account so we'll soon be writing checks out of that account also. Comm. J. Mihalko moved that we accept the Treasurer's Report. Comm. Cobane seconded the move and it was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Barz, M. Mihalko, J. Mihalko, Cobane & Hansch

ABSENT: None

NAYS: None

General Checking Account #7859643244

TD Bank

Balance On Hand - July 31, 2013	\$136,468.53
August Checks	(\$68,940.73)

Deposits for the Month of August 2013

Registration Fees	\$150.00
Verizon	Permits & Fees \$497.00
Whippany Athletic Club	Training Income \$270.00
Township of Hanover	District Taxes \$150,000.00
	4th qtr Uniform Fire Safety Act \$10,099.70
State of NJ	Uniform Fire Safety Act \$2,107.30
State of NJ	Refund - Advertising \$234.64
Gannett	Permits & Fees \$42.00
Dosch King	

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Balance on Hand, August 31, 2013 **\$231,922.44**

TD Bank Money Market

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

Payroll Checking Account # 7859643251

TD Bank

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

Active Assets Account #615 108684 107

Morgan Stanley/Smith Barney

Balance on Hand August 31, 2013 **\$815,379.10**

Provident Bank

Balance on Hand August 31, 2013 **\$200,050.00**

Checks Submitted This Month's Meeting **\$72,099.60**

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. Cobane and seconded by Comm. J. Mihalko. It was passed by the following vote:

AYES: Barz, M. Mihalko, J. Mihalko, Cobane & Hansch

ABSENT: None

NAYS: None

Supplies, Equipment, and Maintenance

- Supplies were purchased from Politi Auto Parts.
- Supplies were purchased from Florham Park Hardware.
- Equipment was purchased from Firefighter One.
- Supplies were purchased from Home Depot for the maintenance drills.
- Three helmets and shields were purchased from The FireStore.
- Office supplies were purchased from Staples.
- A Key Secure Box was purchased for the Rescue from the Knox Company.
- 300 sand bags were purchased to have on hand in stock.

Apparatus

- Vehicles 201, 84, and 85 were serviced at Brunner's Garage.
The shocks on 85 were replaced also at Brunner's Garage.

- I called Steve Cormier the legal counsel from KME regarding Engine 81. At this time I am waiting for a return call.

Training

- No training drills for the month of August.
- Training for the month of September will be Search and Rescue, Haz Mat at the Sewerage Authority and a RIC Drill.

Purchases

- We need to purchase fire prevention materials for the school kids. Helmets and activity books 500 each. Total will be approximately \$1,500.00 from Alert-All.

Fire Prevention

- (43) Inspections / re-inspections were conducted last month and \$84.00 dollars in permits were collected.

EMS

- (29) Calls were answered last month and we assisted with 3 transports.

Fire

- (44) Calls were answered last month.

Other Matters and Announcements

- Ben Willans and Anthony Cannillo completed the Junior Firefighting class at the Fire Academy. Ben passed I have not spoken to Anthony yet.
- On behalf of the members I would like to thank you for everything you did for us on Inspection Day and the Boonton Parade. The members put in a lot of hours cleaning the apparatus, equipment and station in preparation for the day.
- Hanover Township Day took place on Saturday September 7, 2013. We had some giveaways for the residents and kids.
- I made contact to a State Trooper who handles the distribution of money for Hazard Mitigation regarding the relocation of the firehouse. I was put in touch with them from Sandy Oliver from Bayer who we met with a few months ago. I still have not heard anything from the State Trooper as of today. I followed up with him last week.
- Bayer is starting to occupy the second building this week and should have it completely occupied by the end of September.
- On October 16th Bayer will be having their Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.
- There will be a brief personnel meeting tomorrow evening. We have one member Harrison Bamdas going from a junior to probationary membership.
- This weekend is the convention in Wildwood. As in the past years we will be doing a triple dispatch with Cedar Knolls and Morris Plains beginning Thursday at noon till Sunday at noon.
- All three engines were pump tested today and hose testing will be on Monday the 23rd.
- We had 2 fires during the month of August both were extinguished with minimal property damage.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Thank you letter from the resident of Highland Avenue for our response to the treadmill fire at his residence. It was accompanied by a check for \$300.00.
- NJ State Association of Fire Districts – minutes distributed to all commissioners
- Bayer – Invitation to their grand opening on October 16th at 9:45 a.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel: Harrison Bamdas moving from junior member to Probie. Also, Michael Cowley has moved out of town and submitted his resignation as captain.

Building: Julie will contact Bob Krygoski about inspecting 434 Route 10.

Apparatus: Engine still broken. Cars were serviced this month. Giving KME a week to respond – also seeing them at Wildwood.

Insurance: Comm. Barz – suggested that when our 3 year commitment on our personal injury policy is up, we may want to take another look at the Police & Fire policy that we dropped. Mike responded that right now, our current policy pays more but only covers the guys while on duty. Chad's pays less but it's 24/7 coverage. Certainly worth looking into again.

Dinner: All good.

First Aid: It was reported that EMS responded to 29 calls this month, 3 transports.

At this time, Commissioner Barz presented Fire Inspector Ian Bell with an EMS commendation for saving a person's life by doing CPR on July 9th.

The Board and public applauded Firefighter Bell, and thanked him for his service.

Mr. Bell then thanked the Board for training the guys so well so they can go out and save lives.

FIRE COMPANY AND RELOCATION:

President Fred Brunner asked permission to use an apparatus for the annual fund drive in October. He also reported that the relocation committee met with the architect and everything is moving along nicely.

TOWNSHIP:

George Coppola reported the following:

10-16 – Grand opening for Bayer Corporation.

Sidewalk by Quik check was in bad condition. They have since installed a fence so it's not such a hazard.

Voting for turf fields at the High School takes place on Sept. 24th from 2-9 p.m.

10-16 – There is a general election

11-5 – There is another election

George said he hadn't heard anything about a rumor of Mt. Pleasant Avenue going straight out of the Pine Plaza parking lot. He also said there is no news of a road going in behind PC Richards as another exit for Bayer.

Loews & Shop-Rite moving along nicely and Shop-Rite will open on November 4th.

OLD BUSINESS

Bayer – river cleanup – They postponed it till Monday, October 7th. They will be almost fully occupied by then, except for the front atrium.

They are offering some nice furniture – Sandy Oliver is the contact person.

NEW BUSINESS

*A motion was made to purchase kids supplies for the coming year. The motion was made by Comm. Barz and seconded by Comm. J. Mihalko. It passed by the following vote;

AYES: Barz, M. Mihalko, J. Mihalko, Cobane & Hansch

ABSENT: None

NAYS: None

*A motion was made to allow the Fire Company use of an apparatus during their Fund Drive on October 6th. That motion was made by Comm. Barz and seconded by Comm. J. Mihalko. It was passed by the following vote:

AYES: Barz, M. Mihalko, J. Mihalko, Cobane & Hansch

ABSENT: None

NAYS: None

There is a new Officer needed, as Captain Cowley has resigned from the position. Fred brunner said that the replacement will be determined. Capt. Cowley is still an exempt member of the company.

PUBLIC PART OF THE MEETING

Nothing at this time.

There were 4 members of the public in attendance.

BILLS

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

AYES: Barz, M. Mihalko, J. Mihalko, Cobane & Hansch

ABSENT: None

NAYS: None

08/01/2013	6118	Politi Auto Parts	Operating Materials & Supplies	-14.60
08/12/2013	6119	Brunners Garage	Car 201	-127.25
08/12/2013	6120	J C P & L	Utilities	-2,234.16
08/12/2013	6121	Fire Fighters Equipment Company Inc.	SCBA	-106.09
08/12/2013	6122	Verizon Wireless	Utilities	-114.03
08/12/2013	6123	Home Depot Credit Services	Operating Materials & Supplies	-105.23
08/12/2013	6124	Morristown Medical Group	Medical	-875.00
08/12/2013	6125	Minerva Cleaners	Gear Cleaning	-1,048.50
08/12/2013	6126	Witmer Associates, Inc	Helmets	-53.00
08/12/2013	6127	Liberty Mutual Insurance Group	Workers Compensation	-8,336.85
08/12/2013	6128	Nestle Pure Life Direct	Water	-17.98
08/12/2013	eft	State of New Jersey - Division of Pension	Medical Benefits	-7,713.71
08/14/2013	6129	First Priority Emergency Vehicles	Engine 83	-1,297.50
08/14/2013	6130	POSTMASTER	Office Supplies	-92.00
08/14/2013	6131	Rios' Engraving	Engraving	-20.00
08/15/2013	eft	Board of Fire Commissioners	Employee Payroll	14,040.03
08/19/2013	6132	Brunners Garage	repairs & Maintenance	-825.76
08/19/2013	6133	Batteries Plus	Batteries	-78.95
08/19/2013	6134	Lifesavers, Inc.	Training Income	-228.12
08/22/2013	6135	PSE&G	Utilities	-440.54
08/22/2013	6136	Standard Insurance Co	Life Insurance	-1,751.50
08/22/2013	6137	Knox Company	Special Services-80	-636.00
08/22/2013	6138	Election Graphics, Inc.	Elections	-375.00
08/22/2013	6139	Township of Hanover	diesel / gas	-492.63
08/22/2013	6140	Cooper Electric Supply	Engine 83	-84.58
08/22/2013	6141	Police & Firemen's Insurance Association	Police & Fire Insurance	-452.72
08/22/2013	6142	Joseph Cortright	Operating Materials & Supplies	-72.77
08/22/2013	6143	Morris County Public Safety Training Acad	training & Education	-900.00
08/22/2013	6144	State of New Jersey	Workers Compensation	-7.50
08/22/2013	6145	Witmer Associates, Inc	Helmets	-693.73
08/27/2013	6146	Township of Hanover	Gasoline	-432.01
08/27/2013	6147	Batteries Plus	Batteries	-102.14
08/27/2013	6148	Firefighter One, LLC	Operating Materials & Supplies	-123.06
08/27/2013	6149	US Bank Equipment Finance	Copy Machine lease	-255.00
08/27/2013	6150	Firefighter One, LLC	Operating Materials & Supplies	-20.00
08/27/2013	6151	Cablevision	Utilities	-242.82
08/27/2013	6152	Verizon Wireless	Utilities	-215.64

08/27/2013	6153	Bloomington Cornet Band	Promotion	-1,100.00
08/30/2013	6154	Lifesavers, Inc.	Training Income	-211.50
08/30/2013	6155	Coffee Lovers	Coffee	-241.15
08/30/2013	6156	BP	Fuel Vouchers	-496.00
08/30/2013		NJ Division of Pensions & Benefits	Medical Benefits	-7,713.71
08/30/2013	6157	Batteries Plus	Batteries	-39.98
08/30/2013	6158	Verizon Wireless	Utilities	-114.09
08/30/2013	6159	Home Depot Credit Services	Operating Materials & Supplies	-304.65
08/30/2013	eft	Board of Fire Commissioners	Employee Payroll	14,093.25
09/04/2013	6160	Firefighter One, LLC	Operating Materials & Supplies	-117.80
09/04/2013	6161	Politi Auto Parts	Operating Materials & Supplies	-74.88
09/04/2013	6162	Batteries Plus	Batteries	-39.98
09/04/2013	6163	Tom Rebyak	Operating Materials & Supplies	-368.08
09/09/2013	6164	Witmer Associates, Inc	Helmets	-444.24
09/09/2013	6165	Florham Park Hardware	Operating Materials & Supplies	-143.17
09/09/2013	6166	STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	Office Supplies	-231.49
09/09/2013	6167	Township of Hanover	Diesel	-207.37
09/09/2013	6168	PSE&G	Utilities	-424.00
09/09/2013	6169	J C P & L	Utilities	-970.05
09/09/2013	6170	Cooper Electric Supply	Engine 83	-84.58
09/09/2013	6171	Nestle Pure Life Direct	Water	-53.23
				-
				72,099.60

7:20 At this time the Board went into Executive Session.
Discussed EMS and personnel.

8:55 - The Board came out of Executive Session. At this time, Comm. J. Mihalko made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Comm. Barz and passed by the following vote;
AYES: Barz, M. Mihalko, J. Mihalko, Cobane & Hansch
ABSENT: None
NAYS: None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00.

Respectfully submitted: Janet Gant Hammond, Board Assistant

Notes from Executive Session:

Ron Barz reported on the EMS situation. Atlantic was supposed to get him prices, but hasn't yet.

For 24/7 – with an ambulance here – approximately \$90,000. All holidays covered also. Scenarios were varied – 12 hours at night and no days. Or Vice Versa.

If we supply an EMT – there is a licensing issue.

Guy told Ron that it will be much cheaper if he runs the ambulance from another town and covers ours also.

Ron responded that there was no benefit to that. It's where we are now. To pay \$90,000 to run our own ambulance just to spite someone doesn't make sense.

Mike Mihalko – Would we bill? Or would they?

Barz – That price is for us doing NOTHING. Just a payroll number. We run 2.2 calls per day average now. It's not enough for them to keep an ambulance here.

Cobane – Say it's \$500 if they bill. Does that come off the \$90,000?

Barz – I don't think so, And, we'd have to subsidize them. If they need 4 calls / day and we have 2.5, we'd have to pay for the other anyway.

Hansch – How hard would it be for us to do it ourselves?

Barz – Some that we have just trained have left already. It's about a 2 year process to get licensed.

First, we should become a volunteer ambulance squad and then a paid ambulance.

We have to have the ambulance inspected but we can start with a glorified van and go from there.

Then get a billing company and we pay them 8%.

If we run ALS (Advanced Life Support), they do all the paperwork and we just get their check.

Someone who runs it would have to be really into it.

Mike – If all these new units are going into our town – we'd almost have to have coverage. The new firehouse will have room for it.

Barz – Maybe if we double our calls in a year or 2, we could add the \$90,000 to our budget and know we're covered. Let's see when the numbers come in.

Also, we go on BS calls for the Fire Dept – We waste gas and driving is a safety concern. Like the repeat calls to the Morris County mall this month. They don't need to blow out 2 Fire Companies for those. It should be just an officer.

Hansch – If we do this, could we hire one of our own guys that WE trained to come back and do this?

Barz – Sure. Don't know if this would be worth it to us, though. Have to ask them if the \$90,000 is a total figure or does billing knock it down. It may be a more reasonable figure.

If the Fire Company gets in trouble – over their head – and they come to us for subsidizing, and there's a budget freeze.... Lots of scenarios we don't want to be in.

Hansch – But if we were billing – we could be making money at this.

There would be lots of paperwork and doublechecking.

Ian would be logical choice to head it up.

It would be at least 2 years before we could 'make' money that we could use. We'd have to get through 2 years of costs first.

We can get a used ambulance – the van type.

Running a volunteer ambulance would be practical to show the state before we apply for licensing.

Mike – We would then have to talk to Cedar Knolls and tell them about the need with all the new housing.

12-9 is the next Fire Prevention Meeting at 6:30 – before our meeting.

Executive session ended at 8:55.

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