

**MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING**

**July 11th, 2011**

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: Barz, Cobane, J Mihalko, & Hansch

Absent: M. Mihalko

Also Present: Chief Cortright & Township Committee Liaison George Coppola

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. J. 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, Cobane, J Mihalko, & Hansch

NAYS: None

ABSENT: M. Mihalko

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

AYES: Barz, Cobane, J Mihalko, & Hansch

NAYS: None

ABSENT: M. Mihalko

**General Checking Account #7859643244**

**TD Bank**

Balance On Hand - May 31, 2011	<b>\$222,536.06</b>
June checks	(\$53,102.42)

**Deposits for the Month of June 2011**

Township of Hanover	Permits & Fees	\$539.00
Cadbury	Permits & Fees	\$42.00
Cadbury	Permits & Fees	\$42.00

**Balance on Hand, June 30, 2011** **\$170,056.64**

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## **TD Bank Money Market**

Balance on Hand April 30, 2011

**\$2,826.14**

## **Payroll Checking Account # 7859643251**

### **TD Bank**

Balance on Hand April 30, 2011

**\$747.12**

## **Active Assets Account #615 108684 107**

### **Morgan Stanley/Smith Barney**

Balance on Hand April 30, 2011

**\$705,751.53**

Checks Submitted This Month's Meeting

\$67,129.55

## **CHIEF'S / FIRE OFFICIAL REPORT**

### Supplies, Equipment, and Maintenance

- Office supplies were purchased from Staples.
- Supplies were purchased from The FireStore.com
- Supplies were purchased from FireFighter One.
- Fail Safe Inc. preformed the yearly testing of our hose. A couple of lengths failed and were sent to Fire Fighters for repairs.
- American Test Center tested our ladders. The 35' extension ladder was taken out of service for needed repairs. Parts have been ordered and repairs will soon be made.

### Apparatus

- I am working with Bob Newell to see how to repair the area around the plaque on Engine 81.

### Training

- Training for July will be on the :
  - 19<sup>th</sup> Fire Academy with Cedar Knolls.
  - 26<sup>th</sup>

### Purchases

- No requests at this time.

### Fire Prevention

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

### EMS

- (59) calls were answered last month.

### Fire

- (33) calls were answered last month.

### Other Matters and Announcements

- Four plan reviews were completed.
- The Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Legion took place last month and there were no problems.
- Chief Davidson, Tom Quirk and I met with Sean Donlon to review the towns Spec Committee. Attached is a copy of a Memo that we put together and distributed at the HT Fire Prevention Meeting.

- The equipment that was approved at last month's meeting was ordered and some of it has been received.
- Another meeting was held on June 27<sup>th</sup> between the town and the County regarding the feasibility of the town moving the communication up to the County Communication Center. Committeeman Copolla and Joe Giorgio will be meeting with Chief Gallagher to discuss issues that he has. The town will hopefully be putting this topic on the agenda for the Council meeting on July 14<sup>th</sup> for a vote, to decide how the town is going to proceed.
- On Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup> we participated in a Haz Mat drill in East Hanover at Gividaun.
- The Morristown and Erie Railroad will be replacing the rail crossing on South Jefferson Road. The tentative schedule for the construction and road closing will be July 20<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>.
- The water authority has begun the water main replacement on Troy Hills Road.

A motion was made to accept the above Chief's /Fire Officials report and act on any approvals at the necessary time later in the meeting. This motion was made by Comm. J. Mihalko and was seconded by Comm. Hansch. It was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Barz, Cobane, J Mihalko, & Hansch

NAYS: None

ABSENT: M. Mihalko

### **CHIEF'S UPDATE:**

- Labor Day is coming up. Do the Commissioners want to do the same as they've always done for that? Sandwiches and things.

Everything else was discussed at the pre-meeting.

A motion was made to accept the above Chief's update. This motion was made by Comm. Cobane and was seconded by Comm. Barz. It was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Barz, Cobane, J Mihalko, & Hansch

NAYS: None

ABSENT: M. Mihalko

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

- Thank you for the Haz Mat drill we had on June 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Letter from Duracell – they are providing us with \$100 worth of AA & AAA batteries from a Fire Safety project that they worked on.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Personnel:** Working on contracts – we'll have some information in the next few weeks for the guys.

**Building:** We think AC is working. 79 right now.

**Apparatus:** Engine 81 having some troubles with CAF system. Need to get an estimate.

**Insurance:** Nothing at this time

**Dinner:** Nothing at this time.

**Mementos:** Nothing at this time.

**First Aid / District #3:** Comm. Barz reported that EMS responded to 59 calls this month. Today was opening day for Cedar Knolls' new program. And how that affects us – you guys no longer answer calls in district 3. We would still like you to answer calls in our district. If you're there first, stabilize the victim and be in control. Do whatever you can to help the situation. But you don't ride, you don't do paperwork, and when MICU shows up, you back off and go about your business. It's not your job – they're getting paid to do it. Even lifting – if they need help – help them. But don't jeopardize your back if their people are on the scene.

Is there a breakdown as to what our district is and what is Cedar Knolls' district?

It's in the computer.

Lori – article in the paper says they're going to accept what the insurance company pays. If you don't have insurance, they're not going to charge you.

Ron - Under state laws, they have to back bill. Every ambulance squad around here has a base price – from \$350 to \$750. They have to establish a base price before they can say they'll accept anything. They can't make money only accepting \$100 per call.

Henry asked the guys how it went today.

Ron – Whatever you have to do to help the citizens in our district is what you do. Don't get involved in all the other stuff.

Chief Cortright came up with a scenario where District 3 may call for our help at 4:30 in the afternoon. What do our guys answer?

Ron answered that they go and they help the citizens foremost, but that we should be paid for that call. They can't say they don't want our help and then ask for it and expect not to pay. But we'll work that all out. The important thing is the citizens.

Ron - It's never been kicked around at a Bureau meeting because they were adamant about not needing our help.

### **LIASIONS:**

**Township:** Henry – Had a Fire Prevention Bureau meeting last week. Discussed merging the 2 departments and saving costs. Harrington is looking into how much it'll cost to get a study done. There are a bunch of different options. We also talked about County Dispatch.

George Coppola reported:

Thank you to the fire company for the fireworks and especially for protecting the people coming out.

Lucent site – Still looking to get a decision from Bayer. Lots of rumors going around but nothing has been established yet.

Road repairs coming up. Bee Meadow – August or September.

Two Kids show in August at Birchwood on August 6<sup>th</sup>.

County Com Center finalizing some information this week. He has information from all the chiefs and from the county and they will look at everything and see how they can help us. They will be talking with Silvio, Mr. Giorgio and myself.

Long term is that whether we decide to go or not, eventually we're going to have to pay for it.

The facility is built and it will end up coming out of County taxes.

They're getting input from other chiefs to see how it's working out. Obviously it's new and there will be bugs to work out. 20 years ago we had fire trucks with no roof and the guys hung off the back. These are all changes and especially with this economy, we have to look at a lot of things. If it saves money – we have to look at it.

Henry – We had been discussing that if we do decide to go to County Dispatch, the original outlay of \$150,000 – \$160,000 per department - we'd like to roll that in under the cost of the town. But Giorgio said we may not be able to do that because we're 2 different entities.

George – It would have to go into your own budget.

Chief – How about using the Fire Prevention Bureau? We'd be the first fire dpt. The rest are Municipal governments.

George – We're looking into everything.

Henry – That's a big cost.

Ron – After Fire Prevention meeting, we would like George to see if the town would pay for a feasibility study for the 2 departments. We're looking for some financial help.

George will look into it.

## **FIRE COMPANY / RELOCATION PART OF THE MEETING**

Fred Brunner – Sub-committee met with Sam, attorneys, and the mayor twice over the last 2 months. Changes were made to the agreement and it was drawn up by Mr. Applebaum, Sam's attorney. Arnold looked at it and reviewed it. It was sent back to Applebaum on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June. And we are still waiting to hear.

Are we passed the bid period? Not sure. Fred is under the assumption that if we don't get started within the next month, then we're looking at next spring.

Without the agreement, we can't get the financing. Without the financing, we can't award the bid, and if we can't award the bid, we can't get started.

Sam has 30 days from the signing of the agreement to get the site work done.

But apparently his attorney Applebaum was on vacation for 3 weeks and that's the cause of the delay right now.

Ron – Will cost a lot more money if we have to start over again.

Fred - We have one other avenue we're looking into but winter weather will hold us back. We have a leaky roof here. We've come this far – do we just walk away or wait another week, which will turn into another week and another?

Ron – We have too much money in it now – we just wait and see.

Fred – exactly – That's the plan for now. I speak with Mr. George every Friday afternoon.

My personal feeling is that we're probably going to have to rebid – at another \$20,000 – and another 3 months. Still looking at next spring.

Best case scenario is the agreement gets signed and Sam starts the beginnings of the site work.

Tom Braviak – It will be up to the contractor whether he wants to still do this. We can still offer it to him when we ever get a signed document. But he might say No – now I can't do this – you held me up for 4 months and now it costs too much. Then we're at rebid. That's more money. Contractor wants to have a time frame and we can't give him that right now.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Table the conversation about the arson class.

Arson class starts September 20<sup>th</sup> or so.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Labor Day – do we provide food for Inspection Day like we've done in the past? Also, the use of the trucks for the parade.

Comm. Barz made a motion that we provide the food as we've done in the past for this occasion and allow the apparatus to participate. The motion was seconded by Comm. Cobane and passed by the following vote:

AYES: Barz, Cobane, J Mihalko, & Hansch

NAYS: None

ABSENT: M. Mihalko

Julie mentioned the band. We'll hear from them in the next couple of weeks.

We need a motion to allow the trucks to participate in the Two Kids Foundation event. A motion was made by Comm. Hansch. The motion was seconded by Comm. J. Mihalko and passed by the following vote:

AYES: Barz, Cobane, J Mihalko, & Hansch

NAYS: None

ABSENT: M. Mihalko

George said the town is trying to work with Sam too. Wants to get place cleaned up – it looks worse now than before. So we're not alone in this.

## **PUBLIC PART OF THE MEETING**

T. Braviak - As far as First Aid, he agrees with Ron – that the public has to be taken care of first. Even though he lives on this side of town, he may be up at Malapardis Park and need help and would hate to think that anyone was sitting here waiting because it's not their side of town.

Person who needs the help should be the top priority.

Barz – We wouldn't have changed a thing if they hadn't said they didn't want us on their side of town.

Braviak – police don't want good Samaritans stopping on the side of the road either, but people do it because they feel they have to. If you feel you can help, you should help.

Ron agreed with him. It won't be a problem – just another thing to be ironed out at the end, that's all.

There were 9 members of the public present.

## **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, Cobane, J Mihalko, & Hansch

NAYS: None

ABSENT: M. Mihalko

06/06/2011	4903	Politi Auto Parts	Other	-120.33
06/06/2011	4904	Police & Firemen's Insurance Association	Police & Fire Insurance	-216.29

06/06/2011	4905	PSE&G	Utilities	-561.00
06/06/2011	4906	VM Associates, Inc.	Professional Services	-5,200.00
06/08/2011	4907	Verizon Wireless	Utilities	-443.13
06/08/2011	4908	STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	Office Supplies	-122.73
06/08/2011	4909	Finish Line Car Wash	Car Washes	-29.00
06/08/2011	4910	Minerva Cleaners	Gear Cleaning	-602.50
06/13/2011	4911	State of New Jersey	Pension Expense	-26.21
06/13/2011	4912	Liberty Mutual Insurance Group	Workers Compensation	-2,999.00
06/13/2011	4913	Cain & Sons Fire Equipment Inc	Operating Materials & Supplies	0.00
06/13/2011	4914	PSE&G	Utilities	-10.52
06/13/2011	4915	Batteries Plus	Batteries	-69.67
06/13/2011	4916	Witmer Associates, Inc	Gloves	-229.80
06/13/2011	4917	J C P & L	Utilities	-1,085.34
06/13/2011	4918	J C P & L	Utilities	-102.22
06/13/2011	eft	Board of Fire Commissioners	Employee Payroll	15,495.32
06/13/2011	4919	Board of Fire Commissioners	Diesel	0.00
06/13/2011	4920	Township of Hanover	Diesel	-541.76
06/20/2011	4921	Horizon Blue Cross & Blue Shield of NJ	Dental	-447.30
06/20/2011	4922	Standard Insurance Co	Life Insurance	-1,570.40
06/20/2011	4923	Office Equipment Finance Services	Copy Machine lease	-255.00
06/20/2011	4924	Township of Hanover	Gasoline	0.00
06/20/2011	4925	Township of Hanover	Gasoline	-680.69
06/23/2011	eft	PERS	Pension Expense	-1,465.82
06/23/2011	eft	PFRS	Pension Expense	-4,717.50
06/23/2011	4926	Morris County Public Safety Training Acad	Training and Education	-275.00
06/23/2011	4927	SMCMUA	Utilities	-17.52
06/23/2011	4928	Witmer Associates, Inc	Operating Materials & Supplies	-356.43
06/27/2011	4929	Firefighter One, LLC	Meters	-207.40
06/30/2011	eft	Board of Fire Commissioners	payroll	<u>15,254.54</u>
				-
				53,102.42

Comm. J. Mihalko made a motion to .adjourn. It was seconded by Comm. Cobane and passed by the following vote:

AYES: Barz, Cobane, J Mihalko, & Hansch

NAYS: None

ABSENT: M. Mihalko

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Gant-Hammond, Board Assistant