

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING

May 14th, 2012

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

Absent: None

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. Cobane and it was carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

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

NAYS: None

General Checking Account #7859643244

TD Bank

Balance On Hand - March 31, 2012	\$193,833.18
April Checks	(\$113,621.72)
State of NJ Pension expense	(\$88.75)

Deposits for the Month of April 2012

Registration Fees	Reg Fees	\$1,550.00
Township of Hanover	FEMA Reimbursement	\$4,075.12
Police & Fire Insurance	Refund	\$223.72
JP Morgan	Permits & Fees	\$497.00
One Source communications	Permits & Fees	\$42.00
Interest - March	TD Bank	\$7.67
Interest - April	TD Bank	\$10.48

Balance on Hand, April 30, 2012

\$86,528.70

TD Bank Money Market

Balance on Hand April 30, 2012

\$2,829.36

Payroll Checking Account # 7859643251

TD Bank

Balance on Hand April 30, 2012

\$747.96

Active Assets Account #615 108684 107

Morgan Stanley/Smith Barney

Balance on Hand April 30, 2012

\$685,690.60

Checks Submitted This Month's Meeting

\$122,012.59

CHIEF'S / FIRE OFFICIAL REPORT

Supplies, Equipment, and Maintenance

- The Hurst equipment was repaired and serviced by State Line Fire and Safety.
- Office supplies were purchased from Staples.
- Supplies were purchased from Politi Auto Parts.

Apparatus

- Unit 86 had the muffler and tail pipe replaced at Brunner's.

Training

- Training for the month of May will consist of water rescue and also we are going to the fire academy.
- Training topics for the month of April were:
 - Vehicle Extrication
 - Ropes and Knots

Purchases

- No purchase requests for this month.

Fire Prevention

- (54) inspections / re-inspections were conducted last month and \$539.00 dollars in permits were collected.

EMS

- (26) calls were answered last month and we made 1 transport.

Fire

- (24) calls and drills were answered last month.

Other Matters and Announcements

- On behalf of the members I would like to say thank you for the barbeque that you hosted last month after one of training drills.
- You are probably aware by this time that the Whippany Rd. Bridge at Rt. 10 has been shut down completely. This will speed up the completion by about 3 months. This project should be down around October.
- Demolition on the Lucent property is in full swing more than half of the buildings are down now and they started to take the upper floor off of the "A" so they can make it a 5 story building. I

have met briefly with the company that is doing most of the work at this time and we will have a more formal meeting in the next week or two. I asked them if it would be ok for one of our inspectors do a weekly visit to the site to get updates and they did not have a problem with that.

- I would like to recommend that we disconnect and remove the sirens from Bee Meadow pool and Salem Drive. The Salem Drive siren has been shut down since the October storm due to the wires coming down. This happens during almost every storm. The Bee Meadow siren at this time is disconnected because it went off for no reason and was stuck in the on position.
- I have completed the Dale Carnegie course this past week and I wanted to say thank you for sending me to it.
- Ian is half way through his Arson class.
- Brian Kelly has signed up to take an EMT course beginning the end of May and finishing up in late August.
- This year's firework display will be on Monday July 2nd with the rain date of Thursday July 5th.
- Sunday May 20th is the fishing contest from 1pm-3pm at Bee Meadow.
- The Rotary Club will be hosting its 21st Annual Duck Race on Saturday June 2nd at Malapardis Park and has asked for the fire department's assistance again this year.
- Care One is officially open and has patients. I attended there open house on Friday May 4th.
- Our radio license has been submitted to the FCC to be narrow banded. Chief's Davidson, Gallagher and I will be meeting this week to discuss what will have to be updated at the dispatch center in the police department.
- We have a new probationary member Ricky Ziccarello he is Tom Ziccarello nephew's son.

A motion was made to accept the above Chief's Report. This motion was made by Comm. M. Mihalko and was seconded by Comm. J. Mihalko. It was carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None

COMMUNICATIONS

- Letter from the Brueche family thanking us for the call we went on.
- A thank you by way of homemade Brownies was dropped off for rescuing ducks from a sewer drain.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel: New member – R. Ziccarello – joining tonight as a probie.

Building: Julie eradicated bugs with bombs.

Apparatus: Nothing at this time.

Insurance: Nothing at this time.

Dinner: Nothing at this time.

First Aid: It was reported that EMS responded to 26 calls this month, and 1 transportation.

LIASIONS:

Cedar Knolls: Ron reported: We're working with them. There is a joint meeting on June 14th to discuss the pros and cons of a merger. Mr. Braslow will be there and we can discuss it some more.

Town: George said that there is a lot of construction going on and then updated us on the different projects.

FIRE COMPANY AND RELOCATION PART OF THE MEETING:

The Fire Company requested use of the apparatus for the Rotary Duck race. A motion was made to approve this request by Comm. Cobane. It was seconded by Comm. J. Mihalko and passed by the following vote:

AYES: M. Mihalko, Barz, J. Mihalko, Cobane, Hansch
NAYS: None

OLD BUSINESS

The 200 Club Dinner was a success and they did an excellent job.

NEW BUSINESS

There are 3 sirens in town now – Firehouse, Bee Meadow and Salem Drive. A discussion took place on whether they were worth keeping or not.

After the discussion a motion was made by Comm. J. Mihalko that we keep the firehouse siren and get rid of the other two. We will donate 1 or both of the sirens to the Train Museum, and would like them to dismantle them. We need to call the power company first to disconnect. This motion was seconded by Comm. Hansch and passed by the following vote;

AYES: M. Mihalko, Barz, J. Mihalko, Cobane, Hansch
NAYS: None

This year's 50/50 – we will split the money with Cedar Knolls. All the guys sell tickets,

PUBLIC PART OF THE MEETING

Firefighter Wodynski – (referring to Kramer report) – I would investigate some of the places he investigated. Some things he presented are not safe. Two people at a fire can't do much. You need 2 according to the rules of the state.
He should have tried other towns around here for comparison.

Henry Winters – He also should have checked into what's legal here in our state.

Wodynski – Keyser spins his web the way he wants to be heard. We need to get the message out there to the public too. Tell them how it could mean a large cost increase. Kramer compared us to East Hanover. Part of what's wrong with them is change.
We could turn off the volunteers and be like Morristown with 32 paid men. Then we're a taker, not a giver, like Morristown. No one wants to go there anymore.

George Coppola - When you paid Kramer, does that mean we accept what's in his report? If you have questions about the data, why did you pay him? It seems like a lot didn't fit. The public thinks we just come together and that's it. According to Kramer, once he thinks volunteerism is going down – he's going to be for a paid department.

Wodynski – Carter added what we'd like to see – it went into his report. What about Whippany's First Aid report?

Hansch - Is there a First Aid report? I've heard of it, but never seen it.

Cobane – It said that we should set it up as an Authority, like the Sewer, etc... Whippany has more people so they should get more board members. Well, that was the end of that.
They met at town hall.

Henry Winters – I thought this would be a survey about how to cut costs and save money by combining. It looks like everything would go up.

Hansch – The cost savings he showed were questionable. He can argue for them and we can argue against them – how it's not saving us anything.

Winters – You thought he was hired to show how to save money. The other side of town is looking at it for an entirely different reason.

J. Mihalko – He just talks about spending money – not saving money.

M. Mihalko – (to George): What is the town's perspective?

George – If you're not satisfied with Kramer's report, why did you pay for it?

Mike Mihalko – It's not that we're not satisfied. There are just a lot of inequities in it.

George - The residents are being vocal. They will do it for you. Some people are truly interested in what was said. The consultant painted a rosy picture for doing this.

J. Mihalko - At what cost?

George – Looking at equipment.

Wodynski – We work together now. We've also invested ¼ million dollars in the plans for going ahead with this firehouse. They are charging for the use of the ambulance and it still doesn't show up yet. Our side has the motivation now. If you take away our motivation, you're looking at a paid department, which will cost millions of dollars or more.

George – The township has no perspective either way. It's not a committee issue yet and it has never come up yet.

Hansch – If they go through with a petition and it's in front of the council, what would you do?

George – I have no clue how it would be addressed. It has never come up yet. It's just like the School Board – it's their decision. I hope it doesn't go to petition.

Hansch – If it goes to petition, it's a Lose-Lose for everyone.

Wodynski - Most townspeople are happy with the service. No one will vote unless their dissatisfied. That one guy – how does he know we're not 24/7. You know how.

Hansch – Our guys hear that people think its 24/7 too.

Wodynski – It was brought up in Wildwood. A lawyer said that most people are happy with services. Unless someone is campaigning – people don't vote.

Hansch – Sometimes there are rattlers who go out and get everyone to vote.

Henry Winters – Sometimes those people put misinformation out there.

Mihalko – This study was pushed on us by Cedar Knolls.

Henry Winters – They never mention cutting their budget.

Mike Mihalko – More people from Whippany should say that.

Henry Winters – We haven't bonded a truck since 1975. We do lots of good stuff down here and have kept costs low. We need to start talking about it more with Whippany residents.

Wodynski - They have \$90,000 for that truck still sitting in their budget.

George – You can transfer current expenses into capital but can't transfer capital into current expenses.

There were 4 members of the public present.

BILLS

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

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

NAYS: None

04/02/2012	5451	Verizon Wireless	Utilities	-456.34
04/02/2012	5452	State of New Jersey - Division of Pension	Pension Expense	-33.09
04/02/2012	5453	Office Scapes	Operating Materials & Supplies	-68.00
04/02/2012	5454	Gen-el Safety & Industrial Products	Haz-Mat	-2,803.45
04/02/2012	5455	American Trade Mark	Operating Materials & Supplies	-125.00
04/02/2012	5456	Whippany Fire Company	Rentals / Training	-5,800.00
04/02/2012	eft	PFRS	Pension Expense	-53,427.00
04/02/2012	TEPS	State of New Jersey - Division of Pension	Medical Benefits	-7,140.61
04/05/2012	5457	Toshiba Business Solutions	Office Supplies	-199.17
04/05/2012	5458	Whippany Rotary Club	Membership Dues & Subscriptions	-252.00
04/05/2012	5459	NJIAAI	Training and Education	-450.00
04/05/2012	5461	J C P & L	Utilities	-563.42
04/05/2012	5462	Police & Firemen's Insurance Association	Police & Fire Insurance	-440.78
04/05/2012	5463	STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	Office Supplies	-470.76
04/05/2012	5464	Fire Fighters Equipment Company Inc.	SCBA	-2,663.38
04/05/2012	5465	Batteries Plus	Batteries	-44.91
04/09/2012	5466	Morristown Memorial	Medical	-471.00
04/09/2012	5467	POSTMASTER	Office Supplies	-90.00
04/09/2012	5468	Finish Line Car Wash	Car Washes	-52.00
04/09/2012	5469	PSE&G	Utilities	-446.00
04/09/2012	5470	Police & Firemen's Insurance Association	Police & Fire Insurance	-440.78
04/13/2012	5471	Office Scapes	Operating Materials & Supplies	-59.50
04/13/2012	5472	J C P & L	Utilities	-3.25
04/13/2012	5473	Rios' Engraving	Engraving	-40.00
04/13/2012	5474	Nestle Pure Life Direct	Water	-96.20
04/13/2012	5475	Turnout - Little Falls	Boots	-133.32
04/13/2012	5476	Gen-el Safety & Industrial Products	Haz-Mat	-297.42
04/13/2012	eft	Board of Fire Commissioners	Employee Payroll	-15,108.50
04/16/2012	5477	Shell Fleet	Fuel Vouchers	-907.12
04/19/2012	5478	Daily Record	Advertising	-59.18
04/19/2012	5479	Township of Hanover	Gas/Diesel	-670.68
04/19/2012	5480	PSE&G	Utilities	-68.11
04/23/2012	5483	US Bank Equipment Finance	Copy Machine lease	-255.00
04/23/2012	5484	Standard Insurance Co	Life Insurance	-1,661.00

04/23/2012	5485	CDW Government	Operating Materials & Supplies	-49.00
04/27/2012	5487	Brunners Garage	#86	-418.98
04/27/2012	5488	Julie Mihalko	Operating Materials & Supplies	-124.06
04/27/2012	5489	Cablevision	Utilities	-237.82
04/30/2012		Board of Fire Commissioners	Employee Payroll	-15,023.99
04/30/2012	5490	Verizon Wireless	Utilities	-457.45
04/30/2012	5491	State Line Fire & Safety, Inc.	Other	-1,513.45
05/04/2012	5492	McNeil & Company	Insurance Premiums	-5,018.00
05/04/2012	5493	Coffee Lovers	Coffee	-469.99
05/04/2012	5494	New Jersey Assoc Of Fire Dist	Membership Dues & Subscriptions	-300.00
05/04/2012	5495	About Me	Uniforms and Personal Equipment	-420.00
05/04/2012	5496	J C P & L	Utilities	-765.02
05/04/2012	5498	Parker Publications	Advertising	-32.09
05/04/2012	5497	Morris County Public Safety Training Acad	Training and Education	-125.00
05/07/2012	5499	STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	Office Supplies	-159.54
05/07/2012	5501	All Jersey Garage Doors	Building Maintenance	-275.00
05/07/2012	5500	Fire Apparatus	Membership Dues & Subscriptions	-30.00
05/14/2012	5502	Shell Fleet	Fuel Vouchers	-796.23
				-
				122,012.59

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

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

NAYS: None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32

Respectfully submitted: Janet Gant-Hammond, Board Assistant