

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING

June 13, 2022

Commissioner John Gethins called the meeting to order on the above-mentioned date at 7:30 pm, at 10 Troy Hills Road, Whippany, NJ

Commissioners present: Gethins, Cobane, Quinn, Ehrich & Willans

Absent: None

At this time Comm. Gethins 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 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 regular minutes from last month. Comm. Willans made a motion to accept the minutes. The move was seconded by Comm. Cobane, and it was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Cobane, Gethins, Quinn, Ehrich & Willans

ABSENT: None

NAYS: None

TREASURER’S REPORT

The following Treasurer’s report was submitted. Commissioner Cobane made a motion to accept the report. Comm. Willans seconded the move, and it was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Cobane, Gethins, Quinn, Ehrich & Willans

ABSENT: None

NAYS: None

**Hanover Township, New Jersey
Treasurer's Report - June 13, 2022
For the month of May 2022**

General Checking Account #7859643244

TD Bank

Balance On Hand - April 30, 2022	\$948,137.62
May checks	(\$92,348.80)

Deposits for the Month of May 2022

Whippany Pizza	Permits & Fees	\$54.00
Winston Prep School	Permits & Fees	\$54.00
Case Consulting Labs	Permits & Fees	\$766.00
Cushman & Wakefield / Verizon	Permits & Fees	\$641.00
Whippany Fire Company	Cell Tower income	\$11,615.43
Whippany Fire Company	Utilities 1 st qtr 2022	\$3,143.13
Winston Prep School	Cell Tower income	\$54.00

Fire Prevention

- **123** Inspections / re-inspections were conducted last month. **\$ 5,968.00** in fees were billed and being collected. Total of **\$16,713.00** for 2022

EMS

- (55) Calls were answered last month.

Fire

- (33) Calls were answered last month.

88 Total calls answered

Other Matters and Announcements

- Plan / spec reviews and Special event reviews were conducted.
- Met with Builders at 26 Parsippany Rd site
- Meeting with Dale Cowley, Matt Gallo, Comm Gethins social media Company.
- Hiring of 1 FF/EMT see attached job posting
- Continue to work on application for Local Finance Board with attorney's office need documents signed still
- Adopt resolution for FF Bell
- Attend Tri Town OEM Meeting
- Meets in regard to merger documents
- Worked on power point for merger
- Need check for Joint FPB for After Fire Program
- Attended CPR / Walk a thon at Barclays

For use of commissioners to login into reporting system

emergencyreporting.com/login.

User Name – firecommdist2

Password – Firecomm2!

A motion was made to Accept the Chief's report by Comm. Ehrich. It was seconded by Comm. Gethins and passed by the following vote:

AYES: Cobane, Gethins, Quinn, Ehrich & Willans

ABSENT: None

NAYS: None

COMMUNICATIONS - Nothing at this time

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel: Nothing at this time

Apparatus: 80 was in an accident on Memorial Day. Comm. Willans reported that Bob Krygoski is getting quotes on getting the column fixed. Chief is also reaching out to Matt LaSota's father. Paul will hang on to the report for now for insurance. After we get the amount, we can decide whether it's worth submitting.

Insurance: Workers Comp audit is June 27th.

First Aid: Nothing at this time.

TOWNSHIP - Nothing at this time

- **FIRE CO:** - The vinyl sign is up. The company is still talking about an LED sign.
- There has been a lot of hard work done to the museum.

- Dale Cowley reported that the social media company meeting went well. The Board would like to sit down and talk further about it.

OLD BUSINESS – Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS – Comm. Ehrich asked if we could contribute to the 200 Club, as they do such a good job. Maybe \$1000. We are a public entity using public funds, so we cannot donate to organizations. The Company can, though and maybe they will look into it.

HVAC was serviced by AirGroup – they did the summer service – changed the filters, etc. The Sprinkler service was also tested.

Chief Perrello informed the Board that there is a link to Emergency Reporting – our site for entering reports and calls. It's on the 2nd page of his Chief's report and there is a log-in for the Board. It seems there have been discrepancies in the numbers of calls reported. Comm. Gethins was given older reports and the numbers he had don't match the Chief's. Gethins spoke to Vince Campagna, as did Chief Perrello this week. In their system, there is a delay with pushing through the reports in their system. Paul explained that he wasn't lying, as accused by Comm. Gethins.

Gethins responded that he never said there was lying going on – just that there were discrepancies.

Paul said that the 2021 report is incorrect.

John said he would reach out to Vince again and ask him to send Paul his reports.

Paul responded that he doesn't need them – all the reports are in emergency reporting. They're in our system.

Chief went on further to explain – First, there are delays between our reports and what the state pushed through. Secondly, not all our calls are reportable to the US Fire Administration. If a call turns out to be a flat tire, the state doesn't include those kinds of calls. But if the tones go off – we respond.

The County calls start at #1 each year and count up every time a call goes out. So you see what number call we are on at the end of the year. Then it starts again. If the Dispatch Center assigns a number - how can it not be a call?

John – What about when we go to other towns? Is it 10%? 20%? What are the numbers for the amount of times you leave?

Chad DiGiorgio – Chief of District 3 is present and answers: The state numbers are for Fire and Ems only. We had broken that down for you in a report also. We provided tables for time of day, etc. The only thing you asked for that we didn't get you was the volume by hours by District by time of day. Monday is the highest day of the week and the lowest is Sunday. 7 am – 8pm is the highest call volume.

Chad said he was only unable to get the hour and time of day. He broke down District 2 and 3. He added them together to get the total, although some of the were blended if both were dispatched.

Gethins – So, the summary by Vince Campagna means nothing?

Quinn – All I know is this week Par-Troy was son my street 2 times. Does that mean both your ambulances were out?

Chad – Both ambulances were out, I’m sure. I’d have to check the call. But we operate using CUD – Closets Unit Dispatch. If Par-Troy was at the jug handle, say, they would get the call automatically. We may not be the ones responding but someone WILL respond. It will be either of us, County, Par-Troy, and the 2 Atlantic ambulances – they are all included in the CUD.

Quinn – So the one unused ambulance sitting here doing nothing could be utilized if we merge?

Chad – Potentially.

Chad report that total EMS was 1743: 783 calls from District 2 and 960 from District 3.

He would estimate that the number of Mutual Aid calls that John is looking for is in the 200s. That is an estimate.

We can still send an ambulance out of town and still have one here – plus we have CUD as backup. The CUD technology will always get you the fastest ambulance possible.

Brain Cahill – Township Liaison – We should not focus so much on the numbers, but on whether a merger will be better for the community.

PUBLIC PART OF THE MEETING - 16 members of the public attended.

BILLS

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

AYES: Cobane, Gethins, Quinn, Ehrich & Willans

ABSENT: None

NAYS: None

05/04/2022	eft	NJ Division of Pension & Benefits-Pension	Pension Expense	-4,000.00
05/04/2022	eft	NJ Division of Pension & Benefits-Pension	Pension Expense	-700.00
05/04/2022	11982	Hanover Sewerage Authority 10 Troy Hills	-SPLIT-	-2,873.58
05/04/2022	11983	Verizon Wireless 884	Utilities	-152.04
05/04/2022	11984	ESO	Membership Dues & Subscriptions	-246.40
05/04/2022	11985	Spectrum Communications	Car 87	0.00
05/04/2022	11986	Amazon Business	Operating Materials & Supplies	-244.94
05/04/2022	11987	Air Group	Building Maintenance	-3,893.00
05/04/2022	11988	Braslow, Richard M. Esq	Legal	-900.00
05/04/2022	11989	NJ Fire Equipment Co.	SCBA Repair	-130.00
05/04/2022	11990	McNeil & Company	-SPLIT-	-9,067.25
05/04/2022	11991	Home Depot Credit Services	Shop Supplies	-192.83
05/04/2022	11992	Chenong, Darren	Fuel Vouchers	-15.00
05/04/2022	11993	Cobane, Rob	Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
05/04/2022	11994	Cowley, Dale	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/04/2022	11995	Danus, James	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/04/2022	11996	Danus, Joshua	Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
05/04/2022	11997	Desien, Marc	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/04/2022	11998	Gallo, Matt	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/04/2022	11999	Gethins, John	Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
05/04/2022	12000	Graziano, Jesse	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/04/2022	12001	Hansch, Henry	Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
05/04/2022	12002	Jubinski, Ken	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/04/2022	12003	Kelly, Brian	Fuel Vouchers	-75.00
05/04/2022	12004	Kelly, Eric	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00

05/04/2022	12005	Koba, Jack	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/04/2022	12006	LaSota, Matthew	Fuel Vouchers	-15.00
05/04/2022	12007	Mihalko, Joseph Jr.	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/04/2022	12008	Santini, Anthony	Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
05/04/2022	12009	Shearer, Derrick	Fuel Vouchers	-75.00
05/04/2022	12010	Tursi, Frank	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/04/2022	12011	Van Seggern, Steven	Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
05/04/2022	12012	Willans, Benjamen	Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
05/04/2022	12013	Wodynski, William	Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
05/04/2022	12014	Ziccarello, Ricky	Fuel Vouchers	-15.00
05/09/2022	12015	Auto Zone	Repairs & Maintenance	-89.06
05/09/2022	12016	Finish Line Car Wash	Equipment	-12.00
05/09/2022	12017	Eastern Janitorial	Building Maintenance	-605.00
05/09/2022	12018	HMC Design Studio	Uniforms and Personal Equipment	-210.00
05/09/2022	12019	STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	Office Supplies	-191.04
05/09/2022	12020	PSE&G 10 Troy	Utilities	-512.22
05/09/2022	12021	Optimum 10 Troy	Utilities	-346.23
05/09/2022	12022	Police & Firemen's Insurance Association	Police & Fire Insurance	-586.01
05/09/2022	12023	Nestle Pure Life Direct	Water	-40.00
05/13/2022	EFT	NJ Division of Pensions & Benefits Health	Medical Benefits	-10,746.29
05/13/2022	12024	Custom Bandag, Inc.	Special Services-80	-2,160.14
05/13/2022	12025	Morris County Public Safety Training Acad	Training and Education	-100.00
05/13/2022	12026	JCP&L Fieldstone	Utilities	-15.00
05/13/2022	12027	JCP&L 10 Troy	Utilities	-1,117.85
05/13/2022	12028	Township of Hanover	-SPLIT-	-854.31
05/13/2022	12029	Schindler Elevator	Building Maintenance	-181.50
05/15/2022	eft	Board of Fire Commissioners	-SPLIT-	-19,220.60
05/16/2022	12030	Strategic Safety Dynamics	Training and Education	-861.60
05/16/2022	12031	Wittnebert, John	Operating Materials & Supplies	-140.94
05/20/2022	12032	Northeast Communications, Inc.	Equipment	-130.00
05/20/2022	12033	Inmar Marine Group	Equipment	-59.95
05/20/2022	12034	Witmer Associates, Inc	Uniforms and Personal Equipment	-134.35
05/23/2022	12035	Standard Insurance Co	Life Insurance	-1,664.70
05/23/2022	12036	MLC	Purchase of Assets	-500.00
05/27/2022	12037	Nisivoccia, LLP	Professional Services	-4,530.00
05/27/2022	12038	Fred's Small Engine	Equipment	-239.95
05/27/2022	12039	Verizon 838	Utilities	-183.07
05/27/2022	12040	NJ Fire Equipment Co.	Uniforms and Personal Equipment	-924.00
05/27/2022	12041	IIA Fire Department Testing	Hose - Test	-2,632.50
05/27/2022	12042	Township of Hanover	-SPLIT-	-718.86
05/30/2022	eft	Board of Fire Commissioners	-SPLIT-	-19,446.59
06/01/2022	12043	HMC Design Studio	Uniforms and Personal Equipment	-140.00
06/01/2022	12044	US Bank Equipment Finance	Copy Machine lease	-258.83
06/01/2022	12045	Verizon Wireless 884	Utilities	-152.04
06/01/2022	12046	Home Depot Credit Services	Shop Supplies	-229.74
06/01/2022	12047	SMCMUA 10 Troy	Utilities	-27.20
06/01/2022	12048	Township of Hanover	-SPLIT-	-532.63
06/01/2022	12049	NFPA/National Fire Protection Asoc	Membership Dues & Subscriptions	-175.00

06/01/2022	12050	Braslow, Richard M. Esq	Legal	-960.00
06/01/2022	12051	Chenong, Darren	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/01/2022	12052	Cobane, Rob	Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
06/01/2022	12053	Cowley, Dale	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/01/2022	12054	Danus, James	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/01/2022	12055	Danus, Joshua	Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
06/01/2022	12056	Desien, Marc	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/01/2022	12057	Jake Dodson	Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
06/01/2022	12058	Gallo, Matt	Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
06/01/2022	12059	Gethins, John	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/01/2022	12060	Graziano, Jesse	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/01/2022	12061	Jubinski, Ken	Fuel Vouchers	-15.00
06/01/2022	12062	Kelly, Brian	Fuel Vouchers	-75.00
06/01/2022	12063	Kelly, Eric	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/01/2022	12064	Koba, Jack	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/01/2022	12065	LaSota, Matthew	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/01/2022	12066	Mihalko, Joseph Jr.	Fuel Vouchers	-15.00
06/01/2022	12067	Santini, Anthony	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/01/2022	12068	Shearer, Derrick	Fuel Vouchers	-75.00
06/01/2022	12069	Tursi, Frank	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/01/2022	12070	Winkler, Sean	Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/01/2022	12071	Ziccarello, Ricky	Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
06/01/2022	12072	The 200 Club	Promotion	-950.00
06/03/2022	12073	Fred's Small Engine	Batteries	-49.00
06/03/2022	12074	ESO	Membership Dues & Subscriptions	-246.40
06/03/2022	12075	Eastern Janitorial	Building Maintenance	-605.00
06/03/2022	12076	Hanover Twp Bureau of Fire Prevention	Joint Purchase Agreements	-500.00
06/06/2022	eft	NJ Division of Pension & Benefits-Pension	Pension Expense	-4,000.00
06/06/2022	eft	NJ Division of Pension & Benefits-Pension	Pension Expense	-700.00
06/06/2022	12077	Optimum 10 Troy	Utilities	-346.23
06/10/2022	eft	NJ Division of Pensions & Benefits Health	Medical Benefits	-10,828.63
06/10/2022	12078	Finish Line Car Wash	Equipment	-48.00
06/10/2022	12079	Police & Firemen's Insurance Association	Police & Fire Insurance	-586.01
06/10/2022	12080	JCP&L 10 Troy	Utilities	-1,490.42
06/10/2022	12081	Castle Fire Protection	Building Maintenance	-3,600.00
06/10/2022	12082	Turnout Fire & Safety - Little Falls	Uniforms and Personal Equipment	-1,600.00
06/13/2022	12083	Santini, Joseph	Reimbursements	-44.13
06/13/2022	12084	Auto Zone	Repairs & Maintenance	-206.07
06/13/2022	12085	Morris County Public Safety Training Acad	Training and Education	-100.00
06/13/2022	12086	Morristown Medical Group	Medical	-553.00
06/13/2022	12087	CF Services	-SPLIT-	-550.00
				-
				<u>122,612.13</u>
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				<u><u>122,612.13</u></u>

At 7:53, Chief Perrello and Chief DiGiorgio presented a Power Point of the Merger Proposal. They both stipulated that this was a draft, and they are working on how to get to the next step. The actual plan is 47 pages long and available on request.

Comm Gethins questioned the salary amounts in the presentation and the increases added staffing will bring.

Chad – future contracts will have to use collective bargaining. The 2 contracts would remain till re-negotiated.

Chief – Everything remains for now but everything can be negotiated. On Day One – the new District Board will have to decide all the new amounts.

Gethins – I'm just looking out for the taxpayer.

Chad – By removing the added staffing in the proposal, it brought it down by \$2.44 per year per household. If we don't have the proper staffing, and you remove the additional ambulance and staffing – what happens is then people take time off and then your overtime grows and that's at time and a half versus straight time.

Gethins – We're staffing 2 fire houses. If we merge, we should be staffing for one. Morris Township has 5 firehouses. They staff 2 at night – that's 40%. We'll be staffing at 100%? Are you kidding me? We're forgetting we have volunteers here also – and we're not building yet – some of them have started but it's not dire yet. I'd rather see what the overtime bears before we hire more paid people.

Paul – Our plan allows for volunteers. Do we plan for today or for the future? Do we cut ourselves short and 4 years down the road, go back to the taxpayers again and say Hey, we need more money.

Quinn – The volunteers are just that – volunteers. These new people would be guaranteed.

Gethins – Morris Township does it. You're taking people and spreading them out at night. The call volume at night is just not there.

Paul – we don't answer EMS calls at night.

Gethins – Cedar Knolls DOES.

Chad – Morris Township does a 10 – 14 shift. Their Fire Dept does not do EMS. They are first responders but not at night. That plan goes away at night. The plan we present here staffs an ambulance in both firehouses 24 hours a day.

Gethins – Jersey City hires part-time Fire Inspectors. We could hire extra inspectors if needed at less than cost of Firefighter's benefits.

Chad – Let's go back to the public's questions.

RESIDENT – For \$30 a year – everyone's safety is worth it. Everything is black and white – the population is growing – this shouldn't even be a question. We're going to need more police too. I'll pay another \$200 a year.

Gethins – But it's not just \$30. The population grows and the schools up the taxes – and the Rec Dept.

Ehrich – It's just an estimate now. We're not going to know to the dollar right now. It's not going to happen.

Quinn – Can we pay for another guy now WITHOUT raising taxes?

RESIDENT – JOHN from Karla Drive – If we do nothing would we miss calls?

Gethins – We're trying to come up with a happy medium. A lot of older people are concerned about the \$30. It's not just fire – more police, more school taxes, rec dept., more sanitation, etc.

Quinn – If an ambulance isn't here to answer the call, we don't have to worry about \$30. It'll be \$12,000 to bury the guy. Public safety is for the people. That's why I'm here.

Chad – SOMEONE will answer the call. We have 24 hour staffing 6 days a week. And on Sunday per diems. It's happening now. It may even be our Mutual Aid partners, but Someone will be there. It's how quickly. We have a 6 ½ minute response time now and that's pretty good.

RESIDENT JOHN – Karla Drive – As the population increases, and there's attrition, there will be more businesses and the likelihood of response time increasing is present. If we frame that correctly to the residents, that yes, there's going to be an increase in costs, and if you're on a fixed income, that's not an easy sell – but if we tell them that we're going to keep or improve our response time based on this plan, we shouldn't pass it up. Service and people's health should be first and foremost.

Gethins – We are trying to come up with a perfect plan. We're only presented with one option right now. This merger at the end of the day, has to happen. Is it true the Cedar Knolls committee just voted to do renovations over there?

Chad – There was a study to see what needs to be done and where the shortfalls are.

Gethins – The 2012 study - Kramer says 8 full time staff between the 2 firehouses. We have to come up with the perfect thing for the township – that's our goal. Maybe take our time. Look at it another month and we can later – I'm glad we did that, and we found something that works. Don't want you to look at your taxes and say "They promised me \$30 and it's \$200".

Quinn – We used to pay \$1.67 for gas – now it's \$5.00. That study - things change. Nothing you can do about it.

Willans – How much development is PILOT? Not taxed at all?

Chad – How does PILOT work? Four% of all development under PILOT will go to Fire District No. 2. The more development, the more will go into District 2. EMS services will still come over here, but all the PILOT money will come only to District 2 and not 3.

Brain Cahill – Township Committee made that resolution that will set aside money for schools and fire. Mostly schools, but fire included also. The town did that purposely because of the concerns on increased need for services. But they can't be taxed till they're built.

Derrick Shearer – FF/EMT – If we're saying our current services are not adequate enough to service the town with all the development, how can all this development be approved to go forward? We need a ladder truck just to accommodate the high rises going in but there's no accountability or help in paying for that.

Brian Cahill – It's a court mandate – Fair Share Housing – as simple as that. Our hands are tied, and we have to comply. All I can say is it could have been worse.

Gethins – We explored looking into charging them somehow and it can't be done.

Cahill – You can't ask even ask them. It's illegal. There are 1400 units, and it could have been worse. I agree - It's horrible to have our hands forced like this.

Chad – This is Phase 4 of COAH. In 2025, the next phase goes in and could add even more. We need to plan for the future - not just tomorrow.

Brian – Round 3 took 20 years to negotiate. It impacts us all in a negative way.

At this time Comm. Gethins moved that the Board go into Executive session to discuss a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Comm. Ehrich and passed unanimously.

At 9:45, the Board came out of executive Session. The attached resolutions were read. The first one created the position of Captain and the second one appoints Ian Bell to the position of Captain at a salary of \$104,000, starting on June 16th's payroll.

A motion was made to accept both of these resolutions by Comm. Ehrich. It was seconded by Comm. Willans and passed unanimously.

At 9:50 Comm. Willans made a move to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Comm. Gethins and passed unanimously by all Commissioners present.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:51

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Hammond