

**MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING**

**July 12, 2021**

Commissioner Ray Woytas called the meeting to order on the above mentioned date at 7:30 pm, at 10 Troy Hills Road, Whippany, NJ - in the Commissioner's office.

Commissioners present: Cobane, Kitchell, Gethins, & Woytas

Absent: Willans

Also present: Chief Paul Perrello

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 Daily Record; and filed with the clerk of the Township of Hanover and the Clerk of this Board and posted on the Whippany Fire Dept. website.

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The Chairman called for the acceptance of the regular minutes from last month. Comm. Cobane made a motion to accept the minutes. The move was seconded by Comm. Kitchell and it was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Cobane, Kitchell, Woytas, & Gethins

ABSENT: Willans

NAYS: None

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The following Treasurer's report was submitted. Commissioner Kitchell made a motion to accept the report. Comm. Gethins seconded the move and it was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Cobane, Kitchell, Gethins, Woytas

ABSENT: Willans

NAYS: None

**For the month of June 2021**

**General Checking Account #7859643244**

**TD Bank**

Balance On Hand - May 31, 2021	<b>\$494,823.76</b>
June Checks	(\$85,307.51)

**Deposits for the Month of June 2021**

Jones, Lang, LaSalle	Penalty	\$120.00
Whippany Fire Company	Income from Company	\$11,125.29
North Lane Technologies	JCP&L final refund	\$283.78
Cushman & Wakefield	Penalty	\$1,141.00
Casa de Montecristo	Permits & Fees	\$54.00
Township of Hanover	Man false alarms	\$100.00
Township of Hanover	District Taxes	\$327,089.00
Trattoria Toscana	Permits & Fees	\$54.00
Trattoria Toscana	Permits & Fees	\$54.00
Cobra Auto	Permits & Fees	\$427.00
AAA Auto Wreckers	Permits & Fees	\$427.00

Wegmans	Voided old check	\$1,105.25
Registration fees		\$775.00
<b><u>Balance on Hand, June 30, 2021</u></b>	<b><u>(matches Quickbooks)</u></b>	<b><u>\$752,271.57</u></b>

Checks Submitted this Month's Meeting **\$98,479.35**

**Construction Checking Account #437-6555294**

**TD Bank**

**Balance On Hand - May 31, 2021** **\$74,357.58**

John Mondano	213	(1800.00)
Home Depot	214	(4185.54)
Emergency Services Marketing	Voided Check	\$810.00
Amazon Business	215	(492.74)

**Balance on Hand, May 31, 2021** **(matches Quickbooks)** **\$68,689.30**

**CHIEF'S REPORT:**

**Supplies, Equipment, and Maintenance**

- Supplies were purchased from Home Depot and Staples for new building

**Apparatus**

- Pump Packing was replaced on E-82 (was leaking water)

**Training**

Training for the month of June was:

- Equipment review
- Ropes and Knots
- Chainsaws

**Purchases**

Nothing at this time

**Fire Prevention**

- 65 Inspections / re-inspections were conducted last month. \$ **3432.00** in fees were billed and being collected. **Total for year so far is \$1,5524.00 That is \$5977.00 over of all the fees collected for all of 2020**

**EMS** (40) Calls were answered last month.

**Fire**

- (42) Calls were answered last month.

82 Total calls answered in June 2021

## **Other Matters and Announcements**

- Participated in conference calls with East Hanover and Florham Park. They are now going to be held quarterly next one is August 10<sup>th</sup>
- Spec reviews were completed
- In progress SOGs working on headings for each one. And still working on things for EMS Licensing.
- Submitted FEMA AFG grants for Ladder truck (awards are coming out)
- Met with Lawyers for possible law suit for new fire house
- Met with Reps from performance ford (70 Route 10)
- Conducted walk thru @ Whippany Village Apartments
- Met with Costco Rep for water flow calculations.
- Shared service agreement for Fire Inspectors.
- Last month quote for window shades ordered from Everlast
- Lastly, I have created a spread sheet of the savings the I have brought to the district so far in my tenure (Please See Attached Sheet)
- Ambulance services in Dist. #2 (Atlantic EMS)
- Some Personal issues to discuss.

Chief reported that he will be on vacation July 24 – 31. He will meet with the Officers beforehand.

The County radio upgrade will be in Wednesday. We have 25 portable radios. The County is only taking 2 back so we have 23 that won't be with the county. Chargers had to be ordered. One company wanted \$1300 and Chief found them for \$85. Vehicle mounted chargers – first company wanted \$450 and Chief found for \$350 – savings of \$800. Total savings that the Chief found came to \$6950 on all the chargers.

We are still operating on response 6 till the end of the year, and then will switch to a different band.

Commissioner Kitchell made a motion to accept the report. Comm. Cobane seconded the move and it was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Cobane, Kitchell, Gethins, Woytas & Willans

ABSENT: None

NAYS: None

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Nothing at this time

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Personnel:** Nothing at this time.

**Apparatus:** 82 had pump packs replaced - It was leaking water. 83 had the alternator fixed.

**Insurance:** Audit completed

**Dinner:** Nothing at this time.

**First Aid:** Chief is proceeding with the licensing application. We met with a representative from Atlantic ambulance tonight to discuss EMS concerns. Responded to 40 calls and 0 transports.

**Relocation:** Nothing at this time.

**FIRE CO:** - Nothing at this time.

**TOWNSHIP** – Nothing at this time.

**OLD BUSINESS** – Window shades were ordered. We went with Everlast who matched our lowest price. We added shade for the radio room and still came in under \$4300.

Paul went over the site plans. There was a walk-through at Whippany Village last week. They got their TCO and people are moving in.

Chimney Rock is going in where the VFW was and Double Tap brewery is still going in where the Post Office was. Springhill Suites will be on Price Road – 4 stories – 130 rooms.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Comm. Cobane, the Chief and Clerk of the Works John Mondano met with Pal Olangi, LLC to discuss any recourse in regards to holding Conley Architects responsible for some of the Change orders for the new building due to his errors and omissions. He feels that we have a good case. He said it looks like \$400,000 worth of Change Orders were due to architectural errors.

He said we would have to engage a forensic architect to go over all the plans.

His rough estimate in costs would be \$85,000 for legal fees. It may be more or less and there's no guarantee of the outcome. He has previous cases he can use as examples in court. The \$85k is for him. The forensic architect would be another cost. You have to figure it will cost us at least \$100,000 and we may get \$300,000 back. There's no guarantee.

Most of these companies have insurance for this sort of thing and usually settle but there are no guarantees.

If we win it, can we put it toward the note? Or use it somewhere else?

We could run it past Braslow too. He might say it's not his area of expertise but maybe he could review it. We can share it with him and then discuss it more before moving ahead.

Paul Ian and Josh received subpoenas in the Kinder Care case where an infant died. They will pass that on to Mr. Braslow also.

There is an Agreement on the table to allow Cedar Knolls to house an ambulance here for up to 1 year. We have some questions first to ask them. In lieu of rent, maybe they can sell it to us afterward?

Labor Day – Inspection and Boonton Parade. Rob will bring it up at the Company meeting. Do we still want to do breakfast and lunch for the guys, like we always have? Some of the guys want to use 82 and the antiques for the parade. Comm. Gethins has a band he can look into getting for us.

Inspection will be around 9-9:30 here.

The parade will be on September 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:30. Clean up drills will happen in the weeks beforehand.

Money left in the construction account – Can we use it for the sign out front? It was on the original drawings. It will be digital. Can we also make a fountain out of the hose statue out front?

PBA – Would like to use the rooms for their monthly meetings. Can they use the Commissioner's room if they get turned down by the company for the big room?

Tandem Bill – for the telecommunications – internet jacks, phone lines, etc... The Company had agreed to pay it so we didn't have to go prevailing wage. They say they didn't know there was another bill coming. They paid the 25,000 deposit and then took the money back after the sale of the house. They helped us out so we didn't have to pay prevailing wage. Also, they say the Change order was items that didn't pertain to them.

After a discussion, a motion was made that we pay the bill so the vendor is happy and we can discuss it later. The motion was made by Comm. Cobane and seconded by Comm. Kitchell. It passed by the following vote:

AYES: Cobane, Kitchell, Gethins, Woytas

ABSENT: Willans

NAYS: None

Comm. Cobane, Treasurer, mentioned that we are over budget on 2 line items – Office Supplies and Uniforms.

Board briefly looked at some other line items. A suggestion was made regarding Utilities that we use programmable thermostats and night settings. Shut it back a 2 degree differential instead of just 1 degree or it will run all the time.

**PUBLIC PART OF THE MEETING** - 5 members of the public attended. No comments made.

## **BILLS**

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

AYES: Cobane, Kitchell, Gethins, Woytas

ABSENT: Willans

NAYS: None

06/01/2021	11318	US Bank Equipment Finance	Copy Machine lease	-305.21
06/01/2021	11319	Lifesavers, Inc.	CPR Training Expense	-6.50
06/01/2021	11320	Power DMS	Computers	-4,364.40
06/01/2021	11321	Turnout Fire & Safety - Little Falls	Uniforms and Personal Equipment	-506.00
06/01/2021	11322	Northeast Communications, Inc.	Operating Materials & Supplies	-146.00
06/01/2021	11323	Firehouse	Membership Dues & Subscriptions	-29.95
06/01/2021	11324	Verizon	Utilities	-1,313.85
06/01/2021	eft	NJ Division of Pension & Benefits-Pension	Pension Expense	-700.00
06/01/2021	11325	Emergency Services Marketing Corp., Inc.	Computers	-810.00
06/02/2021	11326	Danus, James	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
06/02/2021	11327	Danus, Joshua	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
06/02/2021	11328	Gethins, John	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
06/02/2021	11329	Kelly, Brian	Fuel Vouchers	-50.00
06/02/2021	11330	Kelly, Eric	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
06/02/2021	11331	LaSota, Matthew	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
06/02/2021	11332	Pavone, Matthew	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
06/02/2021	11333	Winkler, Sean	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
06/02/2021	11334	Morris County Public Safety Training Acad	Training and Education	-250.00
06/02/2021	11335	NJ Fire Equipment Co.	SCBA Test	-2,455.94
06/02/2021	11336	Verizon Wireless	Utilities	-152.04
06/09/2021	11337	Finish Line Car Wash	Equipment	-12.00
06/09/2021	11338	STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	Office Supplies	-776.22
06/09/2021	11339	Optimum 10 Troy	Utilities	-520.71
06/09/2021	11340	HMC Design Studio	Uniforms and Personal Equipment	-130.00
06/09/2021	11341	Police & Firemen's Insurance Association	Police & Fire Insurance	-510.73
06/09/2021	11342	PSE&G 10 Troy	Utilities	-87.70
06/09/2021	11343	Witmer Associates, Inc	Uniforms and Personal Equipment	-962.00
06/09/2021	11344	Palermo's Pizza	Promotion	-108.84
06/09/2021	11345	Nestle Pure Life Direct	Water	-146.84

06/09/2021	11346	Emergency Reporting	Computers	-51.70
06/09/2021	11347	Eastern Janitorial	Building Maintenance	-811.15
06/11/2021	eft	NJ Division of Pension & Benefits-Pension	Pension Expense	-4,000.00
06/14/2021	eft	NJ Division of Pensions & Benefits Health	Medical Benefits	10,488.18
06/14/2021	11348	Amtrust North America	Insurance Premiums	-4,510.00
06/14/2021	11349	VE Ralph & Sons, Inc	Operating Materials & Supplies	-645.50
06/14/2021	11351	Fire Fighters Equipment Company Inc.	SCBA testng	-313.00
06/14/2021	eft	Board of Fire Commissioners	Employee Payroll	21,476.06
06/21/2021	11352	Township of Hanover	Gasoline / Diesel	-440.00
06/21/2021	11353	Garden State Vinyl Designs	Hoses	-181.83
06/23/2021	11355	Standard Insurance Co	Life Insurance	-1,181.40
06/23/2021	11356	Witmer Associates, Inc	Uniforms and Personal Equipment	-90.00
06/23/2021	11357	Morristown Medical Group	Professional Services-Medical	-840.00
06/23/2021	11358	Minerva Cleaners	Gear Cleaning	-171.80
06/25/2021	11359	Turnout Fire & Safety - Little Falls	Uniforms and Personal Equipment	-434.91
06/25/2021	11360	Township of Hanover	Gasoline / Diesel	-502.23
06/25/2021	11361	SMCMUA 10 Troy	Utilities	-339.58
06/28/2021	11363	Public Employees' Retirement System	Pension Expense	-2,070.57
06/28/2021	11362	Verizon	Utilities	-172.43
06/29/2021	11364	FIS On Site Services, LLC	Engine 82	-1,549.50
06/29/2021	11365	Richard M. Braslow, Esq	Legal	-60.00
06/30/2021	eft	Board of Fire Commissioners	Employee Payroll	20,492.74
07/06/2021	11366	Verizon Wireless	Utilities	-152.04
07/06/2021	11367	Optimum 10 Troy	Utilities	-559.49
07/06/2021	11368	Fail Safe Testing	Hose - Test	-2,233.00
07/06/2021	11369	Fire Fighters Equipment Company Inc.	SCBA Test	-48.00
07/06/2021	11370	Eastern Janitorial	Building Maintenance	-655.00
07/06/2021	11371	Custom Bandag, Inc.	Engine 83	-224.25
07/07/2021	eft	NJ Division of Pension & Benefits-Pension	Pension Expense	-846.96
07/07/2021	eft	NJ Division of Pension & Benefits-Pension	Pension Expense	-1,367.60
07/08/2021	11372	Morris County Public Safety Training Acad	Training and Education	-750.00
07/08/2021	11373	Emergency Reporting	Computers	-246.40
07/08/2021	11374	CPR Baltimore	Operating Materials & Supplies	-184.14
07/08/2021	11375	Magnum	Purchase of Assets	-2,872.00
07/08/2021	11376	SMCMUA 10 Troy	Utilities	-420.22
07/08/2021	11377	Finish Line Car Wash	Equipment	-12.00
07/08/2021	11378	STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	Office Supplies	-421.96
07/08/2021	11379	US Bank Equipment Finance	Copy Machine lease	-295.22
07/08/2021	11380	Police & Firemen's Insurance Association	Police & Fire Insurance	-510.73
07/08/2021	11381	Sunny Communications	Purchase of Assets	-500.00
07/08/2021	11382	Cobane, Rob	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
07/08/2021	11383	Cowley, Dale	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
07/08/2021	11384	Danus, James	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
07/08/2021	11385	Jake Dodson	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
07/08/2021	11386	Gethins, John	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
07/08/2021	11387	Kelly, Brian	Fuel Vouchers	-70.00
07/08/2021	11388	Kelly, Eric	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
07/08/2021	11389	Koba, Jack	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00

07/08/2021	11390	LaSota, Matthew	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
07/08/2021	11391	Pavone, Matthew	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
07/08/2021	11392	Shearer, Derrick	Fuel Vouchers	-70.00
07/08/2021	11393	Tursi, Frank	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
07/08/2021	11394	Van Seggern, Steven	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
07/08/2021	11395	Winkler, Sean	Fuel Vouchers	-20.00
07/12/2021	11396	Auto Zone	Operating Materials & Supplies	-43.94
07/12/2021	11397	PSE&G 10 Troy	Utilities	-51.08
07/12/2021	11398	Nestle Pure Life Direct	Water	-146.84
07/12/2021	11399	Turnout Fire & Safety - Little Falls	Uniforms and Personal Equipment	<u>-250.97</u>
				-
				98,479.35

At this time, Comm. Cobane made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Comm. Kitchell and passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:16.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Hammond