

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING

June 12, 2023

Chairman 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: Ehrich, Cobane, Quinn, Gethins, & Willans

Absent: None

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.

*At this time, Comm. Cobane made a motion to approve High School Junior Patrick Mulligan’s Eagle Scout project to construct a pitched roof prop for ventilation instruction and training. The motion was seconded by Comm. Willans and passed unanimously.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Comm Cobane called for the acceptance of all the minutes from last month. Comm. Quinn seconded the move, and it was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Ehrich, Cobane, Gethins, Quinn, & Willans

ABSENT: None

NAYS: None

TREASURER’S REPORT

Treasurer's Report - June 12, 2023

For the month of May 2023

General Checking Account #: XXXXXX3244

TD Bank

Balance On Hand - April 30, 2023	\$1,025,202.82
May Checks	(\$276,987.96)

Deposits for the Month of May 2023

Midlantic Fire	Penalty	\$500.00
Allstate Insurance		\$4,651.24
Verizon 2	permits and fees	\$641.00
Winston Prep	permits and fees	\$54.00
Whippany Fire Company	March cell tower	\$12,537.56
Eclipse veterinary	permits and fees	\$54.00
Eclipse veterinary	permits and fees	\$54.00
Garden State urology	permits and fees	\$54.00
Whippany Actuation Systems	permits and fees	\$54.00
Tyler Technologies	permits and fees	\$54.00

Tyler Technologies Registration Fees \$11,725.00

Balance on Hand, May 31, 2023 (matches Quickbooks) **\$778,593.66**

Checks Submitted this Month's Meeting **\$332,985.30**

Business 12 Month CD -x0575 Matures 12-7-23 **\$210,228.34**
3.15%
Last Interest

Business 6 Month CD - TD Bank X9425 Matures 9-4-23 3.49% **\$207,684.53**
Last Interest

Penalty Checking Account # XXXX3773
TD Bank

Balance on Hand, May 31, 2023 **\$5,014.02**

A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report by Comm. Ehrich. It was seconded by Comm. Cobane and passed by the following vote:
AYES: Ehrich, Cobane, Gethins, Quinn & Willans
ABSENT: None
NAYS: None

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Supplies, Equipment, and Maintenance

- Purchases made from Amazon and Staples

Apparatus

- Pump repairs were completed on E-81.

Training

- Forcible entry
- Pump Refresher
- Ladder Drill

Purchases

- Talk about possibly new engine (currently build 2 years out)
- Prices have been gathered for renumbering of apparatus

Fire Prevention

135 Inspections / re-inspections were conducted last month. \$ 6,463.00 in fees were billed and being collected. Total of \$31,296.00 for 2023 so far

EMS

- (71) Calls were answered last month.

Fire

- (40) Calls were answered last month.
111 Total calls answered

Other Matters and Announcements

- New FF/EMT Moller has started
- Conducted Plan reviews
- Conducted Spec reviews
- DCA Minimum Mandatory Qualifications In process (ongoing)
- Medical Director (in process)
- OK SOG on responding in POVs (see attached from insurance company)
- Duck race 6/10
- CAE Family Day 6/14
- HT Fireworks
- Completed Lithium-Ion Battery Safety Class (see attached cert)

The Chief went over the attached letter and filled the Board in on the Hanover Hills project. He met with township attorney Semerow, our attorney Braslow, and the developer. The project has passed everything except from the fire department. The town was getting pressure for not signing off on this yet. The developer has threatened to sue if the town doesn't approve their TCO.

They have refused to put in a standpipe and the fire district is not comfortable with that decision. It puts residents' lives in danger as well as any firemen responding to a fire in those buildings. The letter was sent to everyone involved. The liability will now fall on the developer. The developer has said that standpipes are not required by code. But they originally had standpipes in their site plan and then went back and changed the plan. They re-submitted the plan and took them out and the town should have caught that.

Gethins – Property companies build them and then sell them. What happens then? Who is responsible then? If the developer doesn't agree to sign this letter, does it hold water?

Chief – Our attorney said to send it so I did.

Quinn – The town is afraid of a lawsuit but they're willing to jeopardize the lives of their residents.

Chief – The standpipe is not required by code, but it is up to the authority having jurisdiction, which is us. The sewer system requires things that are above and beyond the code, such as the width of pipe. Code requires 33 and they required 40. How is this different?

Chief even said – just give us 1 connection on the 2nd or 3rd floor, if not the whole building and they refused. It would be a minimal cost to them. They refused.

Chief – The developer says they have a sprinkler system. It's an R-13 system which is plastic. It lasts about 20 minutes – just enough time to get people out but not for us who are going in.

Gethins – For future, can we do a resolution requiring that the code be more than it is?

Chief – Worthless if the town doesn't stand behind it.

Chief – There is a resolution stating that they will abide by all the other reports and we are listed as one of those entities.

What is the point of us doing a Fire Protection review then, if no one is going to listen and rubber-stamp it anyway. Instead, how about you ask us WHY we're asking for it and let us explain and you listen.

There is new development going on near Inspire Kids and that developer is willing to listen and work with us. He said 'Whatever you need'.

The FORD dealer – Chief made them tie the CO alarm to their alarm system. They did it willingly. It seems like just this developer is not willing to comply and actually went back and changed their original plans, maybe hoping no one would catch it and they didn't.

Chief – We still have to do fire inspections and registration fees so we're still not done with this company. The letter should go to every resident also.

Gethins – We should get the developer to sign off on it and send it certified mail. Just because we wrote that letter doesn't mean the developer accepts the liability. And what if they sell the building?

COMMUNICATIONS – Nothing at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel: The ongoing investigation is still in progress. May have the report by the end of the month. The new hire is working out great.

Apparatus: 81 pump is being repaired. Chief's car needs light replaced. It's still under warranty.

Insurance: Nothing at this time.

TOWNSHIP – Nothing at this time. Liaison absent

FIRE CO: - President Graziano asked to use the building for the Open House.

**Comm Cobane made a motion that we allow the company to use the apparatus and the building for the open house. It was seconded by Comm. Willans and passed unanimously.

Pres Graziano mentioned getting a digital sign for the front of the building. He said it will depend on the budgets – theirs and ours. They're waiting on us to look at our budget and they would split the cost

OLD BUSINESS –

Re-Numbering the trucks, Comm. Gethins made a motion that we go forward with the new numbers to assist the County Dispatch. The motion was seconded by Comm. Ehrich and passed by the following vote:

AYES: Ehrich, Gethins, & Quinn

ABSENT: None

NAYS: Cobane and Willans

The Court hearing on the gym has been rescheduled for June 26th so they can get legal counsel.

They now owe about \$12,000 in fines

The garage door jambs have been painted.

VFIS responded to the question about people in personal cars responding to a scene. The response was given to the commissioners. They would like to see an SOG re: Responding to calls.

NEW BUSINESS –

President Graziano of the Fire company asked if the Board was still going to pay half for the Friendsgiving Event in November.

He also mentioned having a summer barbecue. Date is July 22nd. He has quotes from caterers. They do all the set-up, food, etc. For 125 people, it would be \$4375 and if less, it would be \$3564. It would be cheaper than Friendsgiving. Would the Board split this one?

OR... the Company pays for the parties and the Commissioners pay for the sign alone.

Board discussed. Comm Willans said that after what happened last year, maybe the Board should distance themselves from these kinds of parties and leave them to the company.

Graziano – Only one person was the problem last year and he will not be present this year. If something like that ever happened again it would ruin it for everyone and we wouldn't be able to have more events.

Ehrich – It is a morale builder.

Willans – Alcohol is the common denominator – just because one person is gone, anything can still happen.

Tom Braviak made a great suggestion. That you put an end time on it. You have fun, then it's over. The event from last year happened way late in the evening, with that many more hours of alcohol.

Gethins – For now, let's keep it as splitting the sign if we do it, and the company pays for the summer party. We can then look at the budget before the November Friendsgiving event. Maybe this is something that we can actually put in the budget for next year, if it's to be an annual event.

Where would we get money for the sign?

The penalty account has money in it. It has to be used for training and equipment. We can make that work.

The Fireworks will be June 30th or the 1st, if it rains.

Thank you letters should be sent to Morris Township, East Hanover, Parsippany District 5, Madison and Cedar Knolls for their assistance in the recent fire.

Chief just took a 6 hour Lithium battery class. The damage from the remote control car happened in about 4 minutes from the above mentioned fire.

2 guys become Probies and 1 a regular member tomorrow night.

Comm. Ehrich will look at I-9s, regarding a new person wanting to join. He said that this year everyone should get an address form with their social security number on it so there are no mix-ups like last year.

PUBLIC PART OF THE MEETING 11 members of the public attended.

Derrick Shearer - The township liaison should be here. It is a detriment that they don't hear the conversations about things like the standpipes or the merger.

He has been here for 6 meetings in 2 years. Some items get brought up here and are never taken back to the town council like they should be. They need to actually pay attention to what's going on.

Quinn – They're afraid of a lawsuit from the developers but instead put people's lives in danger – and firemen's lives. Let them come here and answer that.

Derrick - I tried to get us into the COVID relief funds and all of a sudden, the township administration says we don't qualify for it. I'd like to know why because other fire districts got it and we met the parameters.

Quinn – They'll say we should show up to their meetings.

Mary Beth Cowley – I go to their meetings and Mike Mihalko said he would be cover for Cahill if he couldn't make it.

Gethins – Then those 2 should have better communication then, because no one is ever here.

Mary Beth Cowley – The Township Committee shows an agenda and minutes on their website. So does every other committee in town. Why can't the fire district do the same thing on their website?

Braviak – The minutes should be posted by the Board – not a volunteer. The District should be managing their own website.

Braviak – As far as the town not supporting plan reviews, that's a slippery slope. They don't know how serious this is. It sets a precedent. What's the point of getting a plan review, then?

When you do a site plan, they need to know how many trees you're going to plant and what kind. This is life safety and they're ignoring it??

It borders on criminality that the developer took an old e-mail from the past chief who was approving 1 item and passed it off as if the whole project had been approved. And the town took their word for it, which is inexcusable.

The courts are favorable to developers. But we couldn't get a TCO here until we had finished coat paving and they sent us list of 22 more things before this was approved.

The District needs to go ON RECORD immediately.

Gethins – The State of New Jersey is built to code.

Braviak – But when they changed the plans, it should have gone back to the Planning Board. They deviated from their original plans without proper approval. When they got their permits, they changed things. It should have been formally approved by the other agencies – not an email with the word OKAY in it.

Chief – They said they didn't have the road permit to open the road while they were working there. We worked with them to allow them to start building. They had those permits for a long time.

Braviak – Our attorney should draft this all up and everyone on the Board sign it.

We can go to their meeting also – next one is the 22nd.
Flag retirement is June 14th.

MB Cowley – As far as the money for Legal – Can we see it broken down?

All attorney fees are combined under legal. It would be like breaking down all the repairs or any other line item.

BILLS

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

AYES: Ehrich, Cobane, Gethins, Quinn & Willans

ABSENT: None

NAYS: None

<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Split</u>	<u>Amount</u>
05/01/2023	eft	NJ Division of Pensions & Benefits Health	4001 Medical/Dental Insurance	-13,038.50
05/01/2023	eft	NJ Division of Pension & Benefits-Pension	4007 Pension	-4,000.00
05/01/2023	eft	NJ Division of Pension & Benefits-Pension	4007 Pension	-800.00
05/01/2023	12778	Amazon Business	-SPLIT-	-26.98
05/01/2023	12779	Home Depot Credit Services	6012 - Bldg/Grounds Maintenance	-336.54
05/01/2023	12780	Morris County Public Safety Training Acad	8201 Training - Classes	-1,100.00
05/01/2023	12781	Fire Service Safety Testing	7024 Hose Testing / Repair	-716.10
05/01/2023	12782	Verizon 838	6013 Bldg - Cable /VOIP/Verizon	-182.78
05/01/2023	12783	Nisivoccia, LLP	5005 Accounting (Audit)	-5,940.00
05/02/2023	eft	Stand by	2009 Stand-By Fire / EMS	-4,651.24
05/03/2023	12784	Chenong, Darren	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-15.00
05/03/2023	12785	Cobane, Rob	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
05/03/2023	12786	Cowley, Dale	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/03/2023	12787	Cusmano, Gaetano	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/03/2023	12788	Danus, James	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/03/2023	12789	Desien, Marc	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/03/2023	12790	Dodson, Jake	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/03/2023	12791	Ryan Falkman	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
05/03/2023	12792	Gallo, Matt	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
05/03/2023	12793	Gethins, John, JR	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/03/2023	12794	Graziano, Jesse	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/03/2023	12795	Hueg, Kamdin	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/03/2023	12796	Jubinski, Ken	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-15.00
05/03/2023	12797	Kelly, Eric	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
05/03/2023	12798	Kelly, Shane	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-15.00
05/03/2023	12799	Koba, Jack	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/03/2023	12800	LaSota, Matthew	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/03/2023	12801	Mihalko, Joseph Jr.	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
05/03/2023	12802	Mihalko, Marianna	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-15.00
05/03/2023	12803	Santini, Anthony	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/03/2023	12804	Santini, Joseph	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
05/03/2023	12805	Shearer, Derrick	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-75.00
05/03/2023	12806	Tursi, Frank	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/03/2023	12807	Van Seggern, Steven	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
05/03/2023	12808	Wodynski, William	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
05/03/2023	12809	Ziccarello, Ricky	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
05/08/2023	12810	Optimum 10 Troy	6013 Bldg - Cable /VOIP/Verizon	-408.23
05/08/2023	12811	STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	5013 Office Supplies	-352.41
05/08/2023	12812	Police & Firemen's Insurance Association	4006 Police & Fire Insurance	-588.26
05/08/2023	12813	JCP&L 10 Troy	6001 Building - Gas & Electric	-1,181.84
05/08/2023	12814	Turnout Fire & Safety - Little Falls	8001 Uniforms - Class B	-3,737.85
05/08/2023	12815	Institute for Forensic Psychology	8401 Physicals - New Members 8604 ERS /Power DMS/Mobile EYES	-525.00
05/08/2023	12816	ESO		-246.40
05/08/2023	12817	Verizon Wireless 884	6013 Bldg - Cable /VOIP/Verizon	-152.04
05/08/2023	12818	Eastern Janitorial	6008 Bldg - Cleaning Services	-605.00

05/08/2023	12819	American Trade Mark	7007 Equipment Maint. - PPE	-142.25
05/08/2023	12820	Hanover Twp Bureau of Fire Prevention	8205 Promotions	-750.00
05/13/2023	12821	Fire and Safety Services, LTD	81	-1,850.00
05/13/2023	12822	Turnout Fire & Safety - Little Falls	8001 Uniforms - Class B	-94.99
05/13/2023	12823	Finish Line Car Wash	7003 Vehicle Maintenance - Cars	-24.00
05/13/2023	12824	Auto Zone	7017 Misc Maintenance Supplies	-66.13
05/13/2023	12825	PSE&G 10 Troy	6001 Building - Gas & Electric	-813.00
05/15/2023	12826	TD Bank N. A.	83	-190.34
05/15/2023	12827	Acrisure - holmes & McDowell	7001 Vehicle Insurance	-1,124.60
05/15/2023	12828	Daily Record	8206 Advertising	-49.82
05/15/2023	12829	Morristown Medical Group	8401 Physicals - New Members	-468.00
05/15/2023	eft	Board of Fire Commissioners	Employee Payroll	-20,978.73
05/16/2023	12830	Signature Public Funding Corp	Debt Service Principal & int	174,358.09
05/22/2023	12831	Janet Hammond	5011 Postage	-17.78
05/22/2023	12832	NFPA/National Fire Protection Asoc	8603 Other Subscriptions	-175.00
05/25/2023	etf	Tyler Technologies	2012 Fire Bureau Penalties	-9,896.00
05/30/2023	12833	Standard Insurance Co	4003 Life Insurance	-1,843.70
05/30/2023	12834	Township of Hanover	-SPLIT-	-616.87
05/30/2023	12835	Braslow, Richard M. Esq	5006 Legal Expense	-300.00
05/30/2023	eft	Board of Fire Commissioners	Employee Payroll	-23,749.49
05/30/2023	eft	write off old checks	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-35.00
06/02/2023	12836	Home Depot Credit Services	6012 - Bldg/Grounds Maintenance	-57.86
06/02/2023	12837	Verizon 838	6013 Bldg - Cable /VOIP/Verizon	-182.78
06/02/2023	12838	US Bank Equipment Finance	5012 OfficeEqpt Rental (copier)	-263.03
06/02/2023	12839	AC Drywall & Painting, Inc.	6012 - Bldg/Grounds Maintenance	-7,740.00
06/02/2023	12840	IIA Fire Department Testing	8003 - Testing - Hose	-3,102.30
06/02/2023	12841	CPR Baltimore	9002 Rescue Equip-(non bond)	-587.49
06/02/2023	12842	Morristown Medical Group	8401 Physicals - New Members	-468.00
06/02/2023	12843	Turnout Fire & Safety - Little Falls	8001 Uniforms - Class B	-78.99
06/02/2023	12844	Acrisure - holmes & McDowell	7001 Vehicle Insurance	-9,384.00
06/02/2023	12845	Lane Biviano, Esq.	5006 Legal Expense	-1,602.00
06/02/2023	12846	Amazon Business	-SPLIT-	-273.58
06/02/2023	12847	Township of Hanover	-SPLIT-	-651.76
06/02/2023	12848	Verizon Wireless 884	6013 Bldg - Cable /VOIP/Verizon	-152.04
06/02/2023	12849	Amtrust North America	4009 Workers Comp	-6,552.00
06/05/2023	eft	NJ Division of Pensions & Benefits Health	4001 Medical/Dental Insurance	-13,038.50
06/05/2023	12850	Morris County Public Safety Training Acad	8201 Training - Classes	-100.00
06/05/2023	12851	Optimum 10 Troy	6013 Bldg - Cable /VOIP/Verizon	-408.19
06/05/2023	12852	Ciullo, Michael	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-15.00
06/05/2023	12853	Cowley, Dale	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/05/2023	12854	Cusmano, Gaetano	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-15.00
06/05/2023	12855	Danus, James	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/05/2023	12856	Desien, Marc	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/05/2023	12857	Dodson, Jake	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/05/2023	12858	Gethins, John, JR	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
06/05/2023	12859	Graziano, Jesse	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
06/05/2023	12860	Hueg, Kamdin	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/05/2023	12861	Jubinski, Ken	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-15.00
06/05/2023	12862	Kelly, Shane	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00

06/05/2023	12863	Koba, Jack	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
06/05/2023	12864	LaSota, Matthew	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
06/05/2023	12865	Makowski, Joseph	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
06/05/2023	12866	Mihalko, Joseph Jr.	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-15.00
06/05/2023	12867	Mihalko, Marianna	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
06/05/2023	12868	Santini, Anthony	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/05/2023	12869	Santini, Joseph	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
06/05/2023	12870	Shearer, Derrick	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-75.00
06/05/2023	12871	Tursi, Frank	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/05/2023	12872	Wodynski, William	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-25.00
06/05/2023	12873	Ziccarello, Ricky	4012 Fuel Vouchers	-40.00
06/09/2023	eft	NJ Division of Pension & Benefits-Pension	4007 Pension	-800.00
06/09/2023	eft	NJ Division of Pension & Benefits-Pension	4007 Pension	-4,000.00
06/12/2023	12874	JCP&L 10 Troy	6001 Building - Gas & Electric	-1,463.88
06/12/2023	12875	PSE&G 10 Troy	6001 Building - Gas & Electric	-813.00
06/12/2023	12876	Police & Firemen's Insurance Association	4006 Police & Fire Insurance	-588.26
06/12/2023	12877	Turnout Fire & Safety - Little Falls	8001 Uniforms - Class B	-292.00
06/12/2023	12878	STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	5013 Office Supplies	-179.33
06/12/2023	12879	ESO	8604 ERS /Power DMS/Mobile EYES	-246.40
06/12/2023	12880	Finish Line Car Wash	7003 Vehicle Maintenance - Cars	-36.00
06/12/2023	12881	Election Graphics, Inc.	5016 Election	-1,545.00
06/12/2023	12882	Auto Zone	7017 Misc Maintenance Supplies	-127.20
06/12/2023	12883	FIS On Site Services, LLC	-SPLIT-	-568.75
				-
				<u>332,985.30</u>
				-
				<u><u>332,985.30</u></u>

Comm Cobane made a motion to go into Closed session. Comm. Quinn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Board came out of Closed Session at 9:03

Comm Cobane made a motion to adjourn. Comm. Quinn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Hammond
Assistant to the Board