

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No. 1 was held on Wednesday, December 6, 2017 at 7:05 P.M.

Commissioner John C. Kenny called the meeting to order.

Maria Bucsanszky: Mr. President – All the requirements of the “Open Public Meeting Act” have been complied with by advertising in the Home News Tribune and Star Ledger. Copies of the meeting notice have been sent to the Municipal Clerk’s Office and posted on the bulletin boards of the fire house and the post offices of Woodbridge and Sewaren. Mr. President, you may proceed.

Commissioner John C. Kenny led a pledge to the flag.

A moment of silence was observed for our departed men and women serving overseas and our departed members.

PRESENT: Commissioner Michael Hapstak, Commissioner Todd Howell, Commissioner John C. Kenny, Commissioner Patrick Kenny, Commissioner Robert Minkler, Sr.

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney – Christopher Howell
Clerk – Maria Bucsanszky
Chief Charles Kenny

Commissioner J.C.K.: Okay, I need a motion to accept the minutes of the last regular meeting.

Commissioner Robert Minkler, Sr. made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 1st, 2017 Regular Meeting which was seconded by Commissioner Todd Howell and carried unanimously.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Okay, now I need a motion for the minutes of the meeting of November 21st.

Commissioner Todd Howell made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 21st, 2017 meeting which was seconded by Commissioner Robert Minkler, Sr. and carried unanimously.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Alright, we will move into Committee Reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PERSONNEL AND LIAISON TO THE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY:

Commissioner M.H.: We'll do Training first. Training hours there were 63 total hours, 30 on the career side and 33 on the volunteer side. Volunteer training for the month was the extrication tool review and then the annual mandatory training will be held on Saturday, January 13th. The work on the drill schedule for 2018 we'll be doing a propane emergency lecture in March, Live Burn in April, Rude Awareness is scheduled for May. Under development for the rest of the year is a radio communication lesson, grid operations for the fall, a Rutgers supervisory class, a program by the Dolan Group called Discipline Sticks and Fire Instructor II for Captain Paul and Balog as per the FCFA schedule which I think was out yesterday.

Personnel – On behalf of Chief Kenny and myself I want to acknowledge Firefighter Bill York. We had an alarm at St. Joseph's Nursing Home on Thanksgiving and Chief Kenny and I were there. One of the residents from the nursing home was going to their car with the help of a couple of family members, the car pulled up by the equipment for the resident to get into and Firefighter York took the time to help get the resident into the car. This is a great example of our customer service policy in action.

Health and Safety – Our first meeting for 2018 is scheduled on the 18th of January so the next report should be at the February meeting. Between the average the department participated in the Veteran's Day parade last month. We hung the flag from the ladder truck near the reviewing stand. We also participated in the Holiday Parade this past weekend. The volunteers were handing out candy and the Local had two floats. There is one more item that I think Commissioner Kenny will mention under Fire Prevention.

Volunteer Recruitment and Retention – I have drafted a plan for the Junior Firefighter Auxiliary and I'll be meeting with Captain Golden on the training aspect of the program. I'll be working to spread the word about the program's formation with emphasis on the high school where we've already had some interest. We're hoping to have the program dovetail with the Firefighter One program at the County Fire Academy. I've got a final draft and I'll get it out to everyone. I'm also working on some further ideas for recruitment and I'll get back to you in the next couple of months.

On a final note, thanks to Chief Kenny for a great job this year with everything we've made some real progress. Thanks to Chief Horvath for another great year serving as the Chief. We've also had a good year and most importantly a safe year and that's what is most important. Happy Holidays to everyone on the Board, Maria, Chris, Lisa and to every one of the firefighters. That's the end of my report.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Any questions for Commissioner Hapstak? Moving on to Apparatus – Vehicles – Commissioner Howell.