

**CITY OF LAMBERTVILLE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT #1  
MAY 20, 2014 – 6:00PM  
REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES**

Vice Chairman Kascik called the meeting to order at 6:00PM, with a statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, noticing The Beacon, The Democrat, City Hall Bulletin Board, various individuals and Station 1, Station 2 and Station 3.

**ROLL CALL:**

Secretary Lelie called the roll as follows:

*Present:* Vice Chairman Kascik, Commissioner Morgan and Commissioner Komjathy (via telephone). *Also present:* Attorney Richard Braslow, Chief Matt Hartigan, Finance Clerk Joan Garrett.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chairman Kascik.

**SWEARING IN**

Robert Colin Mohr was sworn in by Mr. Braslow, to fill the unexpired term of Paul Rotondo. Mr. Rotondo declined his position in February.

Justin Ege was sworn in by Mr. Braslow as the second paid career firefighter for the City of Lambertville.

A motion to enter into closed session by Commissioner Morgan, seconded by Commissioner Mohr and with a unanimous voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

**RESOLUTION**

**Closing of Meeting Pursuant to  
Open Public Meetings Act**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, the Commissioners are allowed to engage in executive session during any particular meeting when it becomes necessary to discuss matters which the statute allows to be discussed in executive session; and

**WHEREAS**, it was necessary for the Commissioners to discuss various matters of personnel, and accordingly, the Commissioners met in executive session to discuss same.

**NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED** by the Commissioners of Fire District No. 1 in the City of Lambertville, County of Hunterdon, as follows:

- (1) The meeting of May 20, 2014 is closed and will be reopened at such time as the discussion in executive session has been completed.
- (2) The minutes will be revealed to the public at such time as the matters discussed have been resolved.

**UNION FIRE COMPANY HOUSING AGREEMENT**

A Resolution and authorization to execute the Housing Agreement, subject to any changes requested by either party. A motion by Commissioner Morgan, seconded by Chairman Komjathy to execute the Agreement, and with a unanimous voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

**THE COMMISSIONERS OF FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1  
IN THE CITY OF LAMBERTVILLE, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
Resolution #14-016**

**Approving and Authorizing Execution of Agreement with Union Fire Company**

WHEREAS, the Fire District and Fire Company have negotiated an agreement relative to firehouse rental; and

WHEREAS, the agreement is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Fire District No. 1 in the City of Lambertville, County of Hunterdon, as follows:

(1) The attached agreement is hereby approved and may be executed by the appropriate Commissioners.

(2) The finalized agreement shall be approved as to form by the Fire District attorney prior to its execution.

**BUYBACK OF VACATION**

A motion by Vice Chairman Kascik, seconded by Chairman Komjathy to buyback the necessary vacation hours to equal the amount owed to PERS for back deductions owed, and with a unanimous voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

**THE COMMISSIONERS OF FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1  
IN THE CITY OF LAMBERTVILLE, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
Resolution #14-017**

**Authorizing Buy-Back of Vacation Time Relative to Employee Michael Barlow**

WHEREAS, the employee has requested that the Fire District buy-back his vacation time; and

WHEREAS, the Fire District has no objection to the request.

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NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Fire District No. 1 in the City of Lambertville, County of Hunterdon, as follows:

(1) The buy-back of 13.25 <sup>days (Jalmy Belie, Secretary)</sup> hours of vacation time relative to employee Michael Barlow is hereby approved.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion by Vice Chairman Kascik, seconded by Chairman Komjathy to approve the minutes of April 15, 2014 and with a voice vote, (Commissioner Mohr abstained), MOTION PASSED.

**APPROVAL OF REQUISITIONS**

A motion by Vice Chairman Kascik, seconded by Commissioner Morgan to approve the requisitions presented for the evening, and with a unanimous voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

A motion by Commissioner Morgan, seconded by Chairman Komjathy to approve the bills presented for the evening, and with a unanimous voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

**REPORTS FROM STATIONS**

Station 1:      Everything is in good shape. Just waiting for the Agreement.  
Station 2:      No one present.  
Station 3:      No one present.

Donald Hart thanked the Commissioners and Chief Hartigan in working with the Union to provide safe and efficient fire services in the community. They are looking forward to working with the Commission, and thanked them for working with them.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

Chief Hartigan read his report into the minutes. Chief asked for permission to participate in the Memorial Day parade. The July delivery date is still good for receiving the new truck.

He is working with the County to bring an Operating Extrication training course to Lambertville.

He'd like permission to trade in the SCBA's (38 packs). There are 22 people who can wear packs. The Department would like to switch over to a newer pack from NSA, with minimal cost.

We currently have 3 engine and 1 ladder truck, for which we don't have the staffing to run all these. I suggest we go to a Quint and 2 rescue engines. The value of our existing vehicles is \$500-\$550K for the 2012 Pearce Pumper, \$225-\$235K for 17-84, \$140-\$150K for the America LaFrance and \$45-\$55K for Engine 2.

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The Chief would like permission to market those trucks. Hopefully, they can be sold and we can recoup about \$750K to purchase a new truck.

He also asked the Commissioners permission to bring on board Greg Siwy. "I think it's pretty important to get the ladder on the road, and rescue services started with West Amwell and the Rescue Squad."

He would like to meet with the businesses that have alarms, so that we can map out these businesses when their alarms go off.

Commissioner Kascik asked that we jump back to the truck. We currently do not have a tanker. We need an engine with more water capacity.

We are trying to consolidate apparatus, maintenance, insurance and repairs. We want to be more realistic. It's important.

The Chief has permission to explore these possibilities to sell the trucks and purchase new trucks that we need. As a rough estimate we'll have about \$900K.

A motion by Vice Chairman Kasick, seconded by Commissioner Mohr to approve Chief Hartigan to explore the possibility of selling our current engines, and with a unanimous voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

**THE COMMISSIONERS OF FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1  
IN THE CITY OF LAMBERTVILLE, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
Resolution #14-018  
Authorizing Disposal of Personal Property**

WHEREAS, the Fire District is the owner of various fire vehicles and self-contained breathing apparatus; and,

WHEREAS, same is no longer needed for public use and is of minimal value; and

WHEREAS the Fire District wishes to dispose of same in accordance with New Jersey statute.

NOW THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Fire District No. 1, in the City of Lambertville, County of Hunterdon as follows:

- (1) This Resolution shall serve as the authority for the Fire District to dispose of the property referenced.

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**THE COMMISSIONERS OF FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1  
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Resolution #14-019  
Authorizing Hiring of Per Diem Firefighter**

WHEREAS, the Fire District has previously created the position of per diem firefighter; and,

WHEREAS, the Commissioners are desirous of hiring an individual relative to the position.

NOW THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Fire District No. 1, in the City of Lambertville, County of Hunterdon as follows:

- (1) Greg Siwy is hereby hired as a per diem firefighter at the hourly rate of \$17.00 effective June 30, 2014.

A motion by Commissioner Morgan to have the Lambertville Fire Department act as primary provider of rescue services for the City of Lambertville, seconded by Commissioner Mohr, and with a unanimous voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

**THE COMMISSIONERS OF FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1  
IN THE CITY OF LAMBERTVILLE, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON  
Resolution #14-020  
Designating Lambertville Fire Department as the Primary Provider  
Of Rescue Services in the Fire District**

WHEREAS, the Fire District provides fire protection services for the residents and taxpayers of the City of Lambertville; and,

WHEREAS, the Fire District deems rescue services to be included with the fire protection services provided; and

WHEREAS the Fire District therefore deems it appropriate to designate the Lambertville Fire Department as the primary provider of rescue services within the Fire District.

NOW THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Fire District No. 1, in the City of Lambertville, County of Hunterdon as follows:

- (1) The Lambertville Fire Department is hereby recognized and designated as the primary provider of rescue services for all incidents in the Fire District requiring such services be provided.

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Somewhere between July and August we must come up with \$300K for the new truck.

Jen Fernandez is asking permission to work with the City's recreational day camp to recruit young people for the City's fire service. The camp is willing to accept all responsibility.

Jason Strauss, Chief of the Lambertville Rescue Squad, wanted to quell the rumors that the Squad was no longer performing extrications. There have been many personnel changes. The Squad will be purchasing a new vehicle.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Sally Lelie - Secretary