

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
TOWNSHIP OF HILLSBOROUGH**

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HILLSBOROUGH, NJ 08844  
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**REGULAR MEETING  
May 8, 2012**

The Board of Fire Commissioners of Hillsborough Township, County of Somerset, New Jersey convened in Regular Session on Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at 8:00 pm. at the Hillsborough Township Municipal Building on South Branch Road. Commission Chairman Ron Berju called the meeting to order.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, a call of the roll indicated that Board members present were: Commissioner Ron Berju, Commissioner Greg Kane, Commissioner Kenneth Wetzel, Commissioner Nick Patullo and Commissioner Matt DeCicco. Also present were Fire Chiefs or their representatives: Chief Eric DeCicco, Fire Co. #1; Chief Bruce Vatter, Fire Co. #2; Chief Charles Nuara, Fire Co. #3, Chief John Lazorchak, Neshanic Fire Co.; and Chief Fire Marshal Chris Weniger.

In accordance with the state of NJ "Sunshine Law" adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mailing notification to the Hillsborough Beacon and Courier News. Notice was also delivered to the Township Clerk and posted on the Municipal Building Bulletin Board.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Wetzel and seconded by Commissioner Patullo to approve the Work Meeting minutes of April 10, 2012. Roll call vote. All approved.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Kane and seconded by Commissioner Patullo to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of April 10, 2012. Roll call vote. All approved.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Kane and seconded by Commissioner Patullo to approve the minutes of the Closed Session Meeting that took place on April 10, 2012. Roll call vote. All approved.**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Patullo and seconded by Commissioner Wetzel to approve the Personnel Meeting minutes that took place on April 5, 2012. Roll call vote. All approved.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Patullo gave the Treasurer's Report as of April 30, 2012:

Checking Account.Balance .....	\$ 3,899.19
Savings Account.....	\$1,516,509.16
LOSAP .....	\$ 73,982.05
Total of all Accounts.....	\$1,594,390.40

**Commissioner Wetzel made a motion to transfer \$83,150.04. Commissioner Kane seconded. Roll call vote. All approved.**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Commissioner Berju read the list of incoming correspondence consisting of:

1. Bureau of Fire Safety – Monthly Report
2. Bureau of Fire Safety – Out of Service Schedule
3. Bureau of Fire Safety to Township Committee regarding renaming roads
4. Chief DeCicco letter regarding dispatch changes

5. Neshanic physicals
6. Memo to Hillsborough Chiefs regarding Workman’s Compensation notice posting.

Commissioner Berju read the list of outgoing correspondence consisting of:

1. Commissioner Wetzel to Liberty Mutual Insurance Company regarding rosters for companies

**MONTHLY FIRE REPORTS**

Commissioner Berju read the monthly fire reports for March:

	<b>ALARMS</b>	<b>MAN HOURS</b>	<b>YTD ALARMS</b>	<b>YTD MAN HOURS</b>	<b>DRILLS</b>	<b>MAN HOURS</b>	<b>YTD DRILLS</b>	<b>YTD MAN HOURS</b>
<b>#1</b>	32	150.8	145	782.8	1	18	4	182
<b>#2</b>	51	231.1	204	1110.7	0	0	3	147
<b>#3</b>	26	158.3	91	881.2	2	173.5	9	613.5
<b><u>Neshanic</u></b>	15	56.4	49	387.8	2	69.5	9	316.5

**CHIEF FIRE MARSHAL’S REPORT**

Chief Fire Marshal Chris Weniger reported the following:

1. There is a walk-through at Dukes Visitor’s Center scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.
2. Last year I submitted a list of AEDs’ dates, batteries and pads; I’m asking permission to spend \$842.00 to purchase new pads for the machines that will be out of date as of June this year.  
**A motion was made to purchase new pads for Automatic External Defibrillators at the cost of \$842.00. Roll call vote. All approved.**
3. We applied for a FEMA grant to purchase fire extinguisher trainers; we will use them for training around town, open houses, etc. We will advise the board about the grant.
4. We received and deposited the FEMA reimbursement fund. We notified Commissioner Patullo and deposited the funds, which were just over \$3000.00.
5. We have \$4500.00 in our budget to purchase a computer for Fire Marshal Giordano; we have a quote for \$3455.56 and another for \$4135.00. I am asking for permission to purchase a new computer not to exceed \$4500.00.  
**A motion was made to purchase a computer for Fire Marshal Giordano not to exceed \$4500.00. Roll call vote. All approved.**
6. My new truck went to First Priority for one day because it was dead the other morning. They did an electric draw test and discovered they needed to change the way the batteries were wired.
7. We will be scheduling a hose pump testing for late June/early July. We will have everything done at one or a couple central locations (schools with fire hydrants).
8. Just a reminder to please notify our office of any repairs or maintenance to any equipment or apparatus.
9. Dianne is now a certified notary. If anyone needs anything notarized please see Dianne.
10. We sent an email regarding circular k12 blades. We will purchase some for Fire Company #2 and save money by buying them in bulk. Fire Company #1 does not need them as of right now but let us know if you need any.
11. We had a request to purchase rubber mallets for Fire Company #2 to use for open connections. They will cost \$18.90 each. Fire Company #2 needs seven, Fire Company #1 needs six, and Fire Company #3 does not need any at this time.

**APPARATUS – EQUIPMENT REPORT**

The Monthly Meeting was interrupted due to a structure fire call at 20:18. Commissioner Patullo, Commissioner DeCicco, Chief DeCicco and Chief Nuara left the meeting at 20:18.

**FIRE DISTRICT MEDICAL UPDATE**

Commissioner Berju reported that there will be a clinic on May 19, 2012; this is the last known clinic. Commissioner Berju sent out an updated list to all of the Chiefs.

### **FIRE DISTRICT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS**

Commissioner Kane reported that Fire Company #2's base station radio is still out for repair, there are several pagers out for repair and there are several new pagers to be handed out as needed.

Firefighter Ron Campbell reported he was asked to program a new version of the radio software. He cannot convert it at the moment because he does not have the copies yet. Commissioner Kane reported that a couple pagers still have to come back from repair; there are some for new members if they are needed and there are some setups to hand out.

**Commissioner Wetzel made a motion was made to allow Neshanic Volunteer Fire Company's pagers to have the district tone reprogrammed. Commissioner Kane seconded. Roll call vote. All yes. Commissioner Patullo and Commissioner DeCicco absent.**

Chief Fire Marshal Chris Weniger summarized and clarified the discussion regarding Fire District Radio Communications and Dispatch protocol that took place at the Bureau of Fire Ops meeting. The decisions will be put off until June's Monthly meeting when everyone is present.

### **RESOLUTION FOR FIRE SAFETY OFFICE**

Commissioner Berju read the resolutions regarding Hillsborough Fire Safety Office joining the International Association of Fire Fighters:

#### RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING BARGAINING AGENT

WHEREAS, the regularly employed regular paid non-supervisory employees of Hillsborough Fire District #1, Somerset County, New Jersey have affiliated with the International Association of Fire Fighters, AFL-CIO-CLC, and

WHEREAS, International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4897 has requested that the Board of Fire Commissioners, Hillsborough Fire District #1, Somerset County, New Jersey voluntarily recognize Local 4897 as the sole and exclusive bargaining agent for the aforesaid employees, and

WHEREAS, International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4897 has provided the requisite showing of interest in support of its request,

THEREFORE, be it resolved;

- A. The Board of Fire Commissioners, Hillsborough Fire District #1, Somerset County, New Jersey recognizes International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4897, AFL-CIO-CLC, as the exclusive bargaining agent for all non-supervisory regular paid employees including Fire Marshals and Office Administrator.
- B. All others, including volunteer firefighters and fire officers, police, non-fire suppression employees, supervisory employees as well as managerial executives within the meaning of the New Jersey Public Employer-Employee Relations Act (hereinafter "The Act") shall be excluded from this bargaining unit.

ADOPTED this date, May 8, 2012

For the Board of Fire Commissioners, Hillsborough Fire District Number 1, New Jersey.

#### RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING BARGAINING AGENT

WHEREAS, the regularly employed supervisory employees of Hillsborough Fire District #1, Somerset County, New Jersey have affiliated with the International Association of Fire Fighters, AFL-CIO-CLC, and

WHEREAS, International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4897 has requested that the Board of Fire Commissioners, Hillsborough Fire District #1, Somerset County, New Jersey voluntarily recognize Local 4897 as the sole and exclusive bargaining agent for the aforesaid employees, and

WHEREAS, International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4897 has provided the requisite showing of interest in support of its request,

THEREFORE, be it resolved;

- A. The Board of Fire Commissioners, Hillsborough Fire District #1, Somerset County, New Jersey recognizes International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4897, AFL-CIO-CLC, as the exclusive bargaining agent for all regularly employed supervisory employees including Chief Fire Marshal and Deputy Chief Fire Marshal.
- B. All others, including volunteer firefighters and fire officers, police, non-fire suppression employees, regularly employed non-supervisory employees as well as managerial executives within the meaning of the New Jersey Public Employer-Employee Relations Act (hereinafter "The Act") shall be excluded from this bargaining unit.

ADOPTED this date, May 8, 2012.

For the Board of Fire Commissioners,  
Hillsborough Fire District Number 1, New Jersey

**A motion was made by Commissioner Kane to approve the Resolution and seconded by Commissioner Wetzel. Roll call vote. Commissioner Kane, Commissioner Wetzel and Commissioner Berju approved. Commissioner Patullo and Commissioner DeCicco absent.**

#### **APPROVAL OF CLAIMS LIST 2012-05**

**Commissioner Wetzel motioned to approve claims list for 2012-05.  
Commissioner Kane seconded to approve claims list for 2012-05.  
Roll call vote; all approved. Commissioner Patullo and Commissioner DeCicco absent.**

**APPROVAL TO PAY CLAIMS LIST 2012-05**

**Commissioner Wetzel motioned to approve to pay claims list for 2012-05.  
Commissioner Kane seconded to approve to pay claims list for 2012-05.  
Roll call vote; all approved. Commissioner Patullo and Commissioner DeCicco absent.**

**APPROVAL TO TRANSFER FUNDS TO PAY CLAIMS LIST 2012-05**

**Commissioner Wetzel to approve to transfer funds \$84,000.00 from the savings account to the checking account.  
Commissioner Kane seconded to approve to transfer funds.  
Roll call vote; all approved. Commissioner Patullo and Commissioner DeCicco absent.**

**COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

**Commissioner Kane:**

**Commissioner Wetzel:**

**Commissioner Berju:**

**CHIEFS' REPORTS**

**PUBLIC**

JoAnn Bullock volunteered to do R&R for the district by calling all businesses in Hillsborough to ask if they want to participate in giving discounts to firefighters.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further public comment and the Commissioners and Chiefs being at the structure fire a motion was made by Commissioner Kane and seconded by Commissioner Wetzel to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Roll call vote. All approved. Commissioner Patullo and Commissioner DeCicco abstained.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth R. Wetzel, Secretary  
Hillsborough Township  
Board of Fire Commissioners