

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
TOWNSHIP OF HILLSBOROUGH**

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HILLSBOROUGH, NJ 08844
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WORK MEETING

JANUARY 9, 2020

The Board of Fire Commissioners of Hillsborough Township, County of Somerset, New Jersey convened in a Work Session on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 7:00 pm. In the Conference Room at the Hillsborough Township Municipal Building on South Branch Road. Commissioner Chairman John Lazorchak 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 John Lazorchak
Commissioner Jeff Mitchell

Commissioner Charlie Nuara

Absent: Commissioner Pat Buckley

Commissioner Mike Carone

Fire Chiefs present were:

Chief Tommy Lachowski- Station 36
Chief Dan Kazar - Station 38

Fire Marshal Chris Weniger - Fire Safety

District Officers/Members present were:

Deputy Chief Eric Regiec – Station 36
Assistant Chief Tyler Riordan – Station 36
Deputy Rich Crater – Station 37

Public present were:

None.

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.

CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioners discussed the following:

- Commissioner Lazorchak:
 - Apparatus:
 - Station 37 – New Pumper Truck:
 - Commissioner Nuara said that Station 37's Pumper is being built and they will be getting some pictures soon.
 - Station 38 – New Brush Truck:
 - Chief Kazar said that the target date for the new Brush Truck is January 9, 2020, however, it did not make the date. The target date is now the end of January.
 - Station 38 – Old Brush Truck:
 - Chief Kazar said that the Old Brush Truck is now ready to get out of the Firehouse.
 - Chief Fire Marshal Weniger stated that the truck has starting issues but the pump and tank are in good condition.
 - It was decided that Chief Fire Marshal Weniger should go ahead and list the truck on Gov Deals for \$10,000.00 with a 15-day timeframe.
 - Physical Policy:
 - Commissioner Carone and I met with Access to see how to proceed with switching from Primary Care to them.
 - Chief Fire Marshal Weniger said that the reason to switch to Access was to streamline and have a faster and easier way to get physicals.
 - Access with schedule (7) nights total - (2) nights at each Firehouse and a make up date. This will also include Fit Testing, which will be done at the same time.
 - They will need a guarantee of at least 5 physicals for them to come.

- Deputy Chief Crater inquired about previous records from Primary Care and said that a provider has to maintain records for 7 years.
 - Deputy Chief Crater asked if we are ready to go forward with the switch to Access this year? The Board replied that they are ready and said that Primary Care had too many stipulations and that was another reason to make the change.
 - Chief Kazar suggested that we consider having a Medical Director to handle anything to do with medical and physicals.
 - Commissioner Lazorchak will be contacting Access about questions and concerns that have come up during this discussion.
- GOG's and GOG Committee:
 - There seems to still be a scheduling conflict. Chief Kazar said that he has reached out again to the Committee and he cannot seem to get the Committee together.
 - Chief Kazar said he is willing to take on and reformat the GOG's.
 - Chief Fire Marshal Weniger stated that he went through all the GOG's and marked ones that had something done to them. He also has around 25 that need some kind of changes that need made to them.
 - A meeting has been scheduled for January 13, 2019 to further discuss this.
- Officer Qualifications:
 - Discussed Officer Qualification updates.
- Rescue Committee:
 - Chief Kazar said that the Rescue Committee would like to standardize training.
 - Spoke about classes and the District having the same certificated training.
 - Will discuss further at the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 14, 2020.
 - Deputy Chief Crater said that the next Bureau of Fire Ops Meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2020 and that this should be brought up and discussed.

- Chief Fire Marshal Weniger mentioned that all items on the Phase 1 list for the Rescue Committee that was approved in December has been ordered.
- District Training EO:
 - Commissioner Nuara mentioned that he spoke with the Trustees at Station 38 and they are considering having the Training at Station 38.
 - Will follow up on this and let the Board know for sure.
- Resolutions for January Regular Meeting:
 - Chief Fire Marshal Weniger stated that there will be a Resolution to conduct the upcoming Elections.
 - There may be other Resolutions if information is provided to Chief Fire Marshal Weniger in time before the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 14, 2020.
- 2019 Top 10 Responders:
 - Commissioner Carone has the 2019 Top 10 Responder Lists which need to be published in the January Regular Meeting Minutes.
- Commissioner Nuara.:
 - Budget:
 - Gave updates on budget information.
 - Discussed Budget for 2021.
 - Discussed Budget for LOSAP.
 - LOSAP:
 - 2019 LOSAP Sheets need to be posted in each Firehouse for 30 days in order to issue checks in February.
 - LOSAP will be increased to \$1,600.00, which is close to the State maximum.
 - Need to confirm regarding Member Mike Guzy. The green form was signed off that he has fulfilled requirements, but last month he forwarded a request to appeal his physical date. This appeal has not been discussed yet.

- Firehouse Contracts:
 - The Commissioners read, reviewed and discussed the Draft of Agreement for the (3) Hillsborough Fire Companies.
 - Copies will be given to the Chiefs at the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 for their review.

- Station 37's Boat:
 - Discussed the boat for Station 37.
 - Will follow up on this.

- Commissioner Buckley:
 - Absent. No Report.

- Commissioner Carone:
 - Absent. No Report.

- Commissioner Mitchell:
 - Went through vouchers for December 2019 and obtained Commissioners signatures.

- Other:
 - Chief Lachowski – Station 36:
 - VA Depot:
 - Inquired about the hourly rate.
 - Chief Fire Marshal Weniger asked the Board if they would consider increasing the rate.

- Stated that he would prepare a Resolution for an hourly increase wage if information is provided to him time before the Regular Meeting on January 14, 2020.
- There is a Policy that could be updated for this.
- EMT Training:
 - Discussed whether the Commissioners would consider paying for EMT training.
 - Commissioner Nuara said that this was discussed in the past and that the Board is not covering EMT Training.
- Deputy Chief Crater – Station 37:
 - Deputy Chief Vehicle:
 - The Deputy Chief Vehicle is in bad shape and needs to be replaced.
 - Discussed options of what could be done.
 - Chief Fire Marshal Weniger is going to look into this.
 - Gear:
 - In need of 2 new sets of gear.
 - Chief Fire Marshal Weniger said that he should contact Doug Kowalski.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further public comment, **a motion was made by Commissioner Lazorchak, and seconded by Commissioner Nuara to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m. Roll call vote: All approved.**

Respectfully submitted,

John Lazorchak, Chairman
Hillsborough Township
Board of Fire Commissioners

JL/jhb