

# **LOWER TOWNSHIP FIRE COMMISSION**

**SECOND DISTRICT  
P.O. BOX 724  
NORTH CAPE MAY, NEW JERSEY 08204**

## **Minutes of the Minutes of the August 19, 2019 Meeting**

The regular monthly meeting of Fire District 2, Lower Township, Cape May County, New Jersey was called to order at 20:00 hours by President Brown at the Town Bank Fire House, 224 Town Bank Road, North Cape May, New Jersey.

President Brown read the statement of compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act" and pointed out the fire exits to the public in attendance.

After flag salute, roll was called; Commissioners present were Andrews, Barger, Brown, Conley, and Prendergast; also in attendance was Charlotte, "Missie" Axelsson Financial Data Specialist. Also present were three firefighters, and three other members of the public.

### **MINUTES**

The Commissioners reviewed the Minutes of the July 15, 2019 regular meeting, which were distributed earlier. A motion to approve the minutes was offered by Andrews and seconded by Barger, voting yes, Andrews, Barger, Brown, Conley and Prendergast; abstaining no one; voting no, no one.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Prendergast reviewed the Treasurer's report; a copy of the report is attached to the original minutes and made a part hereof.

- Interest received for the month was \$2,970.80 from the Crest Savings Bank account.
- A tax check was received from Lower Township for \$198,500.00.

A motion to approve the report was offered by Prendergast and seconded by Conley; voting yes, Andrews, Barger, Brown, Conley and Prendergast; voting no, no one; abstaining, no one.

- The Commissioners reviewed all bills submitted to the Treasurer in proper form. Resolution 19-01.08 authorizing payment of those bills, in the amount of \$18,353.84 was offered by Conley and seconded by Prendergast; voting yes, Andrews, Barger, Brown, Conley and Prendergast; voting no, no one; abstaining, no one.

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### CORRESPONDENCE

The Secretary read the following correspondence:

1. The minutes of the June 1, 2019 quarterly Meeting of the N.J. Association of Fire Districts.

### TOWN BANK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY REPORT

- A report of the month's activities is attached to the original of these minutes.
- The aerial tower is still at Fire & Safety Services for repairs.

### BUREAU OF FIRE SAFETY REPORT

- The financial reports for August have not been received yet. The Bureau is financially sound. The Fire Bureau does not meet in June, July & August due to summer workload.

### OLD BUSINESS

1. *Past President & Past Chief Treon who is now with Cape May County Office of Emergency Management, requested and was granted a place on the July meeting agenda to appear with Director Martin Pagliughi to discuss a possible memorandum of understanding (MOU) to utilize the multi-purpose room during emergencies and natural disasters. (06/14)*

*Conley distributed a sample copy of the memorandum of understanding that was generated for Upper Township to each of the Commissioners, Chief Megoigal and President Marchina for review and to generate some comments. (09/14)*

2. *Brown reported that Rich Fire Protection has performed their inspection and determined that there is an issue with the kitchen hood not working properly. It may be an electrical issue and the Chief will have Marsden Electric look at it and if it is electrical to repair it (08/18)*

*Brown reported that the fan was fixed; it was an electrical issue, however, Rich Fire Protection, when performing the 5-year internal inspection of the sprinkler system revealed that the system needed flushing and provided photographs to substantiate the need. Brown presented a letter from Rich Fire Protection dated 9/07/18 proposing a not to exceed fee of*

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*\$13,800, to furnish labor and materials to perform the repairs to the sprinkler system. They can begin the work as soon as a PO is issued.*

*Brown has performed a lot of checking and has had a couple of conversations with Rich Fire Protection and they are 90% sure that the flushing will correct everything with the system.*

*A motion to approve the proposal of Rich Fire Protection was offered by Andrews and seconded by Barger, voting yes, Andrews, Barger, Brown, Conley, and Prendergast; voting no, no one; abstaining, no one. (09/18)*

*Brown reported that Rich Fire Protection would be here to flush the system on or about November 21, 2018. They originally were going to come earlier by he asked them to hold off until after the November elections since the building is used for a polling place for several districts and we did not want to inconvenience the election process.*

*Brown reported that Rich Fire Protection has performed the flushing of the fire suppression system and the system is functioning as designed. The also reported that the system will need major work sooner than later. They believe it will be necessary to replace the entire system from the entry manifold back. Brown will try to get a preliminary cost for the replacement so that we have an idea of the cost, which will most probably exceed the bid threshold. (01/19)*

*Conley had the original building plans scanned and Brown will provide a copy to Rich Fire Protection so that they can prepare an accurate estimate of the replacement cost. (05-19)*

*Brown reported that Rich Fire Protection will be at the firehouse tomorrow for fire system testing. (07-19)*

**Brown reported that Rich Fire Protection was hoping that we could provide them with the actual CADD files for the firehouse and not a PDF copy of the original construction drawings. The CADD files are not available, therefore their team visited the building and did some extensive investigating and reported that they would provide us with a proposal and he has not received that proposal yet. (08/19)**

- 3. Chief Megonigal reported that the sump pumps in the engine bays are defective and need to be replaced.*

*Andrews reported that he has reached to several commercial plumbers and has not had a response back yet. (04/19)*

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*Brown reported that the plumber Schaeffer has not responded, he will contact CM3 Building Solutions to see if they can perform the repair/replacement. (05-19)*

*Brown reported that CM3 Building Solutions does not perform the services needed, but recommended Deltronics a pump specializing company from Millville. He will reach out to Deltronics to look at the pumps. (06-19)*

*Brown reported that he has met with Deltronics, who are now GE Mechanical. The representative looked at the system and the pumps and provided a proposal to supply one new pump and other repairs for \$7,672.00. A motion to approve the proposal was offered by Andrews and seconded by Conley, voting yes, Andrews, Barger, Brown, Conley, and Prendergast; voting no, no one; abstaining, no one. (07-19)*

- 4. A team from FIRSTNET Built with AT&T consisting of Devon Rivano, Ricardo Fudrini and Jasmyne Vargas, presented a program titled Responder Unlimited Cell Phone Plan for first responders. The program is a federally backed 25-year program to provide uninterrupted cell phone service to first responders and their families at a reduced rate. The program will contain the option for unlimited talk to text on 4G/LTE and First Priority for the first responders and unlimited hotspot. From the presentation and conversation with the representatives, it appeared that there could be a significant savings over our current cell phone provider Nextel/Spring. There would be a need to “buy out” the existing cell phones and utilize the FIRSTNET phone, which preliminarily still appeared at though there would still be a savings the first year even with the “phone buyout”.*

*It was decided that we would evaluate the buyout, review the information provided at the meeting, and have the team come back to our August meeting for any additional questions that may have arisen after our meeting with Nextel/Sprint regarding the cost for the buyout of the existing phone.*

*It was also noted that members might also take advantage of family membership for their own cell phones. (07-19)*

**The same team from First Net returned to the meeting to explain that they had met during the month with Chief Megonigal regarding the costs associated. Chief Megonigal reported that there would be some buyback required with our current carrier Sprint and even considering the buybacks, the savings would be in the area of \$2,500.00 the first year**

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**and greater from them on. The chief recommended switching to First Net for cell phones and service.**

**A question was raised regarding that savings that could be afforded to members. The response was that it would depend on the phone and number of lines the member would need. Also asked was how does First Net know who the members are. The response was that they (First Responders) would rely on a membership list provided and updated by the Chief.**

**A motion was offered by Prendergast and seconded by Barger to cancel the Sprint cell service and convert to the First Responders Unlimited (First Net) network for cell phones and cell service, voting yes, Andrews, Barger, Brown, Conley, and Prendergast; voting no, no one; abstaining, no one. (08/19)**

5. *Conley and Chief Megonigal will be working on an updated mutual aid contract with the Cape May Point Volunteer Fire Company. (08/19)*

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. A proposal was received from Modern Group Power Systems of Bristol, PA. for Minor Preventative Maintenance, on a monthly basis, which would be in addition to our annual contract for maintenance services. This PM is to check the fluids, perform a visual inspection of the generator, and monitor the air quality 24 hours in advance of the monthly test run and exercise of the generator and transfer switch. This maintenance is driven by the States air-quality permit conditions. The fee for the 11 monthly inspections is \$2,320.00. A motion was offered by Conley and seconded by Andrews, voting yes, Andrews, Barger, Brown, Conley, and Prendergast; voting no, no one; abstaining, no one.
2. A proposal was received from Barber Consulting of Mays Landing, NJ for renewal of the Malware Bytes (Malware protection) for one year for 18 units @ \$48.99 each totaling \$881.81. A motion was offered by Conley and seconded by Barger to approve the purchase for 1 year, voting yes, Andrews, Barger, Brown, Conley, and Prendergast; voting no, no one; abstaining, no one.

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**PUBLIC PORTION**

Nothing.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 20:40 hours by a motion by Prendergast and a second by Barger.

Respectfully submitted,

Lewis H. Conley, Jr.  
Secretary/Commissioner