

**Board of Fire Commissioners
GLOUCESTER TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT 6
Monthly Board Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Held: December 16, 2014
Meeting Place: Board Office
Meeting Called to Order: 6:30 pm
Members of Board Present: **Chairman** – George Brown
Vice Chairman – Joseph Chew
Treasurer – Richard Annacone
Secretary – George Flinn
Commissioner – Steven Funkhouser
Administrative Clerk – Jeanette Cottone
Solicitor – David Carlamere

Salute the Flag

The Sunshine Law – George Brown: In accordance with the NJ Sunshine Law this meeting is open to the public. The public portion will follow the regular business of the Board.

Roll call Commissioners: All present.

Minutes of the previous meeting - Motion to accept the previous month's minutes as they are available to the public upon request.

Motion made by Comm. Annacone, seconded by Comm. Funkhouser. Roll call vote, all yes.

Correspondence – Jeanette Cottone

Adm.CI.Cottone: Correspondence has been given out.

Treasurer's Report – Rich Annacone

Audubon General Account	1,393,388.25
Audubon Payroll Account	13,537.12
Expenditures: 12/16/14	6,013.10

TOTAL AMOUNT FOR APPROVAL 6,013.10

Motion made by Comm. Flinn, seconded by Comm. Chew to approve the Treasurer's Report as read. Roll call vote, all yes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Computer Services – George Brown

No report.

Fire Prevention – George Brown

No report.

IAFF Contracts Co-Commissioner – George Brown

No report.

Legal Liaison – George Brown

No report.

Liaison to the District Volunteers – George Brown

No report.

Apparatus – Joe Chew

No report.

Budget Co-Commissioner – Joe Chew

No report.

Fire Department Equipment – Joe Chew

No report.

Fire Department Operations – Joe Chew

Comm. Chew: I have nothing to report, other than the Chief's report was distributed. I make a motion that we accept his report.

Motion made by Comm. Annacone, seconded by Comm. Flinn. Roll call vote, all yes.

Training – Joe Chew

No report.

Budget Co-Commissioner – Rich Annacone

No report.

IAFF Contracts Co-Commissioner – Rich Annacone

No report.

Personnel / Administration – Rich Annacone

No report.

Personnel / Operations – Rich Annacone

Comm. Annacone: I'll let you talk about the issue because I haven't seen anything on it yet.

Comm. Brown: It is my understanding that the Solicitor has already reviewed this.

Sol. Carlamere: I have.

Comm. Brown: And basically we're waiting to hear from the Dept. of Personnel, in your wisdom, we've decided to go ahead with a Memorandum of Understanding between Districts 5 & 6 that basically acknowledges that unless there is a problem with the Dept. of Personnel, that John Rosado will be transferred to District 5 effective January 1, 2015. I reviewed this, the Solicitor reviewed it. When I reviewed it again, I realized there was no reference in this agreement that John Rosado saw this agreement, and I did not want to have anything pending that later on would...

Comm. Flinn: John is good with this. We spoke to Civil Service actually, Marge spoke to them. And all they're going to require, as of this morning is a letter.

Comm. Brown: George Flinn, let history show that we never listen to what Civil Service tells us.

Comm. Flinn: Right, I'm just telling you.

Comm. Brown: So to make sure the District was adequately protected, I spoke to Mr. Kemery, President of the International Association of Fire Fighters and asked him to submit to us a letter from John indicating that he had seen this agreement and that he was good with it, because we're meeting tonight instead of next week. I spoke to Mr. Kemery yesterday and since we didn't have a letter in hand I said I would take an email to that affect. John really couldn't be a party to this agreement because it's between the District's, correct?

Sol. Carlamere: Um hum.

Comm. Brown: So we have received Mr. Kemery's email to John, and John's acknowledgement of the attached agreement, therefore, I'd like to move ahead and approve this.

Motion made by Comm. Chew, seconded by Comm. Annacone. Roll call vote, Comm. Chew, Annacone, Funkhouser and Brown yes. Comm. Flinn abstained.

Insurance – George Flinn

No report.

Sign – George Flinn

No report.

Water – George Flinn

No report.

Photographer – George Flinn

No report.

Building Maintenance & Grounds – Steve Funkhouser

No report.

Communications – Steve Funkhouser

No report.

EMS / Supplies & Equipment – Steve Funkhouser

No report.

Turn-Out Gear – Steve Funkhouser

No report.

Uniforms – Steve Funkhouser

No report.

Chief – Michael Brezee

Chief Brezee: The report has been submitted, and there is nothing new to report.

Comm. Brown: OK, we've already approved the acceptance of that.

Solicitor – David Carlamere

Sol.Carlamere: Nothing to report.

Resolutions – Jeanette Cottone

Adm.Ci.Cottone: The Resolution tonight is the 2015 Budget.

Sol.Carlamere: I think the Board read a resolution that we follow the statutory procedures for the adoption of the budget. It might be in that package I gave you.

Adm.Ci.Cottone: We do that always in January prior to the adoption because it states that we followed everything, yes.

Sol.Carlamere: You're going through the adoption and public hearing...

Adm.Ci.Cottone: Introduction and approval.

Sol.Carlamere: You should, for the purpose of your record do the Resolution that the Board followed the statutory procedures mandated for the approval and adoption of the budget. If you do that Resolution, then you just have to read it by title and number. You don't have to go through your budget for the public hearing.

Motion made by Comm. Chew, seconded by Comm. Flinn to accept the resolution that we had in the past.
Roll call vote, all yes.

Comm. Brown: So the title is 2015 Fire District Budget Resolution, GTFD 6 for Fiscal Year January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. I just want to point out that when you look at the numbers here, should there be any concerned citizens who pay a lot of attention to our budget, the budget number is high this year but it is because we're taking so much money out of the reserve. In other words, we really want to focus on the taxation number which is not really that much higher. The budget is higher because we took the truck fund money, that's going to be in the 2015 budget. We took some of the fund budget to apply towards the budget for 2015. It's a transition year for us in terms of two additional firefighters sometime around mid-year, and we have the truck coming in. But I just wanted to make sure if anybody does any comparisons of year over year, it's because we're taking that truck fund money and spending it within this budget. So it's not that we raised taxes by \$700,000, we've only taken that \$700,000 out of fund balance.

Motion made by Comm. Chew, seconded by Comm. Flinn to accept the first reading of the 2015 budget.
Roll call vote, all yes.

Old Business – George Brown

Comm. Brown: Old Business? (hearing none)

New Business – George Brown

Comm. Brown: New Business? (hearing none)

Public Portion – George Brown

Mr. Kibelstis: Good evening, Merry Christmas by the way.

Comm. Brown: Merry Christmas to you.

Mr. Kibelstis: Two questions. In the case of Ff. Rosado, why is it called a Transfer? If he's leaving the employment of Fire District, is it a lateral? Who will be his employer?

Comm. Brown: District 5. And it's really that way because he's covered by State pensions and other policies, so from the State's perspective, he's still really a State employee just being transferred to another entity.

Mr. Kibelstis: OK. Secondly, you mentioned on the budget there will be a slight increase. Any estimate on how much that will be?

Comm. Brown: Yes, we can give you that number, I think it's .135 if my memory serves me correct.

Adm.CI.Cottone: From .132.

Comm. Brown: From .132 to .135. And that's primarily due to Firefighter contracts that we're anticipating and the furnishing of the truck when it comes in. The strategy is to have all 3 apparatus fully functioning so that when we lose one we still have two. If we have a real working fire and enough people, we'll be able to take out three, so that's progress.

Mr. Kibelstis: OK. The last one, I noticed the one Engine is all lit up and has the lights on...when is Santa coming around?

Comm. Brown: This weekend.

Comm. Chew: It's going to start Friday night and at least Saturday night. If everything goes well, they'll be able to complete it Saturday night.

Comm. Funkhouser: I guess I got to get a sign that sticks out this way coming up the road so you can see.

Comm. Annacone: Weather permitting.

Mr. Kibelstis: On Saturday they're saying it's supposed to rain.

Comm. Chew: Yeah, and that's what could be the sticking point for them.

Mr. Kibelstis: Thank you, and have a great holiday everybody.

Comm. Brown: Thank you, Merry Christmas to you.

Closed Session – George Brown

n/a

Adjourn – George Brown

Motion made by Comm. Flinn, seconded by Comm. Annacone to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 pm.
Roll call vote, all yes.