

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

Meeting Held: June 25, 2015
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, excused
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:

Comms. Annacone, Chew, Funkhouser and Brown are present. Comm. Flinn is excused.

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

Correspondence – Jeanette Cottone

Adm.Ci.Cottone: It's been distributed.

Treasurer's Report – Rich Annacone

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|-------------------------|--------------|
| Audubon General Account | 1,508,755.63 |
| Audubon Payroll Account | 30,255.48 |
| Expenditures: 06/25/15 | 56,815.71 |

TOTAL AMOUNT FOR APPROVAL 56,815.71

Adm.Ci.Cottone: And let's do the one add on that I just did for \$121.66, R & R account.

Comm. Brown: There is reimbursement in there for food that I purchased on Monday evening for the firefighters, \$121.66.

Motion made by Comm. Chew, seconded by Comm. Funkhouser to approve the above report.

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

Comm. Brown: I'd really like to thank the volunteers for their excellent service, and the career guys as well during the weather phenomenon which has no name yet, probably never will. Thank you very much. Please pass the word, and that's all I have.

Apparatus – Joe Chew

No report.

Budget Co-Commissioner – Joe Chew

No report.

Fire Department Equipment – Joe Chew

No report.

Training – Joe Chew

No report.

Fire Department Operations – Joe Chew

Comm. Chew: I have nothing to report, and I can't imagine why he wasn't able to get his report out. Obviously very busy, so next month, we'll probably have 2 Chief's reports to do. And I would like to reiterate the thank you to the volunteers and career guys...excellent job.

Comm. Brown: Great job.

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

No report.

Insurance – George Flinn

No report.

Sign – George Flinn

No report.

Water – George Flinn

No report.

Photographer – George Flinn

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.

Building Maintenance & Grounds – Steve Funkhouser

Comm. Funkhouser: I've got a couple things to report on. The Chief wants to purchase a couple weed whackers, we have the approval for that. We have over the last couple of years been building up our lawn mowing services out there, so they're down a couple of weed whackers.

Comm. Chew: I would like to donate one, I no longer use it anymore. I'll get it up here.

Comm. Funkhouser: That's nice.

Comm. Funkhouser: On July 14th, there is an Expo in Baltimore. I got this pamphlet from the Chief. I called this Company up in regards to architectural buildings, fire houses. This company out of New York is the only architects that do strictly fire houses. They're going to be the key speakers at the Expo, and I would really like to attend. They have a one-on-one session on the 14th and I spoke to Mr. Pacheco of Pacheco Ross Architects, PC and he's looking forward to meeting. So Chief, would you go on the 14th with me?

Chief Brezee: I can.

Comm. Funkhouser: So we'll go on the 14th if that's OK with the Board. That's all I have.

Motion made by Comm. Chew, seconded by Comm. Annacone to approve travel and an overnight if necessary to the Expo. Roll call vote, all yes.

Chief – Michael Brezee

Chief Brezee: The report will be forthcoming. We had a couple rough days there. I think Dep. Chief Brown and myself have driven the town inch by inch several times. All in all it went well, the building held up well as far as our back-up systems and everything. We had crews in the Station. I talked to a lot of people over the last two days. Residents said nice things, the attitude is pretty good out there, and these people have gone two days with no power. I saw a lot of neighbors helping neighbors, and went out and chatted with folks. Those we could help, we helped. If we couldn't physically do something, we tried to advise them on ways to get things done. It looks like power has been restored to the last couple sections for now. The army of electric trucks just pulled out of town. We're probably still going to see some more burning wire calls. They haven't turned this stuff on to see where some of the problems are. They were working on Jarvis.

Comm. Funkhouser: Our power comes from Sicklerville Rd. area.

Chief Brezee: Sicklerville got hit the hardest out of our two sections. The Officers have been working hard on new S.O.G.'s which I've asked them to put together. New S.O.G.'s improving some older S.O.G.'s. We were hoping to present it tonight, but the storm kind of blew us out of the water on that. Over the next couple days, we'll probably shoot over through email, I'll send out to all the Commissioners the new S.O.G.'s for you to review. We intend to implement for the Chief's Orders, then we push it to the Training Division to have the Training done on them. But I'll give you guys a couple days to comment if you really want to.

Comm. Brown: The Junior?

Dep.Chief Brown: We have a new Junior member for approval by the District. He's gotten up to that point with his paperwork. He's the brother of one of our Firefighters, Dom Paravati, they both live in District, and we want to bring him on board, just need the formal Board approval.

Comm. Brown: What's his first name?

Dep. Chief Brown: Joseph.

Comm. Brown: Joseph, stand up. Welcome...thanks for serving the community, it's greatly appreciated.

Motion made by Comm. Chew, seconded by Comm. Annacone to approve Joseph Paravati as a Junior Firefighter. Roll call vote, all yes.

Comm. Funkhouser: Welcome.

Chief Brezee: I leave actually for Emmetsburg, Maryland tomorrow for a couple days of training . At 8:00am tomorrow morning. Chris will take over the day-to-day operation until I return Sunday night.

Comm. Brown: Thanks.

Solicitor – David Carlamere

Sol.Carlamere: Nothing to report.

Resolutions – Jeanette Cottone

Adm.CI.Cottone: We have a Resolution for...

Sol.Carlamere: Authorizing participation in Houston and Galveston National Co-Op, which will include authorization of signing the contract.

Resolutions – continued

Comm. Brown: And this is for the purchase of new apparatus. It simplifies the purchase, it gets us the best price at the same time.

Motion made by Comm. Chew, seconded by Comm. Annacone to authorize participation and to sign the contract. Roll call vote, all yes.

Old Business – George Brown

Comm. Brown: Old Business? (hearing none)

New Business – George Brown

Comm. Brown: One item was that myself and Comm. Funkhouser attended a meeting that the Mayor organized regarding Cooper University Hospital, and a program to help Firefighters determine their fitness. It has nothing to do with fit for duty. I sent that around to everybody. I think whether we participate or not should be based on a recommendation between the Commissioner of Personnel and the Chief. So I'm not going to say anything other than report on that at some future time.

Comm. Brown: We need a resolution to ask the Civil Service representative regarding the eligibility list for the Firefighter's position. We need to send them a letter stating we're not going to fill the position at this time due to contract negotiations still ongoing. She would then cancel the Certification. So I'd like a motion to go ahead and send that letter off.

Motion made by Comm. Annacone, seconded by Comm. Chew. Roll call vote, all yes.
Comm. Flinn has arrived, and abstained from the vote.

Chief Brezee: At the request of the Board Chairman, we are working on getting our files in line for a new fill-in list. In the past we have provided the Board with a list of the fill-ins we use. Right now that's not current so we are working as well before straight-winds Chris came blowing through town. That's another thing we will get done and get to you within the next week or so.

Comm. Brown: OK, I just want to clarify. I think in the past, you would present somebody as a fill-in and the Board would approve it, and I think we still need to do that. Anybody disagree with that? (hearing none)

Chief Brezee: The good news, well it's not the greatest news, but we do have volunteer firefighters here who are either unemployed or underemployed. And over the past several months, the trend has been to make sure we're taking care of our own first, and that's what we're doing.

Comm. Brown: Anything else? (hearing none)

Public Portion – George Brown

Comm. Brown: Public Portion? (hearing none)

Closed Session – George Brown

n/a

Adjourn – George Brown

Motion made by Comm. Annacone, seconded by Comm. Funkhouser to adjourn the meeting at 6:43pm.
Roll call vote, all yes.