

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

**Meeting Held:** November 15, 2016  
**Meeting Place:** Board Office  
**Meeting Called to Order:** 6:33 pm  
**Members of Board Present:** **Chairman** – George Brown  
**Vice Chairman** – Richard Annacone  
**Treasurer** – Brian Robinson  
**Secretary** – George Flinn  
**Commissioner** – Steven Funkhouser  
**Administrative Clerk** – Jeanette Cottone  
**Solicitor** – David Carlamere

**Salute to the Flag**

**Special Meeting – Legal Notice**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Fire Commissioners, District No.6, Township of Gloucester, Camden County, NJ, will hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday November 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. This meeting will take place at the Board Office located at 1946 Williamstown Rd., Erial, NJ. The purpose of this meeting is to conduct a public hearing and seek voter approval for funds to purchase two command vehicles and equipment in the amount not to exceed \$150,000. A yes vote will allow the Board to have a budget line item for acquisition of the two command vehicles and equipment in the amount of \$150,000.00. At the conclusion of the public hearing, the legal registered voters of Fire District No. 6 in attendance will vote for or against the question whether or not to authorize the purchase. The regular scheduled meeting of the Board will follow that Special Meeting.

**Roll call Commissioners:**

All present.

**Open to the Public – Comm. Brown**

**Comm. Brown:** The meeting is open to the public. Any questions? (hearing none)

**Sol.Carlamere:** You can close to the public, and now you have to have a vote. I'm not sure if you're going to do a show of hands vote or how you're going to do that?

**Adm.Ci.Cottone:** We're going to do the sign in with the actual ballot. That's what the State is pretty much requiring now.

**Sol.Carlamere:** OK, so there are no questions from the public. Everyone that is a registered voter has an opportunity to vote yes or no as indicated on the ballot.

Motion made by Comm. Funkhouser, seconded by Comm. Annacone to close to the public session.  
Roll call vote, all yes.

**Comm. Brown:** At this time, anyone that would like to vote on the resolution may step forward, sign your name, date, address, yes or no.

Motion made by Comm. Funkhouser, seconded by Comm. Annacone to close the voting. Roll call vote, all yes.

**Comm. Brown:** If the Clerk would provide a count for the Board.

**Adm.Ci.Cottone:** The count on the question for the command vehicles not to exceed \$150,000 is 11 yes, 0 no.

Motion made by Comm. Robinson, seconded by Comm. Flinn to accept the vote. Roll call vote, all yes.

**Comm. Brown:** I'd like to really thank the Clerk for a wonderful job in putting that all together.

**Adm.Ci.Cottone:** You're welcome.

**Comm. Brown:** Very nicely done. So we'll close the Special meeting.

Motion made by Comm. Flinn, seconded by Comm. Funkhouser to close the Special Meeting at 6:43pm.  
Roll call vote, all yes.

**Comm. Brown:** We'll go to the monthly meeting.

**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:** It's been distributed with the exception that we received a very nice thank you from Mrs. Hansche in reference to everything the Fire District did in their support during the passing and funeral of Mr. Hansche, our past Chief and Commissioner.

**Comm. Brown:** Although the Clerk does not need to read it, could we ask the Clerk to include that in the minutes of the meeting what she provided so it's there for other people to see.

**Adm.Ci.Cottone:** Yes, and the Chief and Dep. Chief also received separate thank you notes from Mrs. Hansche.

**Comm. Brown:** Very nice, they did a great job. Thank you on that.

**Treasurer's Report – Rich Annacone**

Audubon General Account	1,962,038.44
Audubon Payroll Account	30,314.62
Expenditures 11/15/	114,879.82

TOTAL AMOUNT FOR APPROVAL                      114,879.82

Motion made by Comm. Flinn, seconded by Comm. Funkhouser to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Roll call vote, all yes.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Budget Co-Commissioner – George Brown**

Nothing to report.

**Computer Services – George Brown**

Nothing to report.

**Fire Prevention – George Brown**

Nothing to report.

**IAFF Contracts Co-Commissioner – George Brown**

Nothing to report.

**Legal Liaison – George Brown**

**Comm. Brown:** I spoke to the Chief, we have two forms that seem to be duplicate regarding the request for DL checks and background checks, and it's the Chief's opinion that we can merge those together and we will do that into one form going forward. There is no sense for that second form.

**Liaison to the District Volunteers – George Brown**

**Comm. Brown:** The Chief has approved the reimbursement to the volunteers based on the schedule. I would like the Board to approve that so we can give the Clerk plenty of time to prepare those checks rather than making more pressure than it is already due to budgets. So I have the Chief's signature on this, look it over for a second. They're using the points formula that the Chief approved. I think on behalf of the Board, I'd like to really thank the volunteers for their contribution to the community this year. I wish we had more to give to everyone including our paid staff, but we all have budgets. Any questions on the schedule?

Motion made by Comm. Flinn, seconded by Comm. Robinson to approve the schedule. Roll call vote, all yes.

**Comm. Brown:** I'll give the Chief's signed one to the Clerk for her records.

**Adm.Ci.Cottone:** Thank you.

**Budget Co-Commissioner – Rich Annacone**

**Comm. Annacone:** The budget's being worked on.

**Comm. Brown:** Could we just have where everybody is on their budget at this point so we know.

**Comm. Funkhouser:** Progress.

**Comm. Brown:** What's that mean, will you be done this year, next year?

**Comm. Funkhouser:** This year. I'm further along than....

**Comm. Brown:** Prior years?

**Comm. Funkhouser:** Yes.

**Comm. Brown:** Alright. Comm. Annacone?

**Comm. Annacone:** We're getting there, it'll be done in no time.

**Comm. Brown:** OK...Comm. Flinn?

**Comm. Flinn:** I'm good. It's done, we know our figures.

**Comm. Brown:** Done Comm. Robinson?

**Comm. Robinson:** I'll be ready.

**Comm. Brown:** OK. Again, what I'd like to do is have some time to review the final numbers and not get to the last minute, so we'll probably going to need a special meeting once we think we're there because I'd like the Board to decide what cuts are made if any are needed, and inevitably there will be some I'm sure. But as soon as we get everybody's numbers together I'd like to do that.

**Sol.Carlamere:** Will you have your first reading next meeting?

**Comm. Brown:** Oh for sure. Maybe we'll have a workshop before the first reading. I think that would be the right way to do that, so stand by.

**IAFF Contracts Co-Commissioner – Rich Annacone**

**Comm. Annacone:** We hoped to have the finished version here tonight to be signed and approved.

Unfortunately there were a couple typo's in it, it went back to Mr. Long's office and I'm waiting for it to come back. Other than that hopefully that contract would be ready to go.

**Personnel / Administration – Rich Annacone**

Nothing to report.

**Personnel / Operations – Rich Annacone**

Nothing to report.

**Apparatus – Brian Robinson**

**Comm. Robinson:** Progress. With the new equipment, I'll defer to the Chief. The one piece was shipped down to Texas.

**Chief Brezee:** It's there.

**Comm. Brown:** I'd like to thank everybody that was involved in sending something that served us for 25 years to a second life. Thank you Chief, Comm. Funkhouser and anyone else who was involved. That was quite a night that night.

**Fire Department Equipment – Brian Robinson**

**Comm. Robinson:** Definitely progress, correct?

**Chief Brezee:** Yes.

**Fire Department Operations – Brian Robinson**

**Comm. Robinson:** Progress.

**Training – Brian Robinson**

**Comm. Robinson:** Definitely progress. You can see by the numbers.

**Insurance – George Flinn**

**Comm. Flinn:** How are we doing with those air conditioner's Mike?

**Chief Brezee:** I was going to bring that up.

**Comm. Flinn:** Mike will bring it up, but we have to do that before the close of the year so we can use that insurance money and then file a claim if we need to file a new one.

**Sign – George Flinn**

No report.

**Water – George Flinn**

No report.

**Building Maintenance & Grounds – Steve Funkhouser**

**Comm. Funkhouser:** The sprinkler system has been shut down in the building. The transformer has been fixed in the back of the building. The front door bay is broken. The guy is going to be out to fix the spring again tomorrow. The street lights are still out, parking lights still out.

**Chief Brezee:** That's what I was checking prior to the meeting, we're still on the list to have that repaired again. It was repaired once.

**Comm. Funkhouser:** That's pretty much it.

**Communications – Steve Funkhouser**

Nothing to report.

**EMS / Supplies & Equipment – Steve Funkhouser**

Nothing to report.

**Turn-Out Gear – Steve Funkhouser**

Nothing to report.

**Uniforms – Steve Funkhouser**

Nothing to report.

**Chief – Michael Brezee**

**Chief Brezee:** No official report due to I didn't have a whole month to go on. As the apparatus we spoke about, 863 was apparently a very big deal to Texas. When it crossed the State line today, it was met by Texas Marshals who escorted it home. It was apparently quite a big deal. It drove under its own power from here to there, and I was surprised, but they're happy as pie right now. It's all good.

With 866, one problem with that came up in the last week. I'm loving this new company. It's not good that they found a broken spring, but I think they found a broken spring because none of our other mechanics did. I believe it's been broken for quite some time. So we're waiting for that. It's going to be quite an involved repair. It's quite involved finding the exact spring for the truck. So as soon as we get all that information, that repair is going to be made as quick as possible.

The air conditioner...we re-worked what exactly we need in that room. Of course the air conditioner units were set when that room was going to hold 200 people and have a party. Now that we don't do that anymore, we do not need the size units, and we don't need two, we need one. So we got an updated quote from our vendor for \$15,500 to replace the unit. I think it's a good price looking at everything it covers. It covers re-ducking, covering the old hole, the crane rentals to remove and place the new unit up there. So I know we've got a little bit over the \$15,500 in that line item, and I'd like to see us move forward and have that done. Right now it's running, according to our vendor, about half of what it should be.

**Comm. Flinn:** It's also heat, not just air.

**Chief Brezee:** I'm concerned that we're going to get that foot of snow and that's when the heater will go down.

**Comm. Flinn:** I make a motion we make the purchase. We discussed this, it's an emergency, it was damaged by the storm, we already have the money, I make a motion we buy it.

**Comm. Brown:** Can we just clarify, we don't have the money for the air conditioner replacement, we do have some storm money for the roof, right?

**Comm. Flinn:** Correct. What's left from the roof repairs we're going to use to fix the air conditioner that was also damaged during the storms.

**Comm. Brown:** But are we going to file a separate claim for the air conditioner, Chief?

**Comm. Flinn:** We'll discuss that.

**Comm. Brown:** We'll leave that to your JIF representative to resolve that.

Motion made by Comm. Robinson, seconded by Comm. Annacone to proceed with the replacement of the one unit instead of two. Roll call vote, all yes.

**Solicitor – David Carlamere**

**Sol.Carlamere:** Nothing to report.

### Resolutions – Jeanette Cottone

**Adm.Ci.Cottone:** We have one resolution this evening. The Board of Fire Commissioners have determined certain items of inventory are outdated and of no use to the Fire District. It is herein resolved and approved that the attached list of items of inventory be and are hereby removed as approved equipment of the Fire District, and the same may be disposed of at will, as the equipment is without value to the District .

Attached to the Resolution is the 1990 Grumman that you had sent to Texas. I will need Mr. Allen and/or the Auditors because of depreciation reasons, for any value that would have to put on this resolution.

**Comm. Brown:** That really should have no book value.

**Adm.Ci.Cottone:** But it's still in the Audit, so I'm going to leave it up to them.

**Comm. Brown:** That should have been written off when the Chief was like on his seventh birthday.

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

### Old Business – George Brown

**Comm. Brown:** We still haven't resolved the drug testing issue. We'll have to work on that maybe after the budget. I just wanted to leave it out there as something to do.

Secondly the 11/9 Red Cross blood drive was a success by Red Cross. Thanks to everyone who helped get the room ready on the day after it was used for the election. Thank you everybody who helped with that. They're really starting to like us here. They met their goal. They had 42 signed up, it was a very rainy day if you recall, visibility was low, and they got 23 people who showed up. So they're happy with that.

**Comm. Funkhouser:** I forgot to add, the fence guy is going to be working on the fence as soon as it comes in. It's all ready to go, the zoning has been approved by the Township.

**Comm. Flinn:** You didn't pay for permits, did you?

**Comm. Funkhouser:** I walked out the door.

**Comm. Flinn:** Thank you.

### New Business – George Brown

**Comm. Brown:** I already said thanks to everybody involved in the transfer of 863, I wanted to say it again. Secondly, I'd like the approval for the Relief Association to meet here on November 29<sup>th</sup>, and that they have a budget for not more than \$200 because it's our turn to be the host.

Motion made by Comm. Flinn, seconded by Comm. Annacone to approve the Relief Association meeting and the funds. Roll call vote, all yes.

**Comm. Brown:** In our last meeting, we came out of Closed Session authorizing the Board to obtain an attorney to represent us in the legal action involving District 5. And you authorized me to do what I need to do. I just want the Board's approval for Jerry Silverstein who is an attorney for Parker McKay who will represent us in the upcoming lawsuit on 11/29 with District 5. I would like the Board's approval of the selection of Parker McKay and Mr. Silverstein to represent us.

Motion made by Comm. Robinson, seconded by Comm. Annacone to approve. Roll call vote, all yes. Comm. Flinn abstained.

### Public Portion – George Brown

**Comm. Brown:** Anyone from the public? (hearing none)

### Closed Session – George Brown

n/a

### Adjourn – George Brown

Motion made by Comm. Flinn, seconded by Comm. Annacone to adjourn the meeting at 6:58pm.

Roll call vote, all yes.