

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

**Meeting Held:** August 27, 2020  
**Meeting Place:** Board Office  
**Meeting Called to Order:** 6:40pm  
**Members of Board Present:** **Chairman** – George Brown  
**Vice Chairman** – Richard Annacone  
**Treasurer** – Brian Robinson  
**Secretary** – George Flinn  
**Commissioner** – Steven Funkhouser  
**Administrative Clerk** – Renee Evans  
**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. Flinn. Roll call vote, all yes.

**Correspondence** – Renee Evans  
**Adm.Cl.Evans:** They’ve all been distributed.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Rich Annacone

William Penn General Account	1,955,395.11
William Penn Payroll Account	36,186.26
Expenditures: August 27, 2020	86,926.82
TOTAL AMOUNT FOR APPROVAL 08/27/20	86,926.82
And for the previous cancelled meetings:	
March 26, 2020	111,335.79
April 23, 2020	133,721.43
May 28, 2020	65,918.08
June 25, 2020	65,221.99
July 23, 2020	121,574.35

Motion made by Comm. Flinn, seconded by Comm. Robinson to approve the Treasurer’s Reports as read.  
Roll call vote, all yes.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Budget Co-Commissioner** – George Brown  
**Comm. Brown:** I have nothing to report for the last six months.

**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.

**Budget Co-Commissioner – Rich Annacone**

**Comm. Annacone:** We need to start getting the budget together, we're getting close to the end of the year. If everybody could put their line items together for next year.

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

**Comm. Annacone:** Nothing to report at this time. We will go into Closed Session later on to discuss Personnel.

**Personnel / Administration – Rich Annacone**

**Comm. Annacone:** The Chief's contract is due, as well as Renee's. We have to start working on them. That's it.

**Personnel / Operations – Rich Annacone**

No report.

**Apparatus – Brian Robinson**

**Comm. Robinson:** I have nothing other than I'm glad everybody's safe.

**Fire Department Equipment – Brian Robinson**

No report.

**Fire Department Operations – Brian Robinson**

No report.

**Training – Brian Robinson**

No report.

**Insurance – George Flinn**

**Comm. Flinn:** Nothing to report.

**Sign – George Flinn**

No report.

**Water – George Flinn**

No report.

**Building Maintenance & Grounds – Steve Funkhouser**

**Comm. Funkhouser:** We had the sidewalk done outside, repaved. There was also an issue with the street drain. It's a County Road, so I'm working on that.

Which road are you talking about?

**Comm. Funkhouser:** Right out front.

**Chief Brezee:** From the traffic light to Belleview is ours.

**Comm. Brown:** I would check with it anyway.

**Comm. Funkhouser:** That's all I have to report for now.

**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. There were some requests in there for line item purchases.

**Comm. Funkhouser:** I wanted to add on to the Chief's Report. We had electrical added to the back bays with the new alarm panel going to be installed September 21<sup>st</sup>. I just wanted to add that into the report.

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

**Solicitor – David Carlamere**

**Sol.Carlamere:** No report.

**Resolutions – Renee Evans**

**Comm. Brown:** The first one is the FIRST Responders JIF Renewal of membership. And the second one is the FIRST Responders JIF Indemnity and Trust Renewal Agreement.

**Chief Brezee:** The reason it went down this way, not to blame anybody because Renee has not been into it yet. Usually I would handle all the policy reviews and all that, and Jan would handle renewals and bring them to you.

**Comm. Brown:** I have not reviewed the policies probably in six years.

**Chief Brezee:** Now I'm the Fund Commissioner and he's the Commissioner of Insurance.

**Comm. Brown:** Right, so I have not been reviewing them.

**Comm. Annacone:** Can it be tabled for next meeting?

**Sol.Carlamere:** I think it says it's the end of August.

**Chief Brezee:** They were looking for it by the end of August. The renewal is not till January.

**Sol.Carlamere:** Several Districts participate with the JIF. The policy is pretty much standard.

**Chief Brezee:** And my policy review is not that I sit there and read the policy, my policy review is I go through the entire Station of all our assets and make sure our numbers match, in case the place falls down or whatever. I make sure the numbers we have are going to cover the damage.

**Sol.Carlamere:** So if you approve it tonight, it's condition upon Commissioners review and sign off on it, otherwise you'll have to have a special meeting to approve it. There are several Districts that participate in the JIF.

**Chief Brezee:** In dealing with them and going to these meetings where everything is out in the open, I'm very happy with them.

**Comm. Brown:** OK, so do we want to vote on it tonight then let the Commissioners review, and we need a signature by a week from today.

**Sol.Carlamere:** Sure, and if you don't get any objections then it's final.

Roll call, Comms. Annacone, Robinson, Funkhouser and Flinn yes. Comm. Brown, no.

**Comm. Annacone:** So where do we go with that?

**Comm. Brown:** Well no, it passed 4 out of 5.

**Sol.Carlamere:** So if you have 2 other Commissioners that are not satisfied with it, that's a condition.

**Comm. Annacone:** So it carries 4-1 is that what you're saying?

**Comm. Brown:** Yeah.

**Sol.Carlamere:** It doesn't carry, it a majority.

**Old Business – George Brown**

Old Business? (hearing none)

**New Business – George Brown**

**Comm. Brown:** We got a notice from the State that there is going to be another new budgeting approach this year. I just had this handed to me. I think we'll do like we did last time, and that is let's go through it with Mr. Annacone,

### **New Business, continued**

myself, the Clerk and the Accountant and see how it goes. My guess is it'll be as big a mess as the previous two attempts, but let's go through it in a small group this year and next we could open it up to everybody...it's not that we're trying to exclude you. This is again the third attempt to do this, I don't have much faith in it, but we'll see. So do we agree to that...Comm. Annacone, Comm. Brown, Mr. Crowley and the Clerks. Any other New Business?

**Comm. Robinson:** For those of you who didn't know, the Wawa was approved across the street. If anybody wants to see the plans they were gracious enough to give me a set. It's no real mystery, but you can actually see what's going, what houses, etc. That's it.

**Sol.Carlamere:** Was there another application that was denied?

**Comm. Robinson:** There were three. There was a young woman that attended and simply wanted to cover her patio and got caught up in two large scale operations. They were gracious enough to let her go first to get her out of the room. It was pretty crowded, obviously with Wawa and Marksmen. For those of you who didn't know, you can't miss it, it looks like a large explosion occurred across from the public parks. Apparently he dug in without permission etc., you only have a right to know if you're 200 feet or 200 yards.

**Sol.Carlamere:** You're obligated to give written notice to everyone within 200 feet, but then it's put in the newspaper for everyone to know.

**Comm. Robinson:** No, that was turned down. One of the biggest problems is they cut so many of the trees all the way back and cut the natural buffer zone out. The natural buffer zone is gone. I don't know what happens from there.

Any other New Business?

**Comm. Funkhouser:** Yes, I forgot to report that we had a virtual meeting with the Mayor, no progress actually. I just signed a check in there for new tires for the Tahoe. Why do we need tires so soon?

**Chief Brezee:** My tires had a problem with, although they were direct pressure, they were squealing like crazy. I had them open them up and look at them, the side walls were causing the problem so I had the tires replaced. The sidewalls are soft and it's not safe.

**Comm. Funkhouser:** On yours and Chris's vehicle?

**Chief Brezee:** Just my Tahoe. The tires on the Durango were shot, so they were replaced for safety reasons.

**Comm. Funkhouser:** OK. Was anybody notified of the tires?

**Chief Brezee:** I let Comm. Robinson know when they replaced the Durango tires. They just did mine right before I sent the report. It was in the report, correct?

**Comm. Funkhouser:** Yes.

**Chief Brezee:** Keep in mind too, I agree with you they should've lasted a little longer.

**Comm. Funkhouser:** I hadn't heard anything about it and I know they're new vehicles. So I just wanted to inquire why we spent \$1,400 on new tires.

**Comm. Annacone:** Can we get them through Government those tires, or just paying regular price. Government should be a whole lot cheaper.

**Chief Brezee:** We get a better price through Tire Coral for the trucks and Castors for the cars. We can get a better price through them than you can on the State.

Any more New Business? (hearing none)

### **Public Portion – George Brown**

**Comm. Brown:** Stand up, state your name and state your business.

**Dep.Chief Brown:** Lt. Phillips interviewed a few new applicants. 2020 has been a really weird year. Our personnel, career and volunteers have really persevered. Our responses, because of people being home, some of them unfortunately out of work, have actually gone up. So far, knock wood, nobody's been sick. Everybody is following the safety protocols and I wanted to note that for the record the personnel did an outstanding job. Lt. Phillips has been really helpful also for the record in dealing with new applicants and getting them processed.

**Lt. Phillips:** We have 4 new applicants. Two could not make it tonight because of work reasons...Christopher McCoy and Kenneth Svolto. And we have two who are here tonight, Emily Peoples and Brian Colligan.

**Dep.Chief Brown:** The only thing we have not gotten back from the State is the background check, so the recommendation is to accept them pending the results of the back ground check.

So what happened was, the people who do background checks were furloughed so we couldn't get them complete. When they come back on line, we'll get them completed. If there's a problem we'll deal with it then.

Motion made by Comm. Flynn, seconded by Comm. Annacone to accept the new volunteers as mentioned.  
Roll call vote, all yes.

**Closed Session – George Brown**

**Comm. Brown:** We'd like to go into Closed Session at 7:02pm. Roll call Commissioners, all yes.

**Open Session – George Brown**

**Comm. Brown:** We've come out of Closed Session at 7:08pm. Roll call Commissioners, all yes.  
We'll vote on the Resolution approving Ff. Stott's leave and the Board's decision to only pay him for the second half of Uniform Allowance should he return prior to 12/31/20.

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

**Adjourn – George Brown**

Motion made by Comm. Flinn, seconded by Comm. Robinson to adjourn the meeting at 7:10pm.  
Roll call vote, all yes.

**Comm. Brown:** Thank you everyone.