

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF FIRE PREVENTION

April 10, 2008

A regular meeting of the Franklin Township Board of Fire Prevention was held at the Franklin Township Municipal Building at 475 DeMott Lane, Somerset on April 10, 2008 from 7:35pm to 8:55 pm. Chairman Inzano called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and reading of the Sunshine Notice.

ATTENDANCE

<u> X </u> Teresa Danile	<u> </u> Brian Levin	Township Council
<u> X </u> Brian Farrar	<u> </u> Phil Rizzo	Manager/Police Dept.
<u> X </u> John Hauss	<u> </u> Andrew Berardo	Fire Prevention
<u> </u> Tim Szymborski	<u> </u> Louie Hajdu-Nemeth	Fire District No. 1
<u> X </u> William Kleiber	<u> </u> Roy Mondri	Fire District No. 2
<u> X </u> Vincent Inzano	<u> X </u> Alfred Pinnella	Fire District No. 3
<u> X </u> Patti Shennard	<u> X </u> Dennis Shennard	Fire District No. 4
<u> X </u> Steve Berardo	<u> </u> Keith Silverman	Fire Chief's Association

MINUTES – The March meeting minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted.

John Hauss reported on a request to post the meeting minutes on the Township website, the Board had no objections.

CORRESPONDENCE – Copy of a letter from Fire District # 1 Line Officers to the Fire Chief's Association requesting a change in dispatch.

Copy of Fire District # 2, Standard for Background Checks.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT – The March activity and FAAR reports were reviewed.

John Hauss reported on the proposed permit fees; the ordinance has been introduced by the Township Council and will be voted on at the next Council meeting.

John Hauss gave a report on the replacement for the Fire Investigation Unit. Fire Prevention has met with a number of vendors. They are looking at a GMC chassis with a 16-foot FRP box. The box will then be modified with cabinets and benches. The box is similar to a contractors box. They hope to have specifications for early May.

John Hauss gave a report on the FY09 budget. Each Township Department was required to submit a report detailing possible reductions and the effect the reductions would have on services the Department provided. The information is being reviewed and will be submitted to the Finance oversight committee for further review.

TRUST FUND – \$5,149.57 balance – no activity.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT – Bill Kleiber reported that District # 2 is waiting for a response from their attorney as to the reasons why they will not participate in the Interlocal Agreement.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

County Communications – Letter from Officers of Fire District #1 was reviewed. Bill Kleiber made a motion that the request is approved; seconded by Steve Berardo; all in favor. John Hauss will forward to Roy Gunzelman.

Franklin Township Life Insurance – John Hauss reported on a proposal that would increase the benefit amounts as follows; age 70 and under \$7,000 / age 71 – 79 - \$3,500 / age 80 and above \$2,500. John advised that this is the highest level the Township can afford without increasing the budget line. After discussion, it was agreed that Steve Berardo would bring this information to the Fire Chief’s Association for a recommendation.

Background Checks for Volunteer Firefighters – Bill Kleiber reported on a proposed policy that Fire District # 2 is looking at. After discussion, each member was asked to review this policy with his or her respective Boards for further discussion and next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS –

Carbon Monoxide Detectors – John Hauss reported on a proposal by the Fire Chief’s Association to purchase additional carbon monoxide detectors for Fire Prevention. John advised that while the Department appreciates the additional detectors, there are a few concerns. First, the make and model of the detector proposed does not match the current models the Department is using. John advised that a decision was made a number of years earlier when Fire District # 1 purchased detectors, that the detectors would be the same make and model as the Department detector; Scott Scout. This is for standardization in the Department. The second concern is response by Inspectors to certain types of fire calls, including CO activations. John stated that while we understand the need for assistance for the fire departments, inspections and other activities are being impacted by these responses.

Reorganization – Steve Berardo nominated Vincent Inzano for Chairman; Bill Kleiber seconded. Bill Kleiber nominated Keith Silverman for Vice Chairman; Steve Berardo seconded. No other nominations. Vote - Fire District # 1 – absent, Fire District # 2 – In Favor, Fire District # 3 – In Favor, Fire District # 4 – In Favor, Chief’s Association – In Favor. Congratulations to Vinni and Keith.

ROUNDTABLE COMMENTARY –

Steve Berardo wanted to thank Eric DeCicco and Doug Kowalsky for their assistance at the Royal Court fire. Steve stated that he was the pump operator of Engine 31, when a 5” supply hose started leaking. Manpower was short from the fire companies and Steve asked Eric and Doug for help. He advised they quickly got a new line in place.

PUBLIC SESSION - In accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act the meeting was open for comments from the public. No comments were received and the public session was closed.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 10, 2008
7:30 PM
at Franklin Township Municipal Building
475 DeMott Lane, Somerset

Respectfully submitted,

John Hauss, Director of Fire Prevention