



**HAMILTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
DISTRICT #7
MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 21, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President John Marcucci followed by the flag salute.

Roll Call: Present were Jered Hafitz, John Marcucci, and Adam Bendas.

Nominations and elections of the Board of Commissioners of District 7 were conducted. Results as follows: President John Marcucci, Vice President Jered Hafitz, Treasurer Adam Bendas, Secretary Fred Seitz.

Reading of the minutes of the January 17, 2017 meeting, minutes approved.

Chief Report: 120 calls in January. Engine 17 and Tower 7 are repaired and back in service. All platoons took a defensive driving course. All employee driving abstracts were given to insurance company. Starting today all platoons to drill for "bailout safety" at District 2. The platoons did 9 bailouts including blackout, on air, ect. One carrier staff, and 4 volunteers started EMT school. Recently Scott collected \$10,000.00 in fines. Chief would like to use \$5,000.00 of it for a training apparatus. Chief had a meeting with all the Captains, went over job duties.

Fire Prevention inspectors want to re-visit adding of and salaries of inspectors. Need for at least 1(one) more inspector. All life hazards are done, non life hazards are behind. The new salary guides are in the Commissioner packets.

Chief is
Captain working on grant, we asked for 4 (four) things: \$22,000.00 for immunization. We will not reach \$22,000.00 in immunizations, Captain Mather is going to help the Chief with the grant. President Marcucci suggested Chris Smith for help. Chief working on Mental Health end of the grant. FMBA has a mental health guy from Nevada who travels the country doing seminars. Chief said the seminars for the employees are 3 (three) hours. One night for the Chiefs and other officers and an evening for families too. Joe Earhardt asked if they could be on retainer to families for injury or death. President Marcucci asked what would happen to the grant money if

the Township takes over firefighters and Chief responded that would be extenuating circumstances using money for physicals is also to be done. The grant money must be spent. Gym equipment is great, the guys are using it. John asked about training for the guys, but the grant money cannot be used for training. Grant money is for the use of District 7 ONLY. Chief will work on starting a mental health program. Budget approved and signed and sent to the state. 2 (two) new Commissioners to sign bank cards. Township check came \$900,000 and change. Last year we were \$9,000.00 ^{under} ~~over~~ budget. The money is to go to surplus. Several months ago we broke the thermal imager. Chief would like to use \$9,000.00 to purchase thermal imager. Commissioners' approved the purchase of 2 (two) new thermal imagers.

Commissioner swearing in is tomorrow night (Wednesday February 22, 2017). District 7 will supply food.

Fire Official Report: Annual report submitted for all 5 (five) Districts. 343 non hazard inspections not done. Fire at Chinese restaurant due to careless cooking. 2 (two) out of 4 (four) schools signed up for the fire starters program. Received list that \$220,000.00 is owed in fines throughout the District. Some are businesses that are no longer in business anymore. \$73,000.00 owed to District 7.

Treasurer's Report: motion made and passed to pay District bills.

Fire Company Report: Nothing from the future of the Fire Company.

Scott picking up for Joe with Seton Hall guys. 5 (five) kids set fire to a house near Hamilton West. 4 (four) out of 5 (five) kids have been interviewed. Joe also found a Robbinsville kid who set fire with sparklers. Assemblymen Benson and other assemblymen have put together a bill to make sparklers legal in the state of NJ. Scott and Joe to meet with Benson to ask FMBA to condone bill. Joe explained to Benson the temperature of sparklers and the hazards. Assemblymen was not impressed and Joe asked for Resolution to stop the bill from proceeding. Joe asked Chief if grant money can be used for Seton Hall guys on mental health end.

Budget passed and Commissioners passed motion to keep program going to hire 2 (two) men to assist in Fire Starter Program. Figured 100 hours per year. Fire Prevention to remain a separate entity. Jason Belmont does not need any training.

New Business: Inspectors to be paid \$25.00 per hour. Fire Prevention Bureau to hire one more inspector.

Motion made and passed by Commissioners for Chief to buy training prop.

Resolution 2017-003: To adopt 2% increase for staff, Chief, and Fire Marshall on a 1 (one) year contract.

Roll Call Vote as Follows: Bendas (yes)

Marcucci (yes)

Hafitz (yes)

Deferred Business: None.

Motion made and approved to pay new Commissioners bi-monthly.

Public Comment: None.

Chief requested to use computer for his use only to have District 7 Facebook page. Approved.

Motion made and passed to adjourn meeting.