



City of Lambertville Board of Fire Commissioners District #1

*230 North Main Street
Lambertville, N.J. 08530*



*Aladar Komjathy, Chairman
Sarah Lechner, Vice Chair
Erin McManus-Keyes, Commissioner
Jack Ludwig, Commissioner
Noelle Zappacosta Romano, Commissioner*

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SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

A regularly scheduled videoconference meeting was called to order by Chairman Komjathy at 6:07 p.m. with a statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, noticing The Trenton Times, The Hunterdon County Democrat, City Hall Bulletin Board, and various individuals.

ROLL CALL

In attendance, via videoconference, were Chairman Komjathy, Vice Chair Lechner, Commissioner Ludwig, Commissioner McManus-Keyes, and Commissioner Zappacosta-Romano.

Also present was Board Attorney Richard Braslow.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Komjathy.

RESOLUTION Closing of Meeting Pursuant to Open Public Meetings Act

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, the Commissioners are allowed to engage in executive session during any particular meeting when it becomes necessary to discuss matters which the statute allows to be discussed in executive session; and

WHEREAS, it was necessary for the Commissioners to discuss various matters of personnel, and accordingly, the Commissioners met in executive session to discuss same.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Fire District No. 1 in the City of Lambertville, County of Hunterdon, as follows:

- (1) The meeting of September 15, 2020 is closed and will be reopened at such time as the discussion in executive session has been completed.
- (2) The minutes will be revealed to the public at such time as the matters discussed have been resolved.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Lechner to enter into closed session, seconded by Commissioner McManus-Keyes, and with Commissioner Ludwig unable to vote due to a technical issue, MOTION PASSED. The Commissioners entered into closed session at 6:12 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zappacosta-Romano to come out of closed session, seconded by Commissioner Ludwig, and with a unanimous voice vote, MOTION PASSED. The Commissioners came out of closed session at 6:36 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Vice Chair Lechner to approve the regular minutes of July 21, 2020, seconded by Commissioner Ludwig, and with Commissioner Zappacosta-Romano abstaining, MOTION PASSED.

BILLS

A motion was made by Commissioner McManus-Keyes to approve the bills for the evening, seconded by Commissioner Zappacosta-Romano, and with unanimous voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

REQUISITIONS

A motion was made by Commissioner Ludwig to approve the requisitions presented for the evening, seconded by Commissioner McManus-Keyes, and with unanimous voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

COMMISSION ITEMS

Chief Barlow addressed the Board regarding recent maintenance issues with Squirt 17, advising that the unit is 31 years old and will soon be in need of replacement. Chairman Komjathy pointed out that while the District has very little debt, the Board should explore options that best meet the community's needs, as vehicles are very expensive. Chief Barlow concurred and suggested that leasing either a new or used vehicle may be the best approach. Chairman Komjathy directed the Chief to investigate what steps are needed to replace the vehicle and to present his recommendations to the Board at the next meeting.

Vice Chair Lechner left the meeting at 6:48 p.m. The presence of a quorum was continued.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Barlow addressed the Board regarding his report, which was provided to the Board. There have been no staff COVID cases. River activity has started to slow down due to people policing themselves, along with a change in the weather. Fire prevention events will take place outside the Firehouse and will be COVID-compliant. There will be an outreach on social media regarding fire prevention awareness, as well as the District's smoke detector distribution program.

Halloween events have been cancelled due to the pandemic, and discussions ensued regarding ensuring that adequate staffing was in place for the Halloween weekend, due to an anticipated increase in visitors to the City. Chief Barlow will discuss preparations with Lt. Brown of the City Police Department.

Chairman Komjathy requested that Chief Barlow designate a staff member to be on-call to respond to any alarm activations that might occur after regular hours, especially late at night.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There were no public comments made by member(s) of the audience present at the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Zappacosta-Romano to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner McManus-Keyes, and with a unanimous voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

The Commission adjourned the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

The next regular monthly meeting will take place on October 20, 2020.

*Regular Meeting Minutes prepared and submitted by
Natalie J. Jaroni, Board Secretary*