



Cherry Hill Board of Fire Commissioners

Cherry Hill Fire District #13
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Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003
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Chairperson
Ryan M. Doran

Secretary/Clerk
John J. Mulholland, Jr.

Treasurer
Sara Lipsett

At Large
William P. Kelly

At Large

MINUTES WORKSHOP MEETING **SEPTEMBER 12, 2023**

In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 P.L. 1975, notice of this meeting was posted on the Fire District and Township of Cherry Hill bulletin board designed for that purpose. Notice was published in the official newspapers on May 19, 2023.

CALL TO ORDER

Public meeting call to order at 19:00 hours.

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

DORAN	PRESENT
KELLY	PRESENT
LIPSETT	PRESENT
MULHOLLAND	PRESENT

Also present; Fire Chief Houlihan, AC DeLucca, AC McGeady, BC Reiss & PSA Fiorentini.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Battalion Chief Reiss briefed the Board on recent Fire Department activities; Kings Croft dwelling fire, flash flood response, Firefighter Probies first quarter assessments, driver training for our younger members and working on the training curriculum for the next Fire Academy.
- Fire Chief Houlihan briefed the Board on the upcoming promotion for Firefighter Speas to Lieutenant. Chief Houlihan advised the Board that Lieutenant Oberle will act as the Station Commander at Station 4 and will be compensated as an Acting Company Officer.
- Fire Chief Houlihan advised the Board that all eleven (11) Firefighter candidates are preparing for the start of the Fire Academy, which will begin with an Orientation on Friday, September 22, 2023. We will also have three (3) outside recruits in this class; one from Mt Laurel, one from Florence Township and one from Burlington Township.

- Fire Chief Houlihan advised the Board that we received a SAFER Grant totaling 2.6 million dollars that will cover the costs of eight (8) of the eleven (11) new firefighters we will be hiring. The grant will cover the entire costs for salary, health benefits and pensions for three (3) years beginning December 1, 2023.
- Fire Chief Houlihan reported that the staffing initiative overtime has reached \$540,000 to date. In addition, the Firefighter contract groups are working on dates for negotiations. AC DeLucca will be the point of contact for these negotiations along with Attorney Saginario.
- AC McGeady briefed the Board on the status of EMT hiring; we had 52 applicants who applied, but that was reduced to 16 applicants, after following up, and beginning the hiring process. AC McGeady reported that the 24-hour shift trial has started. AC McGeady also briefed the Board on the recent EMS staffing survey that was completed; a final report will be provided to the Board. Fire Chief Houlihan explained that we currently need eight (8) full-time EMT positions filled, but we are only budgeted for five (5). We are currently working with the CFO to determine if there is enough funding in the current budget to fund the additional three (3) positions.
- Fire Chief Houlihan reported that we are currently reviewing the job description for the QPA with intentions to have that position filled as soon as possible. The Chief also advised the Board that we are reviewing increasing the pay rates for our Per Diem EMT's for the Board to consider.
- Fire Chief Houlihan brought to the Board's attention two recent fire incidents where our four-man staffed companies responded to working fires and were able to quickly begin operations and extinguish the fires.

At this time Chairperson Doran requested that the Board go into a closed executive session to discuss the vacant Board seat.

CLOSED PUBLIC MEETING:

Motion by Commissioner Mulholland to close Public Meeting at 19:40 hours to go into executive caucus meeting seconded by Commissioner Kelly. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #23-09-12-01	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC IN ORDER TO DISCUSS CERTAIN MATTERS PERTAINING TO PERSONNEL AND/OR LITIGATION
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Motion by Commissioner Mulholland and seconded by Commissioner Kelly to accept Resolution #23-09-12-01 as read. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL VOTE

DORAN	PRESENT
KELLY	PRESENT
LIPSETT	PRESENT
MULHOLLAND	PRESENT

OPENED MEETING

Motion by Commissioner Doran at 19:58 hours to open meeting to the public, seconded by Commissioner Mulholland. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL VOTE

DORAN	PRESENT
KELLY	PRESENT
LIPSETT	PRESENT
MULHOLLAND	PRESENT

PUBLIC COMMENT PRIOR TO CLOSE OF MEETING

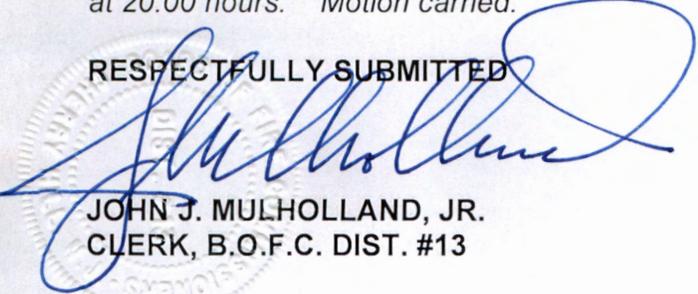
THIS SECTION OF THE PUBLIC MEETING IS RESERVED FOR THE COMMISSIONERS TO ACCEPT "COMMENTS" FROM THE PUBLIC. IF A COMMISSIONER WISHES TO RESPOND TO ANY OF THE COMMENTS, IT WILL BE DONE AFTER THE COMMENT PORTION OF THE MEETING IS CLOSED. PUBLIC COMMENTS SHALL BE DIRECTED THROUGH THE CHAIRPERSON.

No public comments were received.

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

Motion by Commissioner Kelly and seconded by Commissioner Doran to adjourn meeting at 20:00 hours. Motion carried.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED



JOHN J. MULHOLLAND, JR.
CLERK, B.O.F.C. DIST. #13