

Meeting was called to order October 24, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. Ian Thompson opened the meeting under the open public meeting guidelines.

**Roll Call:**

Robert Cromer - present  
Robert Holmes – present  
Ian Thompson – present  
John Boyle, Jr. – present  
Derek DeLuca - present

After the flag salute and moment of silence Robert Cromer motioned to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2023, Robert Holmes seconded.

**Communications:**

Letter from Sharon Madden regarding trimming overgrown bushes along her property line next to the firehouse.

CNC-3 from Marlboro Township  
FOIA request for call at 13 Regency Way, Manalapan  
2024 Budget Information from Water Department  
Notice from Optimum for return of equipment  
Oxygen Delivery/Removal notice  
Billing Statement from Withum

**Insurance Report:**

No report

**Legal Report:**

The following resolution was presented

Resolution Setting Compensation for Commissioners Pursuant to NJSA 40A:14-88 and the Manner of Payment Thereof.

Robert Holmes motioned to approve, Robert Cromer seconded, roll call vote, Robert Holmes – yes, Robert Cromer – yes, Ian Thompson – yes, John Boyle, Jr – yes, Derek Deluca – yes.

The purchase of the UTV is through SourceWell, need to make application online. Robert Cromer made a motion to complete application Robert Holmes seconded, roll call vote, all in favor.

### **Accountant Report:**

Met with the auditor on Thursday, received files back from Withum for 2022 and 6 months of 2023. 2022 Audit has been started, should be complete within 2 weeks.

Need to schedule a Budget Workshop. Robert Cromer motioned to schedule workshop for November 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., Robert Holmes seconded, roll call vote, all in favor.

### **Financial Report:**

Derek Deluca reviewed the list of bills for the month, Robert Holmes motioned to approve and pay all bills, Robert Cromer. seconded. Roll call vote Robert Holmes – yes, Robert Cromer – yes, Ian Thompson – yes, John Boyle, Jr. – abstain, Derek Deluca – abstain.

### **Committees:**

#### **Trucks:**

PMs are done, 76 fixed, there is still an issue with 75 and with Campbell. 3-75 has slight oil leak and slight exhaust leak, not covered by Campbell, will see if Defender can fix; Ian reviewed PM items for each truck;

3-76 several exhaust leaks, back of manifold, officer side wiper no good, brakes good;

3-77, brakes good;

3-87 brakes good, needs air filter

3-90 oil pan leak; rubber bumper needs repair; driver side mirror;

3-95 belt missing; brakes 60%;oil leak at pan rear

Quote to replace LED lights with upgrade \$8,000.00 includes parts and labor.

#### **New Chief's Truck –**

**28-391** – Truck in progress.

**Pumper/Tanker** discussion on re-labeling the truck from tanker to engine. Board will take recommendation of the officers, no one opposed; pre-con meeting is the week of the budget workshop at Defender via a Zoom meeting.

### **Equipment:**

John Boyle, Jr. advised that the Local Finance Board will not give approval for the radios without a signed agreement with the Township. John asked for a motion to sign the agreement once available so that a P.O. can be done for the radios. Robert Holmes motioned to sign the agreement Robert Cromer seconded, roll call vote, all in favor.

There was 1 concern with the quote for the UTV, the weight rating on the rear. Increasing the weight limit by 750lbs added \$600 to price. UTV price \$30,083.91, skid unit \$8,440.00. Discussion on Continental and RamFan, trailer mounted, Honda generator, \$67,000.00 Would like motion to purchase UTV, skid unit and fan, pending Source Well application. Robert Holmes motioned to purchase UTV, skid unit and fan(s), Derek Deluca seconded, roll call vote, all in favor.

### **Radios:**

Got permits from Township and Cranbury Township; waiting for a microwave (repeater) amplifier which came in last week, hopeful to be in use by end of year. Entire project anticipated up and running by June 1, 2024. 911 portion of plan will ping on map and include addresses.

### **Fire Police: No Report.**

### **New Garage:**

Ian Thompson advised the specs were approved to go out to bid. John Boyle, Jr. spoke with Matt Jessup who will start preparing the application so that when bids are awarded he will be ready to submit.

### **Building and Grounds:**

Not much to report; Robert Cromer will take care of overgrown bushes next door. John Boyle, Jr. advised that the bushes around the parking lot were trimmed and a tree taken down.

### **Future of the District:**

Derek Deluca advised there was a meeting with the First Aid, working on a question and answer platform.

## **STIPEND PROGRAM**

John Boyle, Sr. and John Boyle, Jr. discussed that since the program took a long time to get operational, the program would be pro-rated for this year which would give additional funds that could be used towards the UTV and Fan purchases.

**LOSAP: No Report.**

**HYDRANT: No report.**

## **TOWNSHIP LIASSON:**

Ian Thompson will hand in approved Resolution setting compensation to the clerk.

EMS Assistance, no report; Medical, no report; Central Jersey Compliance was not renewed.

**Unfinished Business:**

**New Business:**

Ian Thompson and John Boyle, Jr. discussed John's meeting with the Local Finance Board, there were 2 things the Finance Board requested

1. SOP's for the Department – John worked on a draft, will post to commissions for comments, modifications can be made, there will be a first reading and then adopt.
2. In order to get approval Board must get rid of 396 and use the money towards the purchase of the new truck, will ask Attorney for guidance, and there may be an interested buyer.

Ian advised the fire company to keep repairs to 396 at a minimum and to keep him posted as to an issues with the truck.

**Chiefs Report:**

See report attached.

**Presidents Report:**

Crane set up for Saturday to set new 60 foot pole and move 2 containers. \$1,050.00 to set pole and move containers, would also like to consolidate radio system and place antenna on pole.

Would like to see the Fire Company have a longer than 3 year term lease for fire protection.

Duty crews working out. Mostly good feedback, 1 negative, hoping for more participation from members, discussed members not responding because they know the duty crew is here. Members must still respond.

**Comments from the Floor:**

Tom Glowacka asked about batteries for the fire police flashlights. Asked if new lights could be ordered.

Bill Cleary brought back information from Wildwood to be looked at.

There as an incident with a resident coming to the firehouse alleging an accident had occurred. If there is an accident, call police. Do not allow anyone into the firehouse to take pictures.

Robert Holmes motioned to adjourn Robert Cromer seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Cromer