

November 8, 2023

**Hazlet Township Town Hall
1766 Union Avenue, 2nd Floor
Hazlet, NJ 07730**

The **REGULAR MEETING** was opened by Chairman Les Parleman at 8:00pm. Chairman Parleman led the pledge to the flag, followed by a moment of silence by those affected by the recent geopolitical events.

In compliance with the OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT of the State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting was provided in the following manner:

On December 19, 2022, advance written notice of this meeting was posted at Town Hall, 1766 Union Avenue, Hazlet, NJ;

On December 22, 2022, advance written notice of this meeting was sent to the Newark Star Ledger and the Asbury Park Press; and

On December 19, 2022, copies of the advance written notice were mailed to all persons who requested and paid for such notice.

Chairman Parleman directed Commissioner Storcks to enter into the minutes: this announcement and the advance written notice of this meeting.

Chairman Parleman called for a ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Parleman - Present
Commissioner Schroeck J C - Present
Commissioner Schroeck J. J. - Absent
Commissioner Sheldrick - Present
Commissioner Storcks - Present

Matthew Donahue- Attorney - Present
Michelle Barney, QPA - Present

Also Present:

Edward Schmidt, Twp Chief - Present
Craig Spirko, 1st Asst. Chief - Present
Robert Steiner, 2nd Asst Chief - Present
Tom Horner, Fire Official - Present
Steve Schmidt - First Aid Chief - Absent

A MOTION to approve the October 11, 2023 workshop, regular, and executive session minutes was offered by Commissioner Sheldrick, seconded by Commissioner J.C. Schroeck

All in Favor

Commissioner Parleman presented Commissioner Sheldrick with an ex-Fire Commissioner badge and a plaque for his 13 years of service as Hazlet Fire Commissioner. Commissioner Sheldrick accepted the badge and plaque.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Commissioner Sheldrick submitted the attached financial reports indicating the account balances.

A motion to approve financial report offered by Commissioner JC Schroeck, seconded by Commissioner Storcks.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Commissioner Parleman - Yes
Commissioner J.C. Schroeck - Yes
Commissioner J.J. Schroeck - Absent

Commissioner Sheldrick	- Abstain
Commissioner Storcks	- Yes

Commissioner Sheldrick presented the attached list of operating account and fire bureau bills to be paid. There are adequate funds to pay the bills.

A motion to approve the bills to be paid offered by Commissioner J.C. Schroeck, seconded by Commissioner Storcks

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Commissioner Parleman	-Yes
Commissioner Schroeck J C	-Yes
Commissioner Schroeck J. J.	-Absent
Commissioner Sheldrick	-Yes
Commissioner Storcks, M	-Yes, but abstain from Bills 23-338 to the County of Monmouth.

CORRESPONDENCE-

Michelle reported a recall notice for HFC utility vehicle, forwarded to Chief Spriko.
 Newspaper has new billing information, forwarded to Commissioner Storcks. Commissioner Storcks reported the process is now computerized and billing will be unaffected by this new procedure.

REQUISITIONS/PURCHASE ORDERS

Michelle reported Chief Steiner has a major repair that he will mention in his report. Repairs for NCVFC was approved, HFC has two repairs out, with no paperwork yet.
 Michelle reached out to vendors on open orders. The hose vendors are 8-10 months out so Chief Steiner was asked to get the information ASAP so it can be ordered in January.

Old Business

LOSAP was submitted and approved by the board. No appeals were received.
 Programming Keys are in and completed. Took 2 years.

CHIEFS REPORTS

Township Chief Edward Schmidt-

- Radio keys that took 2 years. Going forward, the county will program them in bulk so they are all done at the same time.
- requested an update on his email he sent the board in reference to the equipment his is looking for. Commissioner Parleman stated it was read, and we will discuss.
- Township Bon Fire completed with no issues

1st Assistant Chief Craig Spirko-

- Engine 177 was dead battery. Charger has to be replaced, so radio keys still need to be programmed.
- Brush 193 out for repair. Jim Curley's couldn't figure it out. Tom's Ford will run a diagnostic test. Not
- Tower 190 has a major hydraulic leak in the boom by the bucket. The back bars are not holding the bucket and the bucket is sagging. It's also leaking in the front by the doghouse. May have to go out to Seagrave for repair.
- Chief Spriko disagreed the Fire Commissioners decision in the operations and decisions on what radios to buy. He felt the commissioners rushed on the decision and should reach out to get more information. He stated the savings, and convenience of having a vendor in town is another plus for the operational side. He feels the decision was rushed. Commissioner Parleman stated if there are more issues going forward, we will look to switch, but as of right now we are staying with Motorola. Commissioner Storcks questioned the rushing of the decision to stay with Motorola. Between the cost savings at more than double the price and against the wishes of the operations chiefs. Commissioner Parleman stated the commissioners will stick with the Motorola since they have been a good radio and its about radio safety. Commissioner stated Commissioner JJ Schroeck said the current Motorola meets the standard of NFPA. Commissioner Storcks stated these radios do not meet the NFPA standards. Chief Spriko stated these radios are safe, and NJ is not an NFPA state. Commissioner JC Schroeck stated the homework was done and the radios we have are NFPA certified. Chief Spirko reported the radios used are not certified. The information that was mentioned such as fire rated vs public service

rated are talking points for dealers. Chief Spirko said the service life of the Motorolas goes out on the manufacturing date and the convenience of having a Tait radio dealer and vendor right here in town.

Chief EM Schmidt asked what he does with his old Vertex radios we have in service? Commissioner Parleman asked why he is asking them now? Chief Schmidt asked if we are taking them out of service, or are we going to spend money to replace properly. Michelle stated this is why inventory has been requested so we can get an accurate count. Chief asked who is liable if we are using vertex? Chief Steiner also has vertex radios in service, and mentioned his car radio is getting close to the end of its life-span.

-Chief Spirko asked if we have a liaison to the county to switch to the county trunking system? Commissioner Parleman mentioned Ex-Chief P. Wood would be the contact. Commissioner Storcks mentioned we are not mandated to go to the trunk system. He also mentioned we are switching to the county system that is all Tait radio based. Michelle stated we can add a committee on the fire commissioner side to deal with communications.

2nd Assistant Chief Rob Steiner-

-Ladder 291 had \$17K in repairs (hydraulic lines and rust issues) photos were sent to Michelle.

-Engine 278 had and exhaust issue where it separated from the truck

-Fire Police Vehicle lights had issue, going out to East Coast Vehicle for repair. Only to be used non-emergent.

-Flow testing coming in next month for air packs.

-Asked about Engine 279. Commissioner Storcks mentioned the board has a seller's discretion. Since we didn't receive the number we wanted, the engine will not be sold at this time. We will not sell at a low price.

Fire Official Thomas Horner-

-Commercial Inspections YTD 830

-CCO's YTD 449

-schools were happy to see fire prevention back. Thanked the companies for the help.

-New vehicle 430 going out to Winner Ford to repair a leak in a brake light lens.

-New hydrant will be going in at the Self-Storage place on Route 36 (old ShopRite) at the first entrance off the highway. Commissioners to enter agreement for property owner to pay fees to install and maintain moving forward. An agreement must be drafted and signed by both parties.

-Getting 2 portable radios, and they will be Tait due to the cost.

-Plans are here to renovate the building/store at Exxon station 35/Holmdel Rd.

FIRST AID - Steve Schmidt- absent

NEW BUSINESS

-Uniform points were submitted and inspected.

-December meeting will start at 6:15PM for the Fire Commissioners reorganization meeting.

2024 Budget-

Michelle mentioned the introduction of the budget is tonight. Does not exceed the cap. Reach out to Michelle if you like to review.

New Member Applications

1) Ronelo Castro- WKFC

- a. A motion was offered by Commissioner Parleman, Seconded by Commissioner JC Schroeck to accept Ronelo Castro as a volunteer firefighter for Hazlet Fire District #1, as a member of the West Keansburg Fire Company.

All in Favor

Resolutions

Resolution 2023-033 Merit Payment

A motion was offered by Commissioner Sheldrick, seconded by JC Schroeck to approve merit payment for M. Barney.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Commissioner Parleman	-Yes
Commissioner Schroeck J C	-Yes
Commissioner Schroeck J. J.	-Absent
Commissioner Sheldrick	-Yes
Commissioner Storcks, M	-No

At 8:40PM the meeting was open to the public. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, each member of the public will be given a maximum of 3 minutes for public comment.

No one spoke

At 8:40pm the public comment portion was closed by Chairman Parleman.

Resolution 2023-032 Executive Session

Attorney Donahue read the resolution of the Board to enter closed session to handle personnel issues. Action may be taken if we can vote on introduction of the 2024 budget.

A motion was offered by Commissioner JC Schroeck, seconded by Commissioner Storcks to approve resolution and enter closed session.

All in favor.

At 10:10pm the Fire Commissioners returned to the public meeting. A motion was offered by Commissioner J.C. Schroeck Seconded by Commissioner Sheldrick to re-open the public meeting.

All in favor

Lawyer Matthew Donahue advised the public that in order to adopt the 2024 budget presented, the board only needed a full majority. The board would need at least 3 Aye votes to approve the budget as presented.

Resolution to Adopt 2024 budget

Commissioner Storcks asked if there was a resolution number associated with this resolution. Michelle stated no as it is given by the state.

A motion to present the budget was offered by Commissioner Storcks, seconded by Commissioner Sheldrick.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Commissioner Parleman	-Yes
Commissioner Schroeck J C	-Yes
Commissioner Schroeck J. J.	-Absent
Commissioner Sheldrick	-Yes
Commissioner Storcks, M	-Yes

At 10:11pm a motion to close the meeting was offered by Commissioner JC Schroeck, seconded by Commissioner Sheldrick.

All in favor



 Les Parleman, Commissioner, Chairman



 Michael C. Storcks, Commissioner, Clerk