

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No. 1 was held on Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

Commissioner John C. Kenny called the meeting to order.

Maria Bucsanszky – All the requirements of the “Open Public Meeting Act” have been complied with by advertising in the Home News Tribune and Star Ledger. Copies of the meeting notice have been sent to the Municipal Clerk’s Office and posted on the bulletin board of the fire house and the post offices of Woodbridge and Sewaren.

Commissioner John C. Kenny led a pledge to the flag.

A moment of silence was observed for our departed members and for those that have been losing their lives this past month due to different circumstances.

PRESENT: Commissioner John C. Kenny, Commissioner Jay Barcellona, Commissioner Robert Minkler, Sr., Commissioner Patrick Kenny

EXCUSED: Commissioner Jeffrey Moran

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney – Christopher Howell
Chief Michael Balog
Labor Counsel – Nicole Grzeskowiak
Maria Bucsanszky

Commissioner J.C.K.: I need a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 17th, 2023.

Commissioner Robert Minkler, Sr. made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 17th, 2023 which was seconded by Commissioner Jay Barcellona and carried unanimously.

Commissioner J.C.K.: We will move onto Committee Reports – Personnel and Liaison to the Volunteer Fire Company – Commissioner Moran.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL AND LIAISON TO THE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY:

Commissioner J.C.K.: He only has one thing to talk about in Executive Session and then we’ll be able to take action after that so we’ll make his report part of the record. Okay, so does somebody want to make a motion to take all the reports and make them part of the record?

Commissioner Patrick Kenny made a motion to take all Committee Reports and make them part of the record for the meeting which was seconded by Commissioner Jay Barcellona and carried unanimously.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Okay, now we will move on to Payroll and Bills.

The report of Payroll and Bills for January, 2023:

Maria Bucsanszky: The bills for January, 2023.

Bills: \$243,951.90

Payroll: \$393,527.76

Commissioner Robert Minkler, Sr. made a motion to accept the Payroll and Bills which was seconded by Commissioner Jay Barcellona and carried unanimously.

Commissioner P.K.: Mr. President, with that motion I would like to do the add-on bills of \$9,683.27.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Okay, so noted. Any other exceptions on the Bill List? Okay, Treasurer's Report.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Maria Bucsanszky: Treasurer's Report for February 1st, 2023.

Previous Balance – January 17 th , 2023	\$5,580,495.08
Deposits	\$ 45,000.58
Payroll and Adjustments	\$ 116,007.24
Current Bills	\$ 243,951.90
Ending Balance as of February 1 st , 2023 without the add-on bills	\$5,265,536.52

Commissioner Robert Minkler, Sr. made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report which was seconded by Commissioner Jay Barcellona and carried unanimously.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Communications.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Maria Bucsanszky: All Communications were pass through to the Commissioners.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Okay, Unfinished Business – Commissioner P. Kenny.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Commissioner P.K.: I have nothing.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Commissioner Minkler.

Commissioner R.M.: None at this time.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Commissioner Barcellona.

Commissioner J.B.: None at this time.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Mr. Attorney.

Christopher Howell, Attorney: Nothing at this time.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Okay, Madam Clerk.

Maria Bucsanszky: Nothing.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Chief

Chief Michael Balog: Nothing.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Nicole.

Labor Counsel – Nicole Grzeskowiak: None.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Okay, we will go on to New Business – Commissioner P. Kenny.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner P.K.: I have nothing.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Commissioner Minkler.

Commissioner R.M.: Nothing at this time.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Commissioner Barcellona.

Commissioner J.B.: Nothing.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Mr. Attorney.

Christopher Howell, Attorney: No New Business.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Madam Clerk.

Maria Bucsanszky: Nothing.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Chief.

Chief Michael Balog: Nothing.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Nicole.

Labor Counsel – Nicole Grzewkowiak: None.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Okay, we'll move on to Remarks, Comments or Questions From The Audience.

REMARKS, COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

Commissioner J.C.K.: Chief Fee do you have anything?

Chief Fee: yes.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
January calls	55	43
Year To Date	55	43

Chief Fee: He did ask, he says if there anything under LOSAP he'll have it for you next month. He's working on it right now and he's put a request in for apparatus for the St. Patrick's Day parade and the backroom for two hours after the parade ends, that's it.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Okay Chief, you will take care of that?

Chief Michael Balog: Yes sir.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Okay, then we might as well go for the approval for the normal refreshment.

Commissioner Patrick Kenny made a motion for the normal routine that they do for after the parade in the backroom which was seconded by Commissioner Jay Barcellona and carried unanimously.

Commissioner J.C.K.: I need to go to Executive Session for some personnel and legal matters. It probably will be only about five minutes or so.

Commissioner Robert Minkler, Sr. made a motion to go into Executive Session for some personnel and legal matters at 7:10 PM which was seconded by Commissioner Jay Barcellona and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Robert Minkler, Sr. made a motion to return to the Regular Meeting at 7:30 P.M. which was seconded by Commissioner Jay Barcellona and carried unanimously.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Mr. Attorney, do you want to give us a summary?

Christopher Howell, Attorney: Yes, I will. Tonight's Executive Session we discussed the appointment of a Provisional Deputy Chief. We reviewed a professional service contract and we discussed scheduling of personnel and that would conclude our Executive Session tonight Mr. President.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Okay, so let's move to promote Battalion Chief Robert Minkler from Battalion Chief to Provisional Deputy Chief effective February 27th.

Commissioner Patrick Kenny made a motion to promote Battalion Chief Robert Minkler from Battalion Chief to Provisional Deputy Chief effective February 27th which was seconded by Commissioner Jay Barcellona and carried unanimously.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Okay, I need a motion to give authorization for the Board President to work with and contract with Neglia Engineering in regards to the Oil Water Separator and requiring the Board of any changes.

Commissioner Robert Minkler, Sr. made a motion to give authorization to the Board President to work with and contract with Neglia Engineering in regards to the Oil Water Separator which was seconded by Commissioner Patrick Kenny and carried unanimously.

Commissioner J.C.K.: Lastly, I would just like to let the public know that we'd like to go on the record, which is good, we're glad to see the taxpayers are out there and looking and watching what is going on. We want to make sure that the story is on the record correct. There are questions about the Bond for 109 and people think that that is just for that project. The Bond question for 109 is a Bond for 109 for a new garage in the back and modifications to the building in the front but it also includes a \$1.8 million tower ladder for the department. Out of the Bond question only really \$6.1 is going to be Bond where we the fire district are putting in \$500,000.00. We also have a Line Item for a garage for \$300,000.00 that's going to be added in and then the mayor had said that he will give us \$500,000.00 in PILOT money towards that project so the Bond itself is only about \$6.1 which would be an impact to the taxpayers for around \$65.00 a year and that would be for fifteen years. Also, there was questions

about our Referendum question and stuff. Just to make the public aware the state healthcare benefits and our pension contribution rate for our employees has drastically increased and is putting about an extra \$600,000.00 outside the CAP which is coming unfortunately to you the taxpayers which we have no control of. Also we did have three questions at a Special Meeting and those questions did pass which are built into the 2023 Budget and when the 2023 Budget is approved that would not hit any tax bills until July of 2023. In 2021 and 2022 respectively our tax increase was around \$45.00 a year in both those years which you have seen in July of each of those years. If the Budget with the special questions from December is approved and the Referendum to hire additional staff, you would see around \$700 increase per household. We take this very seriously about this hiring, it is not something we just want to do lightly; it's very costly. We know it as a Board but we're having harder and harder times with our volunteers in trying to come out to calls and train a recruit we are paying for a recruiting service to help the volunteers because we know that is the most economical way possible to manage this department. But unfortunately, we are receiving no rewards for those efforts but we will continue to try. If the Referendum question goes down you would still see about \$350.00 of an increase and that is due to the three questions that were approved in December and as we stated before because of healthcare and pension obligation costs. We hope that clarifies anyone's questions out there and does anyone from the public have any comments? Okay, well thank you, we appreciate it. Now I need a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Robert Minkler, Sr. made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:37 P.M. which was seconded by Commissioner Jay Barcellona and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Bucsanszky
District Clerk

WOODBIDGE FIRE DISTRICT NO 1
MONTHLY BILL LIST
February 1, 2023

Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
Northfield Bank - Voucher				
01/18/2023	22174	A&K Equipment Co	Scene Lights & Flange Kit	-3,948.00
01/18/2023	22175	All American Ford	Wipers	-19.48
01/18/2023	22176	Amazon Capital Services	Folders, Pro Case, Toner, Pads	-403.07
01/18/2023	22177	American Shed Builders	Shed - 418 School Street	-11,605.00
01/18/2023	22178	Brighton Air Corp	Remove & Relocate Condenser	-3,900.00
01/18/2023	22179	Staples	6035 5178 2066 2780 - Supplies	-73.97
01/20/2023	22180	TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDG...	Account# 21773 Block 548 Lot 6 1st Qtr 2023 Taxes	-1,351.13
02/01/2023	22173	Catherine Crowe	Reimbursements - Health Benefits January 2023	-384.38
02/01/2023	22181	A&K Equipment Co	Verizon GPS Installed in 6 Vehicles	-900.00
02/01/2023	22182	Absolute Fire Protection Co., Inc	Repairs to 2014 Spartan (1-1)	-2,328.59
02/01/2023	22183	Arctic Falls	Account #101744 - 5 Gallon Water418 School Street	-48.05
02/01/2023	22184	Bart & Bart, Certified Public Ac...	2021 Audit Completion	-1,200.00
02/01/2023	22185	Board of Fire Commissioners ...	Dispatch - 1st Qtr 2023	-20,316.00
02/01/2023	22186	Christopher Howell	Monthly Fee - January 2023	-4,150.00
02/01/2023	22187	Comcast	Account #8499053401168158/Computer Internet	-543.41
02/01/2023	22188	Communications Specialists Inc	Rescue 8 Radio	-3,885.00
02/01/2023	22189	CUMMINS POWER SYSTEM...	2014 Spartan Replace Water Pump Engine 2 (1-2)	-1,806.44
02/01/2023	22190	Delta Dental Plan of NJ	Group# 01063 - Dental Coverage 02/1/2023 - 02/28/2023	-13,042.45
02/01/2023	22191	Fire and Safety Services LTD	1998 Pierce Lance - Repair Aire Leak - (1-3)	-381.86
02/01/2023	22192	Free Public Library of Sewaren	Building Usage - Fire Election -February 18, 2023	-250.00
02/01/2023	22193	Home News Tribune	Account#ASB-076094- Notice Schedule of 2023 Regula...	-70.26
02/01/2023	22194	Life Insurance Company Of No...	Policy #GL-5474 Volunteer Life Insurance - February 2023	-254.25
02/01/2023	22195	Lowe's	Account 82131319150376/Supplies	-160.52
02/01/2023	22196	Maria Bucsanszky, E.A.	Monthly Fee - February 2023	-6,000.00
02/01/2023	22197	Marie Gould	Reimbursement - Health Benefits January 2023	-384.38
02/01/2023	22198	Mary Ann Sofka	3 Hour Transcription for Regular Meeting January 17, 2...	-90.00
02/01/2023	22199	Mary Karnas	Reimbursement - Health Benefits	-384.38
02/01/2023	22200	Motorola Solutions Inc.	Programming & Charger	-1,440.00
02/01/2023	22201	MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SV...	Rescue Tool Case Replacement	-1,238.00
02/01/2023	22202	Postmaster	2 Rolls of Stamps	-120.00
02/01/2023	22203	PSE&G	Acct#7356632500/Firehouse 12/08/2022 - 01/09/2023	-434.80
02/01/2023	22204	Sophie Bader	Reimbursement - Health Benefits January 2023	-384.38
02/01/2023	22205	Standard Insurance Company	Life Insurance - Policy #136829 - February 2023	-4,265.88
02/01/2023	22206	Stone Mountain Printing	Engineering Copies/109 Green Street	-288.00
02/01/2023	22207	United Healthcare - RX	Member #0216770561-Prescription T Howell February 2...	-36.10
02/01/2023	22208	Verizon Wireless - Laptop Mod...	A/C# 982554463-00001/Laptop Modem	-760.28
02/01/2023	22209	Vision Service Plan	Acct# 12 078480 0001 Vision Coverage February 2023	-1,934.40
02/01/2023	22210	W.B. Mason Co., Inc	C/S# C1235200 - Chair	-434.23
02/01/2023	22211	Wellcare	Acct # 34694850 - K. Howell - February 2023	-9.30
02/01/2023	22212	ABSOLUTE EYEWEAR	Safety Glasses/Kenny	-250.00
02/01/2023	22213	Absolute Fire Protection Co., Inc	2014 Spartan Pumper Engine 1 - Repaired Power Win...	-555.40
02/01/2023	22214	Bart & Bart, Certified Public Ac...	2023 Budget Preparation	-2,000.00
02/01/2023	22215	Motorola Solutions Inc.	Acct# 1035457185 - Spare Batteries	-681.60
02/01/2023	22216	Stone Mountain Printing	Envelopes, Business Cards	-405.30
02/01/2023	22217	Absolute Fire Protection Co., Inc	Quartz Light	-78.00
02/01/2023	22218	Absolute Fire Protection Co., Inc	2014 Spartan - Coolant Leak (1-2)	-1,100.00
02/01/2023	22219	Patrick Fee	Reimbursement - College Tuition Spring 2022	-5,250.00
02/01/2023	TEPS	State of NJ- Health Benefits F...	Health & Prescription Active Employees 2/1/23 - 2/28/23	-97,630.19
02/01/2023	TEPS	State of New Jersey- Health B...	Health Benefits Retiree - 02/01/2023 - 02/28/2023	-46,560.42
02/01/2023	22220	Rutgers School of Social Work	OSHA 7845 -Recordkeeping Rule- Barcellona	-215.00
Total Northfield Bank - Voucher				-243,951.90
TOTAL				-243,951.90

To: Deputy Chief Paul
From: Battalion Chief Hines

Date: January 26, 2023

Monthly Building Report for the February 2023 Fire Commissioner Meeting

- Dunigan Plumbing replaced O ring kits on Bay 4 and 5 airline reels 12/29
- Watch desk UPS console Battery was changed out by the township
- The rear parking lot had an issue with unapproved parking. Knoll Brothers was contacted and we are in the process of setting up towing and having approved signage posted.
- Bowco completed monthly service
- New shed built
- CAD screen in BC office replaced by township MIS 1/9
- Survivor serviced Kitchen suppression and fire extinguisher 1/10
- Edison door repaired bay 4 door opener 1/18
- Bunk room door latch replaced 1/22

Respectfully submitted,
Battalion Chief, David Hines

To: Chief Balog
From: Battalion Chief Hines

Date: January 26, 2023

Monthly Compliance Report for the February, 2023 Fire Commissioner Meeting

Monthly Requirements

- Building generator test 1/2
- Rae meter calibration 1/2
- Building extinguisher checks 1/8
- SCBA inspection 1/13
- Ground ladder inspections 1/17

Quarterly Inspections

- None

Bi-Annual Inspections

- Kitchen hood suppression 1/10

Annual Inspections

- Building Fire Extinguishers 1/10
- Respiratory OSHA form review underway
- Fit testing
- PPE Inspection

Upcoming Events/Other:

- ISFF Tags

Respectfully Submitted,
Battalion Chief David Hines

HYDRANT REPORT FOR JANUARY 2023

Ridgedale Avenue Hydrant project is completed.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Robert Fizer
Captain/Fire Official**

**WOODBIDGE FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU REPORT
JANUARY 2023**

DATE: February 1, 2023

REPORT COVERING: JANUARY

FIRE INVESTIGATIONS: 2

TOTAL INSPECTIONS COMPLETED IN JANUARY: 113

COMPLAINTS & SPOT INSPECTIONS: 10

LIFE HAZARDS: 20

QUARTERLY: 7

SEMI-ANNUAL: 5

NON- LIFE HAZARD USES: 19

TOTAL REINSPECTIONS: 55

PERMITS ISSUED: 3

TOTAL AMOUNT BILLED IN JANUARY: \$40,274.58

TOTAL AMOUNT COLLECTED JANUARY: \$43,900.58

HOME INSPECTIONS: 0

FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION CLASSES: None

REQUESTS: None

OTHER:

**Robert Fizer
Captain/Fire Official**

WOODBIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT

418 School Street

Woodbridge, NJ 07095

Robert Minkler Jr.

Battalion Chief

Division of Training

732-602-6050 Ext. 6181

Monthly Training Report January 2023

- New Hires continued training on Engine 3 and Truck 6
- Members were assigned yearly Haz-Mat refresher
- CPR recertification for the department was completed
- VFC conducted their yearly refresher training
- Seven applications were submitted to MCFA for the Spring Fire Inspector class
- One application was submitted to MCFA for the Spring Fire Official class

Respectfully Submitted

Robert Minkler, Jr.

Battalion Chief

Division of Training

Monthly Equipment Report

January 2023

Engine 1

- Outstanding Issues
 - Work being completed at Elizabeth Truck Center
 - Hopeful to have the engine back by February 3rd
- Resolved
 - Annual PM completed

Engine 2

- Outstanding Issues
 - Front intake indicator shows partial opening in valve
 - Absolute to evaluate
- Resolved
 - Air leak from Pump Transfer valve in cab repaired
 - EWD lighting replaced

Engine 3

- Outstanding
 - No repairs outstanding
- Resolved
 - Wiring job completed
 - Generator repaired
 - Officer side rear cab door handle repaired

Truck 6

- Outstanding
 - Driver body quartz light is in and will be replaced in February
 - Truck is leaning to the right again – Absolute notified
- Resolved
 - Discharge leaking was repaired

Auxiliary Vehicles

- Outstanding
 - 1-3-5 has recalls waiting on parts
 - 1-3-5 lightbar and arrow stick repairs
- Resolved
 - 1-3-7 had an oil change and service performed

Turnout Gear

- Outstanding
 - Second set of gear for new hires still pending
- Resolved
 - Hoods ordered
 - Gloves received and issued
 - Gear inspections completed – repairs pending

Equipment Out of Service

- Outstanding
 - Multiple nozzles
- Resolved
 - Two SCBA repairs completed
 - Items from State Line received

Rescue 1

- Outstanding
 - Waiting on part to upgrade air brake system
 - Committee met and will proceed with equipment purchases when authorized
- Resolved

Miscellaneous

- Outstanding
 - FF1 to be scheduled for annual PM on TNT Tools
 - Working with vendor for exterior gear (Tech Rescue Gear)
- Resolved

Orders & Deliveries

- Ordered
 - Uniforms for Chief Balog
 - Equipment for Rescue 1
 - Particulate blocking hoods
- Delivered
 - Fire Dex firefighting gloves