

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS,
TOWNSHIP OF UPPER; DISTRICT #3**

August 17, 2015

A meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Township of Upper, District #3 was held on August 17, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. at the office of Michael J. Bohrer, P.C. in Marmora, NJ.

Commissioners **Robert DiNicolantonio**, **Kurt Austin**, and **Thomas Swenk** were present. Commissioners **Z. Richard Lee** and **Jeff McAfee** were unable to attend. Also present were **Michael J. Bohrer, Esq., CPA**, Accountant and Recording Secretary to the Board, **James Moore, Esq.** of the Serber Konschak Law Firm, Counsel to the Board, **Jay Newman**, Chief of the Marmora Volunteer Fire Company, and **Paul Hoster**, President of the Marmora Volunteer Fire Company.

The meeting was opened by **Mr. DiNicolantonio** who read the appropriate notice in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey.

As the first order of business, the Board reviewed and approved the minutes of the prior meeting, held June 15, 2015.

Mr. Bohrer presented a Treasurer's Report, including a review of cash-on-hand and year-to-date expenses relative to budget. He reminded the Board that it has received only 50% of its funds but, nonetheless, all bills are current and the emergency fund and reserve for future capital expenditures have been replenished.

Mr. Bohrer reminded the Board that next month's meeting is the Budget workshop and all Board members should be prepared to begin to discuss the 2016 budget.

Mr. Newman suggested that the Board obtain the current tax rates for all Upper Township districts and other Cape May County fire districts for use in next month's budget workshop meeting. **Mr. DiNicolantonio** will obtain this from the township's Tax Assessor.

Mr. Bohrer made reference to a recent newspaper article which discussed improprieties in another district's LOSAP Plan. **Mr. Newman** addressed this, saying he has asked VFIS to review the LOSAP Plan of Marmora Volunteer Fire Company to assure compliance with plan requirements. He will advise the Board of the results of the review.

Mr. Newman suggested that, going forward, the Board consider using bonds to fund large expenditures such as firefighting trucks and improvements to the fire house. He indicated that bond interest rates are extremely low. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that **Mr. Moore** will research various issues, including the Board's ability to fund (by bonding) improvements to a building it doesn't own (the firehouse), the obligation to put any such question on the public ballot and the deadline to do so, the ability to trade-in a truck owned by

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the volunteer fire company towards the purchase of a new truck to be owned by the Board, and other similar issues. **Mr. Moore** will report back at a future meeting.

The Board discussed the insurance agent's written recommendation to increase the current loss of life benefit, including the additional costs to do so. It was agreed to defer any such increase until next year's insurance review and discussion.

There being no further business for the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Bohrer, Esq., CPA *Recording Secretary*

Approved and Submitted,



Robert DiNicolantonio, *Chairman*