

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

February 26, 2024

A meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Township of Upper, District #3 was held on February 26, 2024 at 5:15 p.m. at the Marmora Volunteer Fire Company on Old Tuckahoe Road in Marmora, NJ. Commissioners **Paul Hoster, Doug Snyder, Kurt Austin, Sean Whelan** and **Jeff Pierson** were present. Also present were **Cheryl Sayers, CPA**, Accountant and Recording Secretary to the Board; **Jon Batastini, Esq.** Solicitor; **Edwin Kooker**, Public; **Mark Newman** and **Russell Barham**; Deputy Chiefs of the Marmora Volunteer Fire Company.

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

As its first order of business, the board discussed the results of the election, held on February 17, 2024. **Kurt Austin** and **Sean Whelan** were re-elected as Commissioners with three-year terms. The 2024 budget was passed by the voters of District # 3 with 129 "YES" votes and 12 "NO" votes. Both referendum questions regarding future capital purchases were passed.

Thereafter, the Board held its reorganization meeting, making, and approving the following appointments:

Chairman	Paul Hoster
Vice Chairman	Kurt Austin
Secretary	Sean Whelan
Treasurer	Jeff Pierson
Commissioner	Doug Snyder
Auditors	Ford Scott
Accountant	Cheryl Sayers, CPA PC
Solicitor	Jon Batastini, Esq.
Newspaper	The Cape May County Herald (Primary)
Newspaper	Ocean City Sentinel-Ledger (Secondary)
Bank	1 st Bank of Sea Isle City
Meeting Dates	Various Mondays as advertised
Meeting Time	5:15 p.m.

As the first order of regular business, the Board reviewed and approved the minutes of the prior meeting, held January 15, 2024.

Commissioner **Doug Snyder** announced his resignation from the Board of Fire Commissioners. **Mr. Snyder's** resignation will be effective June 1, 2024. The Board will consider appointing a Commissioner to fill the vacant position.

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

**February 26, 2024
(continued)**

Mrs. Sayers presented a financial report, including a list of checks and vendor invoices to be approved, signed, and distributed. The board discussed the actual income and expenses relative to the budget.

The Board recognized that insurance expenses have increased significantly. The Board is going to contact McMahon Insurance Company, who is local to the area, to obtain a new quote in an effort to lower the annual premiums.

Ford Scott, the auditor for Upper Township, as part of a usual audit procedure, requested that the Board certify the date and amount of each payment of special district taxes received by the Commission from Upper Township. The Board reviewed the dates and amounts of payments received and certified the payments.

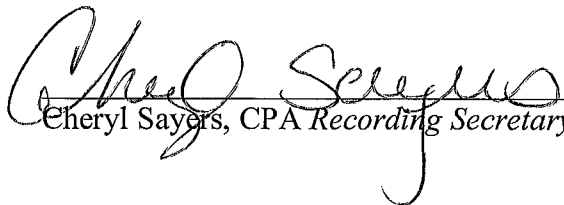
Edwin Kooker suggested that the fire company and commission work together in preparing a long-term plan for the replacement of apparatus. The commission agreed and will meet with the fire company to develop a plan.

The fire company has formed a committee to research the purchase of fire apparatus including a truck and SCBA equipment. **Commissioner Whelan** will be a member of the committee.


The Board requested that **Cheryl Sayers** verify the number and location of hydrants in the district, and reconcile that to the bills from New Jersey American Water.

Cheryl Sayers reminded the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2024 at 5:15 p.m. There being no further business for the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Cheryl Sayers, CPA *Recording Secretary*

Approved and Submitted,


Paul Hoster, *Chairman*