

MIDDLE TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT #2

June 21, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice Chairman Conrad Johnson. Mr. Johnson stated that notice had been given to the Herald Newspapers, the official paper and is posted on the bulletin board of the Middle Township Municipal Hall as required by P.L. 1975, c231, the Sunshine Law.

Roll call was taken with commissioners Conrad Johnson, Kirby Stiltner, Robert Zimmerman and Jean Zimmerman present. Attorney Mr. Thomas Phelan, Robert Sweeten, Kirby Stiltner Jr., Rio Grande Fire Company President Aaron Sill and Rio Grande Fire Company Chief Richard Sweeten were also present. Rodney Haines, Accountant, Salvatore DeSimone were absent.

COMMUNICATIONS: none at this time

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Phelan stated that he had to file a new Complaint with the Tax Court to appeal the judgment of the County Tax Board which had denied our request for an exemption. The County Tax Board thought that the case was still pending in the Tax Court when it held its hearing on May 24th, but we had already filed a stipulated settlement with the Tax Court. The problem came up because the Tax Court didn't issue its decision accepting our stipulated settlement until May 25th. That left the County Tax Board judgment still in effect but the Tax Court no longer had jurisdiction over the matter once it issued its May 25th decision. The new Complaint we filed with the Tax Court appealing the County Tax Board judgment gave the Tax Court jurisdiction over the issue once more and allows the Tax Court to reverse the judgment of the County Tax Board and grant the tax exemption for 2018. On Friday, the attorney for the Township and Mr. Phelan were going to file another Stipulation of Settlement and a Consent Judgment with the Tax Court asking the Court to grant the tax exemption for 2018 and refund the taxes that were already paid for 2018. Now, we are just waiting for the Judge in the Tax Court to sign the Consent Judgment.

Solar panels installation should be started in about the next three weeks according to Robert Zimmerman.

NEW BUSINESS: there was a memo from Chairman DeSimone regarding the two Dodge Durangos in our fleet that were having issues. He recommended that both vehicles be

returned to the Board of Commissioners of Middle Township Fire District #2 until the issues were resolved and that no money or work was to be done on either Durango. Chief Sweeten said that he had an estimate from Eddie's Auto Body for \$2,712.00 for rust on the chief's 2008 Durango that has approximately 42,000 miles and that the emergency lights keep turning off and on and was going to have the switch box replaced. The 2007 Assistant Chief's Durango that has approximately 47,000 miles, has brake issues for an estimate of \$1,276 from Mr. Tire. Vice Chairman Johnson wants to try and come up with a plan for replacing the vehicles. Chief Sweeten suggested getting the brakes fixed on the assistant chief's car and his emergency safety lights fixed for now while the commissioners come up with a replacement plan. Vice Chairman Johnson thought that maybe we could "swap" the fire inspector's Expedition with the chief's Durango. Motion Robert Zimmerman, second Kirby Stiltner to have the 2008 chief's Durango switch box replaced. All commissioners present voted aye. The 2007 Durango that was at Mr. Tire's was to be brought back to the fire house.

Kirby Stiltner asked about getting a credit card for the fire bureau for ordering supplies online. Mr. Phelan suggested Citi that gives a % back. Motion Robert Zimmerman, second Kirby Stiltner to apply for a credit card for the fire bureau. All commissioners present voted aye.

CHIEF'S REPORT: 158 fire calls; was happy with the jaws demo with Hurst; 4 graduates for using the jaws; 1 graduate from Fire Fighter 2; 2 graduates from Fire Inspector class; tanker going to Erma on Monday for a tanker drill at the airport

TREASURER'S REPORT: Conrad Johnson read the bills, motion by resolution to pay the bills by Kirby Stiltner second Bob Zimmerman, of \$19,030.46 Motion carried.

[Jean Zimmerman, Secretary](#)