

MIDDLE TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT #2

August 18, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Robert Zimmerman. Mr. Zimmerman 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 Robert Zimmerman, Conrad Johnson, John Menz, J. Gregory Neill and Jean Zimmerman present. Also present were Rio Grande Fire Company Chief Howard Graham, Rio Grande Fire Company President Scott Aaron Sill, Bob Sweeten, Jim Belles, and Skip Jastremski. Richard Braslow, Attorney and David McNally, CPA of Holt McNally and Associates, were absent.

COMMUNICATION: None at this time

OLD BUSINESS: None at this time

NEW BUSINESS: Robert Zimmerman explained the Corrective Action Plan of the 2021 Audit. One of the concerns was a need for a listing inventory of assets and depreciation. The accountant suggested bringing in a firm. Two companies were contacted with one not replying and the other sending a form which was filled out and returned but no follow up answer. The 2021 Audit was reviewed by all commissioners. Robert Zimmerman read the 2021 Audit Resolution. Motion John Menz, second Conrad Johnson to approve the Audit as read. The Group Affidavit was signed by all commissioners.

Aaron Sill mentioned that the area has been opened up to the county for membership. They are concerned about looking into doing background checks on the new applicants. A member was asked to do research with other companies to see how they handle new applicants. There is a concern for liability while looking into background checks and making sure the applicant would be good natured. There have been quite a few applicants so far. He is open to any ideas on how to go about researching. Conrad Johnson thought maybe billboards, radio, tv or mailers would help with recruiting. Aaron also mentioned that the fire company will be holding a Train Show on Saturday, August 20, 2022 and on Sunday, August 21st, the Mack will be attending the Wheaton Arts Muster.

CHIEF'S REPORT: 306 fire calls; physicals are completed; August 3rd ram was delivered and is in the truck, with free training after fire convention; Assistant Fire Chief Jim Belles and Fire Chief Buster Graham attended Middle Township Chiefs meeting on August 2nd; around October the

county will be sending out paperwork to the chiefs' offices to make up different zones for responses throughout our district; gear back ordered along with hose and Tahoe lighting; October 28th Back to School event at Christ Gospel Church in Whitesboro, one truck will be attending; John from Shop One will look at truck again – Bill is too busy right now; got quote for 26 air packs which is \$261,155.66 (\$278,457.22 with tax). Robert Zimmerman spoke with Attorney Mr. Braslow about purchasing them. Mr. Braslow said for a Cash Purchase, we need to hold a Capital Meeting from 6-9pm; it can be the same night as our regular meeting. We need to advertise 10 days prior to meeting; ballot for capital purchase as capital investments for 2023 budget put aside. No mail-in ballots required. Finance purchase: mail-in ballots allowed; costs more money. Bob said that at the September meeting, he will have the resolution and then advertise the Capital Meeting for our October meeting. Bob also stated that MSA was here and they have an offer of Buy 1 Get 1 on the cylinders which would save a tremendous amount of money. Bob asked the commissioners if they had a problem with him asking Mr. Braslow to write the air packs resolution since it's the first time we have had this process.

FIRE BUREAU: Gregg Neill said he received an email from the township about the new ordinance for single family rental homes meeting being cancelled. It will be rescheduled after giving the township more time to review the ordinance.

Gregg said he wants to talk with Fire Official Dan DeSimone about a couple of issues with fees of where we are regarding owing vs what's coming in.

Robert Zimmerman asked if Kirby Stiltner (son) was helping out in the fire bureau office or helping with the computer.

Greg would like to find out what the contents are in storage and maybe next year be able to get rid of the storage unit.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Robert Zimmerman read the bills, motion by resolution to pay the bills by John Menz, second Gregg Neill, of \$17,680.01. Motion carried.

Jean Zimmerman, Secretary