Parsippany - Troy Hills, NJ - Fire District #2

Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting Minutes

Call to Order		Time: 8:00pm	Date: 10/9/17
Commissioners		Present: George Appel, Eugene Caulfield, Peter Deegan, Donald Denise, James Murphy	Absent: None
Guests		Chief Douglas Reighard, Deputy Chief Joseph Reeber, Capt. Corey Martin	
Last Meeting's Minutes		Read & Approved	
Treasurer's Report		Read & Approved	
Bills for Payment		Approved	
Correspondence		Read & Reviewed	
		Committee Reports	
Insurance	Submitted wor	rkmen's comp claim regarding audit	
House	Heating system winter PM performed.		
Apparatus Chief's Report	T-21 aerial ladder test to be performed 10/23/17. Read & Reviewed. Approval given to purchase BCON equipment, not to exceed \$600.		
Old Business	Furnace has passed inspection; energy efficiency upgrade project is now complete. Roof repair needs & requirements estimate is required from engineering company.		
New Business	Will attend council meeting to discuss the on-going radio issue. See attached copy of signed agreement to move radio operations to the County as well as an email from Chief Reighard detailing the Joint Chiefs meeting in which a new radio plan was discussed. Approval given for \$125 second half year fuel stipend, paid to Deputy Chief Joseph Reeber. Approval given for commissioner and officer stipends. Will donate old, unused fire equipment to the museum loan department in the Morris Museum. Will attempt to make reservation for the officer appreciation dinner on 12/2 or sometime in Jan. 2018		
Adjourned		Time: 9:15pm	Date: 10/9/17
Respectfully Submitted	Jam	Mun	
	James Murph Secretary	у	7. W.

Subject: Joint chiefs mtg

Commissioners

I just got home from joint chiefs and as per Captain Weiner's a decision has been made in regard to the radio system. This will be announced at the radio meeting Friday at town hall. He stated the commissioners voted and only 2 of the 6 districts wanted to go to the county so they decided to make a decision to utilize the state system. I didn't know you voted on this. Moving to the state system offers no interoperability with any of the mutual aid outside parsippany. Currently there is no pagers available that can work on this system so we will continue to use the current dispatch channel with hopes it will work. If not we will rely on a 3rd party backup system (eDispatches) which has been spotty at best so far. They said one of the companies is working on a pager to work in the 700 mh band and that "may" be available next year. The radio salesman from wireless communications who we used to use but fired them after their poor quality work on E23 stated Motorola has no intention on making 700mh pagers because theirs no money in it. I think that speaks volumes for a) their faith in this system b) that the 700mh change over is probably never going to happen. The chiefs have been told to stop complaining and suck it up because the decision is made and we have to live with it. There is nothing more I can do as your fire chief at this point , however you as the governing body of this district can. We have been given an option by the county that they will take us alone or with D 5 and any other district that wants to go. Our district cost world be \$3500 a year. We would need a couple radios, tablets and some programming. This would place us in the same position we deal with when we go to or get aid from Mt Lakes. I do not think operationally it is a big deal once people get used to it. The PD would have no choice then to transfer the call as was the original plan for the "temporary fix". I think for the safety and operational stability it is a good option. Option 2 is we suck it up and follow their plan. They say possibly 6 months to be online once the money is approved by the town. If I had to guess we are looking at a year to 1.5 years. Also don't plan on getting money for the pagers once they come out because they probably won't be bought with the allocated money and they will run about \$700 each. We will need about 20 of them.

My primary job as the fire chief is to insure our members go home safe after each call. I honestly believe the town is not acting in the best interest of our members or the general public. Going to a council meeting or putting something in the paper will be blown off because they actually seem to be doing something. The question is are they doing what is best for us?

Respectfully Chief Douglas Reighard