

The Board of Fire Commissioners, District #2, Gloucester Township held a workshop in the Chews Landing Fire Station on Tuesday, September 7, 2022.

Chairman Genzel opened the meeting at 7:04 pm with the flag salute and acknowledgement of the meeting being held in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act.

Roll Call: Reichert-Present Genzel-Present Evans-Present Grady-Present Donahue-Absent

Also in attendance was Administrator Robb.

Administrator Robb reviewed the items on the attached agenda. Commissioner Evans reported that the truck committee visited the Barrington Fire Company on August 31<sup>st</sup> to view their Baker Aerialscope which was refurbished by Pierce Manufacturing, and is scheduled to meet with Ed Miller of Pierce Manufacturing on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss the possible refurbishment of Tower Ladder 82.

A motion was made by Reichert and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Evans to adjourn at 8:21pm.

All in favor, motion carried.

Submitted by Administrator Robb

Read and Approved:

Chairman:

George H. Genzel

Clerk:

Marianne Robb

Date:

Sept 14, 2022.

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

From: Bill Robb – Administrator

RE: Workshop – 9/6/2022

---

1. Shared Service Program:
  - a. Development of the joint policy for the Squad 88 dash camera is still pending.
  - b. Payment for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter Squad 88 shared service costs has been received from District 3.
  - c. Our joint meeting with District 4 is scheduled for tomorrow night at 7:00 pm at our station. The meeting has been advertised by both districts.
  - d. Representatives of Fire Districts 2 and 4 met with representatives of Fire District 3 on August 23, 2022, to discuss the Squad 88 Shared Services Program. The District 3 representatives said they are very happy with the services currently being provided, and are hoping for approval from the full District 3 Board to continue the agreement in 2023. There was also discussion of possibly raising the funding for 2023.
2. Policies:
  - a. The policies approved last month have been distributed to all affected personnel and posted to the Shared Drive and/or the Career Staff Drive / Aladtec system.
3. Personnel / Training:
  - a. As approved by the Board at last month's meeting, Captain Giambri has been registered for the Leadership Under Fire online class, which will be held on Tuesday evenings from September 13<sup>th</sup> through November 15<sup>th</sup>.
4. On Wednesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, I received a call from John Saban, who work in Assemblywoman Mosquera's office. Mr. Saban said he spoke with John Schmidt of the Board of Elections. Mr. Schmidt reportedly said he's aware of the concerns regarding the rising cost of the elections for Fire Districts and is looking into options to reduce the costs. Mr. Saban said Mr. Schmidt should be calling me sometime in early September to report his findings.
5. I've continued to use the Firehouse Software for non-incident reports, which has allowed for the continued use of the software's reporting functions. However, I will be losing access to the software in early October, and have not received any updates regarding creation of needed reports with the Fire Due software.
6. As approved at last month's meeting, an order has been placed with Wireless Communications for two (2) Panasonic CF33 Toughbook computers, which will replace the computers in the Chief's vehicle and the Duty car. Delivery is pending.
7. The three (3) Dell Optiplex 7000 desktop computers approved for purchase at last month's meeting have been received and will be placed in service once our Data Troop representative is available.
8. I will ask the Board to pass a Resolution at next week's meeting authorizing the state contract purchase of two sets of PPE, with the majority of the cost hopefully reimbursed by the Regional SAFER Recruitment and Retention Grant.

9. 2023 Budget:

a. I've begun the process of gathering information for the 2023 budget. A few areas of concern:

- i. The state is reportedly considering a 20-24% rate increase for 2023 state health benefits, which would equate to an increase of \$55,000 to \$66,000 to our 2023 healthcare costs.
- ii. We received notice today of a New Jersey American Water Co. hydrant rental price increase effective 9/1/2022. The increase will raise our monthly payments by \$1,106.70 per month, resulting in additional costs of \$4,426.80 for the remainder of this year, and \$13,280.40 for the 2023 fiscal year.
- iii. If the Board decides to move forward with replacement of TL82, the annual payment will likely be in the area of \$100,000. Depending on the loan date and terms, our first payment may not be due until the 2024 fiscal year.

10. The first round of 2022 FEMA Safer grant awards was announced on August 26<sup>th</sup>, with a second round announced on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. We have not heard anything yet, but should know the results of our application soon, as the funding is supposed to be committed by the end of this month. If we receive the grant, it will provide 100% funding for a firefighter position for three years. Please advise if the Board plans to accept the grant if awarded.