



Forest Grove Board of Fire Commissioners August 27th, 2024 - Meeting Minutes

This meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, District 4, Township of Franklin, Gloucester County NJ was called to order on August 27th, 2024 @ 19:00 and attended by the members noted below. This meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting was included in a list of meeting notices sent to the Courier Post newspaper, filed with the Municipal Clerk at the Township of Franklin, County of Gloucester and posted at the Forest Grove Volunteer Fire Company.

1. Members Present

- X Andrew Bellone Jr. - Chairman**
- X Samuel Scapellato - Vice Chairman**
- X Mykola “Nick” Myronowskyj - Secretary**
- X Joseph Scapellato - Treasurer**
- X Thomas Bellone Sr. – Commissioner**

Public Present & Others:

None

2. Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting

A motion to accept minutes as read was made by Thomas Bellone and seconded by Andrew Bellone. No changes to be made.

3. Treasurers Report & Bills against the Commission

Joseph Scapellato reported:
Petty cash balance \$94.00

43-58's registration was renewed and placed into the truck.

Glenn Insurance Workmans Compensation last installment was made this month.

A motion to pay all bills and to accept the Treasurers report was made by Samuel Scapellato and seconded by Thomas Bellone.



Forest Grove Board of Fire Commissioners August 27th, 2024 - Meeting Minutes

4. Old Business

Mykola Myronowskyj reported on the following:

Filing of documents that he can locate from 2011 and prior. The files that are being archived are being organized, then scanned and then filed.

On August 15th, 2024 the Board received an email from Tim Allaband of Matheny Motors, he and his team will be our new sales and contract contacts. Mykola Myronowskyj, Andrew Bellone and Chief Dennis Allonardo are planning to meet Mr. Allaband at the NJ Fireman's Convention in Wildwood this year.

The Chief is still working on obtaining the pricing for the proposed new brush truck. As soon as he receives it, he will submit it to the Board for review. Currently the proposed price is approximately \$240,000.00. The Board will be putting this purchase on the ballot in 2025 for purchase in 2026. The budget requested should be no more that \$290,000.00.

Samuel Scapellato questioned why the department still needs to have a brush truck since we do not follow State of NJ Fire Service into the woods. Andrew Bellone explained that we still need this truck for small grass fires, mulch and fire pits as well as gaining access to hard to reach areas for fire suppression.

5. New Business

New Sea Eagle Boat was purchased. The old boats handles were continuing to come off and proposed a safety hazard. The Chief was able to find one that was on special half price sale that was expiring in 2 days. Mr. Myronowskyj advised the Chief to contact at least 2 other Commissioners to get approval, if approved, we would sign a PO so that the boat could be purchased. Anfrew Bellone and Joseph Scapellato were contacted and approved the purchase. By purchasing the boat now, we saved over \$2,500.00 and were able to get free shipping. The boat was received and is in service.

The Board received an email from Gannett (Courier Post) collections department stating that the Board owed a past due balance. Mr. Myronowskyj and Joe Scapellato reviewed the past invoices and found a statement credit on the account in the same amount that the past due was calculated at. Mr. Myronowskyj called the billing department and questioned the collections action since the invoice was in fact paid in full, but the funds were not applied to the invoice, and instead placed as a statement credit on the account. The billing department representative could not answer that question and applied the statement credit to the balance due and creating a zero balance. We requested an email from the billing department stating such, that email was received printed and attached to the account folder.



Forest Grove Board of Fire Commissioners August 27th, 2024 - Meeting Minutes

5. New Business continued

TLO XP continues to bill the Board even though they terminated our account and closed all access to the same. Mr. Myronowskyj reached out to George Cooper, the Director of Customer Support Operations and explained the situation to him and forwarded emails. Mr. Cooper returned an email to their billing department stating that the account was closed and that any invoicing done after the termination of the account need to be waived.

The Board received an OPRA request for 870 Strawberry Avenue. This request was fulfilled.

The Buena Borough requested an insurance indemnity certificate while our ERV was going to be used at Buena Day. Forest Grove would have a member operating the unit while it was there. Mr. Myronowskyj sent the request to Glenn Insurance and they provided a certificate.

A few months ago the Petrogen Torch was sold to Safety and Survival under resolution 2024-03. There was no money transferred, however the value received would be used as a credit towards future training. Safety and Survival will be applying this credit this month for vehicle extrication training that was provided and the balance owed will be paid normally.

The Chief and a few officers are requesting that a tandem axle 20' enclosed trailer be purchased. The idea was that the ERV and all of the equipment on 43-57 would now be transported in the trailer to operational locations. The ERV trailer would be traded in with a value of \$1,500.00. Mr. Myronowskyj rejected this idea since the intrinsic value of the trailer was worth more than the trade in value. He suggested that a smaller enclosed trailer be purchased for the equipment in 43-57 and leave the ERV on the existing trailer. This would accomplish multiple goals, including ease of towing, having the ability to have the ERV in one location and the other equipment in another, additionally the cost of a new trailer would be much less since the gross vehicle weight would be less. Since the department has multiple vehicles that can tow either trailer, it also makes logistical sense. The Board agreed, and we will advise the Chief accordingly.

The 2022 Tahoe needed a windshield repair when a stone cracked it. Mr. Myronowskyj and Chief Allonardo worked with Glenn Insurance to have Safelight Auto Glass make the repair at no cost to the department.

Mr. Myronowskyj reminded the Board members that the 2025 budget session will be held at the next meeting to discuss the 2025 budget and resolution for the Commissioners compensation to be sent to the Town Council.

Public Comments - None



**Forest Grove Board of Fire Commissioners
August 27th, 2024 - Meeting Minutes**

Chief of the Fire Department: Not Present

President of the Fire Department: Not Present

Others: Not Present

7. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Andrew Bellone and seconded by Thomas Bellone.

The meeting was adjourned at 19:28 hours.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Mykola "Nick" Myronowskyj
Secretary of the Board
Board of Fire Commissioners, District 4
Township of Franklin, Gloucester County NJ*



Forest Grove Board of Fire Commissioners August 27th, 2024 - Meeting Minutes

5:26 PM
08/27/24
Accrual Basis

Franklin Township Fire District No 4 Balance Sheet As of August 31, 2024

	Aug 31, 24
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Newfield Na Bk 0505	89,678.33
Newfield Savings 9924	601,283.73
Total Checking/Savings	690,962.06
Total Current Assets	690,962.06
TOTAL ASSETS	690,962.06
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Restricted Fund Future Cap	378,748.54
Total Other Current Liabilities	378,748.54
Total Current Liabilities	378,748.54
Long Term Liabilities	
Future Capital	12,000.00
Truck Loan	-95,223.90
Total Long Term Liabilities	-83,223.90
Total Liabilities	295,524.64
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	44,604.16
Retained Earnings	531,505.38
Net Income	-180,672.12
Total Equity	395,437.42
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	690,962.06



Forest Grove Board of Fire Commissioners August 27th, 2024 - Meeting Minutes

5:25 PM
08/27/24
Accrual Basis

Franklin Township Fire District No 4 Transactions This Month As of August 31, 2024

Type	Date	Num	Name	Amount
Newfield Na Bk 0505				
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13508	All County Garage Doors, LLC	-950.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13509	Blaze Emergency Equipment C...	-2,347.30
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13510	Comcast (Xfinity)	-30.01
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13511	Comcast 569	-225.24
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13512	Dennis Allonnardo	-149.64
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13513	Douglas Perry	-53.89
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13514	DTA Solutions LLC	-150.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13515	Forest Grove Fire Co	-2,842.72
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13516	Gen-el Safety & Industrial Prod...	-300.31
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13517	Gill Energy	-665.23
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13518	Glenn Insurance, Inc.	-2,476.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13519	Mes PA	-1,066.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13520	Mistras Group, Inc.	-1,975.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13521	MRA Mobile Truck & Trailer Re...	-6,444.37
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13522	Mykola Myronowskyj	-65.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13523	Richard M. Braslow Esq.	-120.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13524	Riggins	-203.24
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13525	Safety & Survial Training LLC	-1,520.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13526	Sea Eagle.com	-2,399.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13527	Verizon Wireless 197	-202.16
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13528	Vineland Ace Hardware	-2,790.69
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13529	Vineland Auto Electric	-2,384.03
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13530	W.B. Mason Co. Inc.	-531.64
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13531	Wheat Road Coldcuts	-427.98
Bill Pmt -Check	08/27/2024	13532	Witmer Public Safety Group Inc	-220.00
Total Newfield Na Bk 0505				-30,539.45
Newfield Savings 9924				
Total Newfield Savings 9924				-
TOTAL				-30,539.45