



Forest Grove Board of Fire Commissioners December 27, 2022 - Meeting Minutes

This meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, District 4, Township of Franklin, Gloucester County NJ was called to order on December 27th, 2022 @ 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**
- _ Thomas Bellone Sr. – Commissioner**

Public Present & Others:

Douglas Perry – Deputy Chief 43-502, FGVFC 43-5

2. Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting

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

3. Treasurers Report & Bills against the Commission

Joseph Scapellato reported:

The 2023 Workmans Compensation insurance policy renewal was paid.

The 4th quarter tax payment was received and deposited.

Petty cash balance in the amount of \$0.00 – end of year balance of \$0.28 was re-deposited into the bank.

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



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4. Old Business

Mykola Myronowskyj reported commented 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.

Mykola Myronowskyj continues to work on the Forest Grove equipment audit.

The MUA's for the surrounding locals that have not been completed yet will begin as soon as possible.

The 2021 financial audit is in progress. Mykola Myronowskyj spoke to Ed Paul and he advised that the audit should be completed soon, Mr. Paul is still waiting for information from the state. Mr. Paul further advised that none of the audits for any of the fire districts have been completed.

At the November meeting Andrew Bellone Jr. suggested another type of reward structure be created for active fire fighters that respond to fires. He suggested a few different types of rewards such as clothing allowance, fuel cost reimbursement, etc. Andrew Bellone Jr. wants to investigate an additional rewards system. Mykola Myronowskyj reminded him that we already have LOSAP as the rewards system and he is not sure if a second type of reward is legal, but we will need to review.

5. New Business

Mykola Myronowskyj reported:

The 2023 Workmans Compensation insurance package was received. The insurance package was reviewed by all Commissioner's present.

The 2023 GenServe generator maintenance contract was received. The total for the contract will be \$900.00. The contract was reviewed by all Commissioner's present and Chairman Andrew Bellone signed the renewal.

The Board received a letter from Douglas Adams of the Buena Borough Council. Buena Borough Council received a petition to dissolve Buena Borough Fire District #2 (Minotola). Please refer to their letter and our response below.

Resolution 2022-05 to set a temporary budget for 2023 until the annual election in February was read and adopted. The vote to approve this resolution was unanimous Please refer below.

Resolution 2022-06 to reallocate reserve fund balance to overspent budget line items was read and adopted. The vote to approve this resolution was unanimous Please refer below.



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5. New Business Continued

The public hearing of the 2023 adopted budget was held tonight.

The 2023 budget adoption resolution was read and voted. The vote to approve is noted below.

The Board received a thank you call from Kelly after sending her the thank you card.

6. Public Comments

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 Jr. and seconded by Samuel Scapellato.

Meeting was adjourned at 19:18 hours.

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



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1:22 PM
12/27/22
Accrual Basis

Franklin Township Fire District No 4
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2022

	Dec 31, 22
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Newfield Na Bk 0505	-10,542.30
Newfield Savings 9924	915,943.01
Total Checking/Savings	905,400.71
Total Current Assets	905,400.71
TOTAL ASSETS	905,400.71
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	520,782.69
Net Income	44,489.22
Total Equity	609,876.07
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	905,400.71



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1:21 PM
12/27/22
Accrual Basis

Franklin Township Fire District No 4 Transactions This Month As of December 31, 2022

Type	Date	Num	Name	Amount
Newfield Na Bk 0505				
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13034	Capital One Trade Credit	-204.35
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13033	Comcast (Xfinity)	-27.01
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13032	Comcast 569	-219.48
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13031	Dennis Allonnardo	-150.42
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13030	Dival Safety Equipment, Inc.	-520.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13029	DTA Solutions LLC	-125.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13028	Forest Grove Fire Co	-2,477.39
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13027	Glenn Insurance, Inc.	-7,370.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13026	Major Petroleum Ind.	0.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13025	Mykola Myronowskyj	-755.11
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13024	Paramount Design Works	-503.96
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13023	Riggins	-1,053.16
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13022	Staples	-877.56
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13021	TransUnion	-75.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13020	Verizon Wireless 197	-187.16
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13019	Vineland Auto Electric	-733.17
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13035	Major Petroleum Ind.	-53.59
Bill Pmt -Check	12/27/2022	13036	Forest Grove Fire Co	-0.32
Total Newfield Na Bk 0505				-15,332.68
Newfield Savings 9924				
Deposit	12/20/2022			135,412.78
Total Newfield Savings 9924				135,412.78
TOTAL				120,080.10



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*Board of Fire Commissioners, District 4
Township of Franklin, Gloucester County NJ
1635 Forest Grove Road
Vineland, NJ 08360*

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER 4
IN THE TOWNSHIP OF FRANKLIN, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER

Resolution # 2022-05 BoFC Temporary Budget Resolution for CY 2023

WHEREAS, it has become necessary for the Commissioners of Fire District No. 4 in the Township of Franklin, County of Gloucester, by resolution, to adopt a temporary budget to make appropriations and to provide for the period between the beginning of the fiscal year January 1, 2023, and the adoption of the budget by the legal voters of the fire district, which election is scheduled for February 18, 2023.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commissioners of Fire District No. 4 in the Township of Franklin, County of Gloucester, as follows:

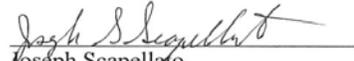
A temporary budget in the amount of \$75,831.00 is hereby adopted pursuant to N.J.S.A 40A:14-78.17 to be effective from the beginning of the fiscal year as noted above and to be in full force and effect until the adoption of the annual fire district budget as referenced above; the total of the appropriations of the temporary budget to reflect not in excess of 14% of the total of the appropriations made for all purposes in the budget for the preceding fiscal year exclusive of appropriations for interest and debt redemption charges and capital improvements.

Resolution adopted in business meeting of December 27, 2022, and signed by the Fire District #4 Board of Commissioners:


Andrew Bellone Jr.
Chairman


Samuel Scapellato
Vice Chairman


Mykola Myronowczyk
Secretary


Joseph Scapellato
Treasurer

Thomas Bellone Sr.
Commissioner



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Board of Fire Commissioners, District 4
Township of Franklin, Gloucester County NJ
1635 Forest Grove Road
Vineland, NJ 08360

Resolution #2022-06

**Resolution for the reallocation of 2022 reserve fund balance
Fire District #4, Forest Grove, Township of Franklin, County
of Gloucester, State of New Jersey.**

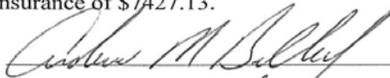
WHEREAS, The Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District # 4, Forest Grove, Township of Franklin, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey is responsible to properly maintain the budget line items.

WHEREAS, there exists a need to reallocate CY 2022 reserve fund balance to balance overspent budget line items the Fire District #4, Forest Grove, Township of Franklin, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey; and,

WHEREAS, there are sufficient funds in underspent budget line items to perform this action, The Fire District #4, Forest Grove, Township of Franklin, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey officially:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, during the regular meeting of December 27th, 2022, the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District #4, Forest Grove, Township of Franklin, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey hereby allocates reserve fund balance as follows:

The Insurance line item was underspent in the amount of \$16,018.77.
Transfer \$312.79 from Insurance to Promotions and Public Relations.
Transfer \$1,248.35 from Insurance to Building.
Transfer \$177.13 from Insurance to Operating Equipment.
Transfer \$1,510.89 from Insurance to Firefighter PPE.
Transfer \$5,342.48 from Insurance to Truck Maintenance.
Leaving a balance reserve fund balance in Insurance of \$7427.13.

Chairman of the Board, Andrew Bellone Jr. 

Secretary of the Board, Mykola "Nick" Myronowskyj 

Treasurer of the Board, Joseph Scapellato 



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2023 ADOPTED BUDGET RESOLUTION

Franklin Township FD No. 4 (Gloucester)

FISCAL YEAR: January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget for the Franklin Township FD No. 4 (Gloucester) (the 'Fire District') for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023 has been presented for adoption before the Board of Commissioners of the Fire District at its open public meeting of December 27, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget as presented for adoption reflects each item of revenue and appropriation in the same amount and title as set forth in the introduced and approved budget, including all amendments thereto, if any, which have been approved by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services; and

WHEREAS, the adopted budget is in compliance with the Property Tax Levy Cap Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.44 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget as presented for adoption reflects Total Revenues of \$675,312.95 which includes amount to be raised by taxation of \$552,482.00, and Total Appropriations of \$675,312.95; and

WHEREAS, an election shall be held annually on the third Saturday of February in each established fire district to determine the amount to be raised by taxation for the ensuing year;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of the Fire District at an open public meeting held on December 27, 2022 that the Annual Budget of the Fire District for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023 is hereby adopted and, shall constitute appropriations for the purposes stated and authorization of Total Revenues of \$675,312.95, which includes amount to be raised by taxation of \$552,482.00, and Total Appropriations of \$675,312.95; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Annual Budget as presented for adoption reflects each item of revenue and appropriation in the same amount and title as set forth in the introduced and approved budget, including all amendments thereto, if any, which have been approved by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an annual election shall be held on the third Saturday of February to determine the amount to be raised by taxation for the ensuing year. The results of which shall be subsequently certified to the Division and the Municipal Assessor.

bofcdistrict4@gmail.com
(Secretary's Signature)

12/27/2022
(Date)

Board of Commissioners Recorded Vote

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Andrew Bellone, Jr.	X			
Joseph Scapellato	X			
Mykola Myronowskyj	X			
Samuel Scapellato	X			
Thomas Bellone, Sr.				X



Forest Grove Board of Fire Commissioners December 27, 2022 - Meeting Minutes

Dear Commissioner Chairman of Forest Grove Fire District,

In November 2022, Buena Borough Council received and filed a petition signed by not less than 5% of the voters to dissolve Buena Borough Fire District No. 2 (Minotola) in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:14-91, thereby having the Borough Council undertake the oversight of fire suppression and prevention instead of a fire commission. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:14-68; Buena Boro may contract with a volunteer fire company or companies in such municipality, for purposes of extinguishing fires, upon such terms and conditions as shall be deemed proper.

By law Buena Boro Mayor & Council must act upon this petition, therefore Ordinance #715 was created to consider dissolving Fire Dist No. 2. Mayor & Council must act on the Ordinance and vote for or against dissolving Fire Dist. No. 2. Should Mayor & Council vote in favor, Fire Dist No. 2 would be dissolved allowing the governing body to oversee fire suppression and prevention with the Minotola Fire Company or such other fire company that may be created for the purposes of providing fire suppression services to the Borough residents, as authorized in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:14-68.

Many rumors have been spread that Buena Boro Mayor & Council are closing Minotola Fire Company. First, that is not true, second, our governing body does not have the authority to carry out such action. Should the fire district get dissolved, we would like Minotola Fire Co. to continue providing their services.

On November 30, at a public Council meeting, a representative of Minotola Fire Co. addressed Buena Boro Mayor & Council and threatened that should Mayor & Council dissolve the Fire District, over 20 Minotola Firemen would resign from the Fire Co. A packet containing the firemen's resignations was then distributed.

Mayor and Council must continue with this process until it is voted upon. Should Council vote in favor of dissolving the fire district, and Minotola Firemen invoke their resignations, Buena Boro will need temporary assistance from its neighbors for fire suppression.



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We are asking all of our neighboring fire companies for their temporary help and assistance as first responders, mutual aid, and if need be a Shared Service agreement.

Presently, over 20 persons are moving forward with obtaining the necessary certifications to operate a fire company. If the District is dissolved all of the assets of the District, including all of the equipment in the possession of Minotola Fire Company will belong to the Borough to be used for a new fire company should Minotola members choose to resign, at which point we will only require mutual aide from our neighbors and would provide the same as well.

We hope Minotola Firemen reconsider their actions, but if they don't we need to have a plan and we need to be prepared to protect our residents.

If you are able and willing to help us please contact me for further discussion.

Thank you for consideration

Douglas E. Adams
Councilman
Douglas.Adams@BuenaBoro.org
856.982.2980



Borough of Buena
616 Central Ave
Minotola NJ 08341
<http://www.BuenaBoro.org/>





Forest Grove Board of Fire Commissioners December 27, 2022 - Meeting Minutes



*Board of Fire Commissioners, District 4
Township of Franklin, Gloucester County NJ
1635 Forest Grove Road
Vineland, NJ 08360*

Date: December 27, 2022

Mr. Douglas Adams,

The Board of Fire Commissioners, District 4, Twp of Franklin have reviewed your email request from December 17th, 2022, with the Chief and Deputy Chief of the Forest Grove Volunteer Fire Company Station 43-5 at our regular meeting on December 27th, 2022.

At this time, we will continue to honor our current Mutual Aid Agreement with the Minotola Fire Company and cannot expand on that agreement.

Should the situation change, and additional assistance is needed, we respectfully request that the details of that request with the specific needs be placed in writing and submitted to the Board of Fire Commissioners, District 4 for review.

Board of Fire Commissioners
District 4, Twp of Franklin
1635 Forest Grove Road
Vineland, NJ 08360