

**Buena Vista Township Fire District No. 1
Minutes of Meeting**

January 9, 2024

The January 2024 meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Buena Vista Township Fire District No. 1 at the Richland Fire House was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Andrew J. Levari III. Public notice of this meeting was sent to the Vineland Daily Journal and the Press of Atlantic City newspapers for publication as prescribed by law. All requirements of the Open Public Meeting Act have been achieved for this meeting in compliance with the Sunshine Law.

Roll Call

Linda M. Burshtin	Present: <u>X</u>	Absent: _____
Randall J. Knapp Jr.	Present: <u>X</u>	Absent: _____
Andrew (Duke) Levari Jr.	Present: <u>X</u>	Absent: _____
Andrew (A.J.) Levari III	Present: <u>X</u>	Absent: _____
Mary Ann Micheletti-Levari	Present: <u>X</u>	Absent: _____

Review of Prior Meeting's Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by A.J. Levari and seconded by Duke Levari to approve the minutes as presented, and all members present voted in the affirmative.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Lynn Burshtin reported the following for December:

Deposits:

Checking account	\$	None
Operating savings account - BVT 4th Quarter tax levy		66,564.25
Reserve savings account		None

Interest:

Checking account	\$	6.87
Operating savings account		13.77
Reserve savings account		20.50

Ending Balance (including above deposits and interest):

Checking account (register balance)	\$	161,002.63
Operating savings account		108,082.80
Reserve savings account		160,892.87

The 4th quarter tax payment from Buena Vista Township for \$66,564.25 was received and deposited into the Operating savings account on December 19. The semi-annual automatic payment of \$41,075.00 from the checking account to USDA-Rural Development for the building payments took place on December 15. A motion was made by Randall Knapp and seconded by Duke Levari to approve the Treasurer's Report, and all members present voted in the affirmative.

Bills: The following bills were presented for payment:

Atlantic City Electric	\$	470.18
South Jersey Gas		518.22
Comcast - internet/phone		154.49
Comcast - cable		19.87
MAB Cleaning Service - Inv. 1352, Dec cleaning		375.00
Impact Fleet/Mansfield Oil Co. - truck fuel		721.44
Bank of America - P-card, RIT Drill Supplies/ Gear Backpacks		425.90
T-Mobile - Inv. 982839172-18, truck tablet internet		40.60

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Airpower International Inc.- Inv. 12820, cascade hose	99.90
Gentilini Ford- Inv. 292156, Repairs to Ford Excursion	283.51
Tony D's Auto Repair- Inv. 2867, 12-11 repair	844.00
Reel Fire Protection- Inv. 69051, 69099, flashlight batteries	253.00
Duke Levari- Reimbursement for funeral flowers	270.00
Richland General Store -maintenance of equipment	122.51

Total: \$ 4,598.62

A motion was made by A.J. Levari and seconded by Mary-Ann to pay all bills. Roll Call: L. Burshtin - Yes, R. Knapp - Yes, Levari, Jr. - Yes, Levari III - Yes, Micheletti - Yes. Motion was approved.

Old Business: Secretary Randall Knapp reported the American Rescue Plan grant is still under review.

New Business: Treasurer Lynn Burshtin noted that we were operating under a temporary budget in accordance with Resolution 2023-25. The final adopted 2024 budget was not yet returned from the NJ DCA. The records are being assembled for the 2023 audit.

Secretary Randall Knapp reported one of our new SCBA broke and has been repaired and returned by Dival.

Tanker-Pumper fire apparatus: The Secretary reported on the continuing development for the last several months by a joint Fire Commissioner/Richland Fire Company truck committee to develop a Tanker-Pumper fire apparatus specification for replacement of the 2000 Pumper 12-10. A larger tanker-pumper of approximately 1500 gallon capacity is needed, with the capability of also serving as a first-out pumper/rescue apparatus. It has been determined that the vehicle costs will be in the general range of \$995,000. with another approximately \$75,000 required to outfit the truck with hoses, nozzles, air packs, etc. in accordance with NFPA requirements, for an approximate total of \$1,070,000.

In meetings with our attorney regarding the purchase, he advised that this purchase should be placed by Resolution upon the Annual Election ballot in February 2024 as a Public Question to approve the purchase of the fire apparatus, along with authorization for use of Restricted Funds and for financing. A vehicle purchase down payment using the current funds on hand could be made during 2024 if desired. After voter approval is obtained, price quotations must be obtained for the desired vehicle. Once the price has been determined, competitive rates for the necessary financing must be solicited, and this must then be presented to the Local Finance Board for their authorization to proceed. Only after Local Finance Board approval is obtained, can a purchase award be made. The following resolution was then offered:

Resolution 2024-01: (Tanker-Pumper Public Question) - A motion was made by Randall Knapp and seconded by A.J. Levari to authorize the Fire District officers to place a Public Question upon the February 2024 annual election ballot, if Fire District No. 1 of Buena Vista Township be authorized to expend up to \$995,000. of capital appropriation funds (including restricted and unrestricted funds) to purchase and furnish a Tanker-Pumper fire apparatus, and also be authorized to issue financing as may be required, such as Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes. Roll Call: L. Burshtin - Yes, R. Knapp - Yes, Levari, Jr.- Yes, Micheletti - Yes, Levari III - Yes. Motion was approved. The Secretary will include this Public Question in publication of the required legal notices for the annual election on February 20, 2016.

Correspondence: None

Public Comments: None

The Secretary announced that the 2024 annual election will be held on Saturday, February 17, 2024 from 2:00 PM until 9:00 PM in accordance with law. Two Commissioner positions for a full term of three years will be up for election (the term of office for Linda M. Burshtin and Andrew J. Levari, III. are expiring).

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There being no further business, a motion was made for adjournment by Randall Knapp and seconded by Duke Levari. All members present voted in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted: _____
Randall J. Knapp, Jr.
Secretary