

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

**312 Ewan Road  
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Michael Koestler, Chairman  
Mario Olsen, V. Chairman  
Walter Bright, Treasurer

Andrea Reahm, Secretary  
Ken Powell, Commissioner

**REGULAR MEETING  
OF  
July 16, 2014**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Michael Koestler with the reading of the Open Public Meeting Notice and saluting of the flag.

**ROLL CALL:** Commissioners Koestler, Reahm, Olsen, Powell and Bright were in attendance.

**PROCLAMATION PRESENTATION:**  
**Retirement of Nancy Chew, longtime Fire District Secretary**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

On a motion by Olsen and seconded by Powell, it was moved to approve the minutes of June 18, 2014.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

On motion by Bright and seconded by Reahm, it was moved to open the privilege of the floor.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

The following resolutions were presented for approval/adoption:

Resolution No. **14-026:** Providing for Automatic Annual Increases of Losap.  
Tabled until next meeting which will be August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

**DISTRICT CHIEF'S REPORT for June 2014:**  
**Attached as an appendix.**

**BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION REPORT for June 2014:  
Attached as an appendix.**

**FINANCIAL REPORT for June 2014:  
Attached as an appendix.**

On motion by Bright and seconded by Olsen it was moved to pay all bills.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Ewan Fire Company Club License: Commissioner Powell had questions about the insurance covering guests of the Club. Chairman Koestler and Eric Riso responded accordingly.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- A. NJ America Water Company: Their counsel stated that a service agreement would be forwarded to us. They will not be “bagging” any fire hydrants either.
- B. JIF Claim Status: Eric Riso stated that the insurance carrier would be forwarding a check to us shortly to pay the claim from the theft by the former BA.
- C. Daytime Fire Fighter Staffing: Chairman Koestler asked for any input. A discussion ensued regarding a creative idea involving utilizing residents who are firefighters who work from a home office. The possibility of approaching the employers to pay for their employees to go on calls.
- D. Unemployment Claim: investigating possible fraudulent claim. Eric Riso is continuing to pursue the matter.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR.**

On motion by Bright and seconded by Powell, it was moved to open the floor to the public.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** All ayes. Motion Carried.

Steve Houpt added information regarding an employers liability once an employee were to respond to a fire call should this arrangement occur in the future.

Committeeman Heim asked when the Safer Grant ends, Chairman Koestler responded with the September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014 date. He inquired about further action should the Check from JIF not arrive. Eric Riso responded that he would advise Mr. Heim of the status. Mr. Heim inquired about the balance owed to NJAW. Chief Bartholomew stated the balance to be \$165,268 which has been encumbered already. The service agreement should be sent very soon according to Eric Riso. Mr. Heim asked how the Township

Committee could be more helpful in this situation when we are being threatened by NJAW with adverse actions relating to Mr. Olsen's previous concerns. Mr. Riso stated that at this time, there was nothing further that the Township Committee could do to provide aid in this situation and there is hope for a rapid resolution.

On motion by Bright and seconded by Powell, it was moved to close the floor to the public.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** All ayes. Motion Carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Since there was nothing further to come before the Commissioners, on motion by Bright and seconded by Powell, it was moved to adjourn said meeting.

**ROLL CALL:** All Ayes. Motion Carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 27, 2014.

Minutes Approved:

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Andrea Reahm, Secretary

This is a brief summary of the meeting of the Harrison Township Fire Commissioners held on Wednesday, July 16, 2014 and should not be considered a verbatim transcript of the meeting.