

**Board of Fire Commissioners
LINDENWOLD FIRE DISTRICT No.1
Monthly Board Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: July 15, 2019
Meeting Place: Fire Administration Building
Meeting Called To Order: 7:30pm
Members of Board Present: **Chairman – Clifford Ruth**
Vice Chairman – Richard Paul
Treasurer – Raymond McManus
Secretary – Wayne Hans
Commissioner – Frank Weindel
District Clerk – Tiffany Beach
Solicitor – David Capozzi

Salute the Flag

Sunshine Law – Comm. Ruth

In accordance with the NJ Sunshine Law this meeting has been properly advertised and is open to the public. The public portion will follow the regular business of the Board.

Roll Call Commissioners – Comm. Ruth

All present.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting – Comm. Ruth

Motion made by Comm. Weindel seconded by Comm. Paul to approve the June 17th, minutes as they are available to the public upon request. Any questions? (hearing none) All in favor, ayes have it.

Correspondence – Cl. Beach

Cl. Beach: We sent out another set of 2019 Fire Registration invoices. We have 9 remaining businesses left who have not paid.

Treasurer's Report – Comm. McManus

As of July 15, 2019

TD Bank General Checking	83,028.04
TD Bank Money Market Account	877,758.18
TD Bank Money Market Capital	2,558.16
TD Bank Payroll Checking	9,938.38
TD Bank LEA Dedicated Penalty	5,576.36
TD Bank LEA Trust Penalty	16,058.80
Petty Cash	200.00
Total Current Assets	\$ 995,117.92

Motion made by Comm. Hans seconded by Comm. Paul to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Any questions? (hearing none) Roll call vote, all yes.

Payment of Bills – Comm. McManus

Comm. McManus: In front of you, you have a list of bills 67 totaling \$28,905.02. Motion made by Comm. Paul seconded by Comm. Hans to approve the payment of bills. Any questions? (hearing none) Roll call vote, all yes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration / Personnel – Comm. Ruth

No report.

Office of Fire Prevention – Comm. Ruth

Comm. Ruth: The Fire Official's report for June 18 – July 15 was read aloud, a copy is attached to the minutes. Yours in Fire Safety, Acting Fire Official Timothy Shannon, and Michael Brezee Fire Prevention Specialists.

Training Division – Comm. Ruth

Comm. Ruth: The Training report for June was read aloud, a copy is attached to the minutes. Respectfully submitted, Capt. A. Dimitri, Capt. Burns & Lt. Maldonado.

Fire Department Equipment – Comm. Paul

No report.

Turn-Out Gear – Comm. Paul

No report.

Recruitment / Membership – Comm. Paul

Comm. Paul: We did an interview last week for one member. We are waiting for her physical to come back.

Fitness Center – Comm. Paul

No report.

S.O.G.'s – Comm. Paul

Comm. Paul: The Laurel Lake Regional Fire Alliance submitted 8 S.O.G's, everyone has a copy of the report for review. I believe next month we will be able to do a Resolution.

Future Projects- Comm. Paul

Comm. Paul: There was a meeting with Remington and Vernick, it went very well. I was not there but, Deputy Chief Polifrone, Chief Beeler, and Commissioner Hans were. The second meeting was supposed to happen Thursday. It cancelled due to a personal reason.

Communications – Comm. McManus

No report.

Apparatus – Comm. McManus

Comm. McManus: As everyone knows the Squad is still OOS. It is over at Houpert. They fixed the radiator leak without pulling the radiator out. They ran it and it is going up to temp and the fans are coming on. Engine seems like it is running fine. We are just waiting for the muffler to come in from KME. They are going to be doing the muffler, the heat wrap and it should be back in service. I haven't heard anything on the pickup truck yet. I am getting all of the registrations together. I have to get our Fleet Identification number reactivated before the vehicle is delivered.

Computers – Comm. McManus

Comm. McManus: The new laptop was ordered and is in for the Chief. Justin has it and is setting it up for him.

Sale of Assets – Comm. McManus

No report.

Assist Personnel – Comm. McManus

No report.

Budget – Comm. McManus

No report.

Building Maintenance / Grounds – Comm. Hans

No report.

Health & Safety – Comm. Hans

Comm. Hans: I have the physicals set for October 8 starting at 4pm at Station 2 on Scott Ave. Tiff will find out who is due for their physicals and she will get that list out to everyone.

Fixed Assets – Comm. Hans

No report.

Hydrants / Water – Comm. Hans

No report.

Insurance – Comm. Weindel

Comm. Weindel: Tiffany and I have a meeting Wednesday at 11:30am to go over the insurance assets.

Incentive Program – Comm. Weindel

No report.

Uniforms – Comm. Weindel

Comm. Weindel: The order from Action Uniform hasn't come in yet. I talked to John today; they should be in next week. Again, I am looking into shoes and hoodies for the winter time. Also, no one is to go to get a uniform on their own unless they notify me. There was a discrepancy, there was a member who got shoes and they are not part of the uniform. I need to know who is going there and what they are going for. There is a new place in Runnemede I called for prices, it's called All Geared Up, just for a comparison.

Fuel – Comm. Weindel

No report.

Chief's Report – Chief Beeler

Chief Beeler: The report for June 16 – July 14 was read aloud by Chief Beeler, a copy is attached to the minutes.

Comm. Ruth: Deputy Chief Polifrone, do you have anything tonight?

Dep. Chief Polifrone: I spoke to the members of the department regarding the status of the duty crew program to see their responses, whether it is positive or negative. The only real pressing issue at this time is, for those who are participating, there is wear and tear on their uniforms. Some of the uniforms are starting to get worn out rather quickly. It was pretty consistent on feedback, if there is something they can do to have extra or additional uniforms? Maybe we can set some guidelines on how they can attain that.

President's Report – Comm. Ruth

No President's present.

Borough of Lindenwold – Councilman DiDominico

Not present.

Solicitor – D. Capozzi

No report.

Resolutions – Comm. Ruth

N/A

Old Business – Comm. Ruth

Comm. Ruth: Old business? (hearing none)

New Business – Comm. Ruth

Comm. Ruth: Any new business? (hearing none)

Public Portion – Comm. Ruth

Motion made by Comm. McManus, seconded by Comm. Weindel to open to the public. All in favor, ayes have it.

Frank DeLucca: Ashbourne Avenue. I have a couple questions. My first question is what is our financial relationship right now with Clementon?

Comm. Ruth: Right now the contract with Clementon has expired. There is no financial relationship at all.

Frank DeLucca: Are we accepting funds from Clementon?

Comm. Ruth: We did from January 1st to June 30th.

Public Portion – Cont'd.

Frank DeLucca: Do we have any exposure by accepting funds that is outside of the realm of mutual aide?

Comm. Ruth: When you are talking about exposure, what do you mean?

Frank DeLucca: Does Lindenwold have liability for accepting funds and fighting fires in Clementon?

Comm. Ruth: We are not going against our mutual aide agreement.

Frank DeLucca: Absolutely not. That is not a scenario for mutual aide. Mutual aide states, when emergency exists and all of your resources have expired.

Comm. McManus: There was a contract written up.

Comm. Ruth: And it was done by Solicitors.

Frank DeLucca: My next question, how does that compare to what the residents of Lindenwold are paying for fire service and the residents of Clementon paying for fire service?

Comm. Ruth: It was a figure that was developed by the Board and Clementon's Council.

Frank DeLucca: Don't you think if we are covering Clementon that that is something that should be compared?

Comm. Ruth: It was two departments covering and the money was getting divided between the two companies.

Frank DeLucca: Okay so it's going two ways. I guess I just want to make sure that the tax payers of Lindenwold aren't coming up short changed.

Comm. Ruth: No, they came out very well on the deal.

Frank DeLucca: And how is that?

Comm. McManus: It is something that we have been doing for years.

Comm. Ruth: Now we got the money and it is all set and part of the duty crew program for the year. Lindenwold residents are coming out with not having to fork out all of the money for the duty crew. It is running in other towns.

Frank DeLucca: How does a resident in Lindenwold compare in what they are paying to what a resident in Clementon is paying?

Comm. Ruth: I can't answer that.

Frank DeLucca: I think that is something that needs to be looked at. What if Gibbsboro decides to say "well for a couple of bucks, Lindenwold will cover Gibbsboro for next week?" Is there potential with this?

Comm. Ruth: Clementon came across the problem they had trouble getting their trucks out and we were doing it for free. It was agreed upon by them.

Frank DeLucca: I think financially Clementon is probably ahead of the game.

Comm. Weindel: Frank, how would you compare by what Clementon is paying for their fire service?

Frank DeLucca: How many people? How many homes? Or how many billable line items? Compared to how many billable line items in Lindenwold I guess would be a fairly close evaluation. What is the Lindenwold residents paying compared to Clementon? It could be done.

Comm. Ruth: It was done on as temporary bases. If it was going to have gone further, we would have sat down and figured it out. As of now, and as you heard from Chief Beeler's report and the training report, Clementon had 15 members at training. We will be sitting down with them and they will be going back to their own boxes now.

Frank DeLucca: It is great we were counting on those funds now. What if they resend and say I am out.

Chief Beeler: That would be on their end. This was a temporary deal for six months while they rebuild their ranks. As you can see if the Chief's report, 92 called for service, 19 of them were Clementon's. The residents of Lindenwold were never in danger.

Frank DeLucca: No one said they were ever in danger. I am saying financially, how are the residents comparing?

Chief Beeler: Clementon Fire Company is still running their own fires. Not only were they getting their own fire company, they were getting added protection. It isn't like they weren't getting any kind of fire protection or just relying on us. We were there as a backup only. They have a Chief in place now that is in charge of their department. He makes the decisions in that town. When our fire company is called, if they recalled us, we went home.

Frank DeLucca: Did I hear someone say a few minutes ago that we were in renegotiation?

Comm. Ruth: No.

Chief Beeler: There is no renegotiation.

Comm. Ruth: It is over. The agreement expired June 30th. We have not been approached to continue. Clementon is now free to do whatever they need to do with their fire department. They have a Chief in place now that is running their department. He can change the boxes. Everything was done in an agreement for fire protection between Laurel Springs, Lindenwold and Clementon. We were there to assist. We were running into to Clementon and not getting paid for it through our alliance agreement. Now the tax payers, the trucks were going, and now we got money for it.

Frank DeLucca: Don't hang your hat on mutual aide because it doesn't fall under the definition of mutual aide. Ask the Solicitor to check it. I'm telling you it doesn't. It's the same thing with EMS years ago.

Comm. McManus: The thing is too, how many times is Clementon coming to Lindenwold?

Frank DeLucca: That is under a mutual aide. When Clementon says that they don't have a fire department.

Chief Beeler: They never said they didn't have a fire department. They hired us to assist in the even they did not get out.

Public Portion – Cont’d.

Comm. Ruth: I don't think it was really any different than when they closed Chesilhurst Fire Department and Winslow Township ran Chesilhurst's calls.

Sol. Capozzi: The agreement is complete. So how would you have exposure at this point?

Frank DeLucca: So it's over?

Comm. Ruth: The agreement is over. It was for 6 months ending June 30th. It was a temporary agreement so they could reorganize their department.

Frank DeLucca: Are they going to still continue to give you money?

Comm. Ruth: No. The agreement is over.

Frank DeLucca: Okay, I was not aware of that.

Comm. Ruth: The agreement was from January 1st to June 30th when they were rebuilding their department and putting a new chain of command, which they were going to get fire services in their town, that's all it was.

Sol. Capozzi: As a supplement.

Comm. Ruth: We had nothing to do with their Fire Marshall's office, no fire prevention. Just that when the alarm went off, they were getting our volunteers into their town.

Frank DeLucca: Okay so my second question is, is there any potential or is the fire district looking at career fire fighters?

Chief Beeler: No.

Comm. Ruth: We have looked in the past and it was voted down by the tax payers. A duty crew program has been established. It started January 1st till this date, there has been fire protection in the Borough of Lindenwold under our duty crew program from 8am- 4pm by our volunteers, and at the very minimum the crew would have 3 members on the Squad. The runs keep going up and the number of volunteers keeps going down. So at this time no, we are not looking for career fire fighters.

Frank DeLucca: And my last question, what is driving a new fire house? Why do we need that?

Chief Beeler: Our goal is to put everyone under one roof. The buildings that we have now are antiquated and old. You know this. They aren't up to modern standards, the initial engineer study proved that. The buildings are not ADA compliant and the cost of retrofitting the older buildings as opposed to building a new one is still in discussion if we lean towards that way. Also, the fact that the fire district would own the building and would be responsible for the building, there would be no more lease payments, no more rent. It would be all one organization, Lindenwold Fire District.

Frank DeLucca: Is there an estimated cost?

Chief Beeler: No.

Frank DeLucca: Okay do we know how much bonding the Fire District has?

Comm. Ruth: We haven't even gotten that far. It is still way too early for that.

Frank DeLucca: The bonding, that isn't the engineer.

Comm. Ruth: They need to start giving us locations around town they are talking about, size of the building, costs. We don't have any of that; we are still in the very beginning states of exploring this whole thing.

Frank DeLucca: You don't know how much money you have to spend? The building isn't going to drive how much you spend. When you go buy a house, you know how much you are able to spend before you go looking for a house. You don't go looking for a house then see how much you can spend.

Comm. Paul: We have to find ground first. We don't have ground yet to say that we are going to buy \$600,000.00 for this piece of property to build on. We are still too early with all of this.

Comm. Ruth: The study that was done years ago, it did not have locations.

Frank DeLucca: I think it did.

Comm. Ruth: That was an operational study. We were inadequate back then.

Frank DeLucca: Has any one read that report?

Dep. Chief Polifrone: Yes.

Comm. Ruth: I believe everyone here has, yes. The engineers also have a copy as well.

Frank DeLucca: When is the public going to be made privy to that?

Dep. Chief Polifrone: I don't think we are in that position right now to discuss it with the public because we are in the infancy still. First we need to identify and look at our existing structures and whether or not they can be rehabbed. Then, once we receive the final reports. The second part would be there are 3 building are insufficient needs right now, what do you do? The next would be we need to build a new structure or rehabilitate one of the existing structures and what would the cost be as well in comparison to purchasing a new piece of property and building there. We have identified about 15 properties in Lindenwold and we have gone through the properties, to determine what is feasible in size and availability. A majority of the locations are considered wetlands, unfortunately. In Lindenwold, if it has a tree, it is basically determined to be wetlands, I say that jokingly. If it's vacant land, it's owned by someone else. It also may be a little small for our needs. Those are the steps that we have gone through. We haven't received a filed report from Remington and Vernick. When we get that file report, then they will come to us and say, here are your deficiencies, they know what our needs are. We have already told them what are needs our. We would like to have a station that can hold

Public Portion – Cont'd.

a certain number of apparatus, members, adequate spacing between the apparatus and the gear. We are concerned with from our initial study, all of the stations were deficient in proximity between gear to the apparatus for the carcinogens from the diesel as well as fire fighter safety. We are also looking to consolidate costs. We won't be paying three cable bills, three electric bills, three water bills. Then, we also need to identify, ADA compliance, looking towards the future of a career department, with the exception of housing for male and female as well as the location of the administrative office of the chiefs and the fire district. It then comes to all of these wants and needs and a piece of property, do we want to build horizontally or vertically. We are still very early on this. We started in February with this and we are only in July. I don't foresee us going to the public with anything solid until probably the end of this year, the beginning of next year.

Frank DeLucca: Does R&V have a track record?

Dep. Chief Polifrone: Yes, actually we interviewed 3 different engineers. Remington and Vernick is actually the only one that has a track record of working with municipalities and fire departments and districts. They also provide a service that the other 2 or 3 architects did not. The other architects were just going to come in and give us a building, they weren't going to do the deficiency studies, they were not going to do the planning or the preparation of a document that be taken to the Mayor and Council and the public and say this is what we have done, this is what is deficient, and this is what we need.

Frank DeLucca: I think that we all know, that above the ground is an architect and below the ground is engineer? Is that not true Wayne?

Comm. Hans: That could be true, yes. They have worked with architects. I asked. We need someone who is going to put the whole package together.

Comm. Ruth: Is there anything else?

Frank DeLucca: That is it.

Motion made by Comm. McManus, seconded by Comm. Paul. All in favor, ayes have it.

Open to Commissioners – Comm. Ruth

N/A

Closed Session – Comm. Ruth

N/A

Adjourn - Comm. Ruth

Motion made by Comm. Weindel, seconded by Comm. Paul to adjourn the meeting at 8:04pm.

All in favor, ayes have it.

Lindenwold Fire District No.1
Treasurer's Report
As of July 15, 2019

	<u>Jul 15, 19</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1000 · CASH	
1010 · TD Bank General Checking	83,028.04
1011 · TD Bank Money Market Acco...	877,758.18
1013 · TD Bank Money Market Capital	2,558.16
1020 · TD Bank Payroll Checking	9,938.38
1030 · TD Bank LEA Dedicated Pen...	5,576.36
1040 · TD Bank LEA Trust Penalty	16,058.80
1090 · Petty Cash	200.00
	<hr/>
Total 1000 · CASH	995,117.92
	<hr/>
Total Checking/Savings	995,117.92
	<hr/>
Total Current Assets	995,117.92
	<hr/>
TOTAL ASSETS	995,117.92
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LIABILITIES & EQUITY	0.00

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

07/15/2019

June 18, 2019 to July 15, 2019

Inspections Completed

Maddina LLC
L's Beauty Mart
Lindenwold Board of Ed building
Lindenwold School 4
Lindenwold School 5
Lindenwold High School
Lindenwold Middle School
Lindenwold OLOG Pre School
Pine Ridge Apts
Harvest House
The Village at Laurel Creek
Tayrex
Animal Adoption
Dalvins Barber Shop
Don Tequilla
Action Graphics

16

Re-Inspections

WMD Delevement
Lighthouse Church
Lindenwold A Cab
Clementon Grocery
Muellers Ice Cream
Laurelwood Liquors

6

Complaints Received 0 Imminent Hazards 0

Requested Response 0

Civilian Burn Reports 0

Permits 0

Information to Fire District Commissioners

We did three fire safety classes this month at the senior housing facility with the duty crew. We did a fire extinguisher training class with the Jr police academy last Friday. I started purchasing fire prevention material already for September/ October. We have Christmas in July and National Night Out with the Police this month. I have 10 outstanding fire safety registration invoice I will be working on collecting the fees. As of July 15, 2019 we received State Life Hazard Fees \$ 3,941.16 Non Life Fees \$ 16,500.25 and permit fees of \$ 590.00.

Yours in Fire Safety



Timothy Shannon
Fire Official

CHIEFS REPORT

06/17 TO 07/14

Calls for service – 92

Clementon-19, Laurel Springs-4, Pine Hill-4, West Berlin-1, Voorhees-7, Gibbsboro-1, Erial-1

Jun-20 we assisted Voorhees with a multi alarm fire

July 3rd we assisted Clementon with the Clementon Park fireworks with no incidents

The 3 Department Chief Officers met on July 11th and discussed various issues. Attached for each commissioner is the SOG for the alliance that were developed and made by all of the companies.

Myself and Deputy Chief Polifrone handled 1 personnel issue.

Squad is OOS. We are using the 2004 Squirt as a reserve squad. No issues with that

In conjunction with the FM office, we decided to have the Lindenwold Fire Prevention on Lindenwold Day. We will all be there already and will have people to hand out fire prevention materials

The duty crew program continues to run very well. As expected there are growing pains and learning curves. We had a few crews of 3 as opposed to 4, but we anticipated that due to summer and vacations. All the members are working very hard to ensure this program does well.

The agreement between Clementon, Lindenwold and Laurel Springs has ended. We are going to have to meet with Clementon Council soon and discuss our feelings on how things are running.

We met with Remington and Vernick on June 25th. We were supposed to meet again on July 11th, however Annina cancelled. We are rescheduling. We discussed the various sites that were brought up and are still discussing the differences and issues. We will continue to make progress on this.

We have numerous events that we were requested to attend in the upcoming weeks. We will do our best to attend each of them.

Respectfully submitted

Philip Beeler, Chief.



Lindenwold Fire Department
2201 Bangor Avenue
Lindenwold, NJ 08021
(856)-346-0935

July Training Report

In June we had one drill which was Engine Company Operations on June 11th taught by Captain DiMitri. June 18th we had the Post Incident Analysis for the two recent fires at Stonington and E. Maple Avenue. The last Tuesday of the month we had a Battalion night due to individual companies having things to work on.

Respectfully submitted, Captain/Training Officer DiMitri, Captain Burns, and Lieutenant Maldonado.

June 11th
Engine Company Operations
Training Room
Taught By: Capt. DiMitri
LFD Members – 27
LSFD Members – 8
CFR Members – 17