

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

Meeting Date: December 16, 2024
Meeting Place: Fire Administration Building
Meeting Called To Order: 7:00pm
Members of Board Present: **Chairman** – Richard Paul
Vice Chairman – Tamara DeLucca
Treasurer – Wayne Hans
Secretary – Frank Weindel
Commissioner – Frank DeLucca
District Clerk – Tiffany Beach
Solicitor – Jeffrey Catalano

Salute the Flag

Sunshine Law – Comm. Paul

In accordance with the NJ Sunshine Law this meeting Notice of this meeting has been duly advertised in compliance with the provisions of the open public meetings law. Please be advised this meeting will be recorded for possible later playback.

Roll Call Commissioners

All present.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting – Comm. Paul

Motion made by Comm. Weindel seconded by Comm. Hans to approve the November 18, 2024 Board meeting minutes as they are available to the public upon request. Any questions? All in favor, ayes have it. Comm. F. DeLucca abstains.

Motion made by Comm. T. DeLucca seconded by Comm. Hans to approve the October 21, 2024 Board meeting minutes as they are available to the public upon request. Any questions? All in favor, ayes have it.

Correspondence – Cl. Beach

Cl. Beach: I have had numerous conversations with Kathy our accountant with preparations for the 2025 budget.

Treasurer's Report – Comm. Hans

As of December 16, 2024

TD Bank Money Market Account	1,194,858.89
TD Bank Money Market Capital	2,571.66
TD Bank General Checking	402,124.29
Investment NJ ARM	2,127,562.01
Building NJ ARM	10,354,548.59
TD Bank Payroll Checking	22,109.61
TD Bank LEA Dedicated Penalty	5,578.36
TD Bank LEA Trust Penalty	14,696.99
Petty Cash	200.00
Total Current Assets	14,124,250.40

Motion made by Comm. T. DeLucca seconded by Comm. Weindel to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Any questions? (hearing none) Roll call vote, all yes. Comm. F. DeLucca abstains.

Payment of Bills – Comm. Hans

Comm. Hans: In front of you, you have a list of 71 bills totaling \$167,162.47

Motion made by Comm. T. DeLucca seconded by Comm. Weindel to approve the payment of bills.

Comm. Paul: Any questions?

Comm. F. DeLucca: There is a bill, for \$75,000 for the architect, check number 6765. I think it's totally erroneous to pay for I when the work hasn't even been done yet & correct me if I am wrong Mr. Chairman. Actually, the bill was to you. I am not sure if you even saw that. I don't think we should pay this yet. I also have questions regards to the Solicitor and I don't feel the building is transparent and I am going to actively contest that.

Comm. Paul: The bill was email to me for the Board.

Roll call vote, all yes. Comm. F. DeLucca, no.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administration / Personnel – Comm. T. DeLucca

No report.

Fire Department Equipment – Comm. Paul

No report.

Turn-Out Gear – Comm. Paul

No report.

Recruitment / Membership – Comm. F. DeLucca

No report.

S.O.G.'s – Comm. Paul

No report.

Communications – Comm. DeLucca

No report.

Assist Personnel – Comm. Paul

No report.

Budget – Comm. Hans

No report.

Fuel – Comm. Weindel

No report.

Fitness Center – Comm. F. DeLucca

No report.

Training- Comm. Weindel

No report.

Fixed Assets/Sale of Assets – Comm. DeLucca

No report.

Insurance – Comm. F. DeLucca

No report.

Hydrants/ Water – Comm. Hans

No report.

Health & Safety – Comm. Hans

No report.

Building Maintenance / Grounds – Comm. Hans

No report.

Incentive Program – Comm. Weindel

No report.

Computers – Comm. DeLucca

Comm. T. DeLucca: We ordered 3 new Surface Pros & power inverters for the apparatus.

Apparatus – Comm. Paul

Comm. Paul: Everything is in service with no issues.

Future Projects- Comm. Paul

Comm. Paul: The advertisement is now posted in the paper for the contractors. There is a pre-bid conference January 7th at 1pm at 517 E Linden Ave. The last day for questions is January 24, 2025, end of business day. The addenda date is January 28th and the last day to receive bids is February 6, 2025 at 3pm.

Uniforms – Comm. Weindel

Comm. Weindel: Just waiting for the uniforms to come in.

Chief's Report –Chief Beeler

Chief Beeler: The report was read aloud by Chief Beeler; a copy is attached to the minutes.

Office of Fire Prevention – Fire Official Shannon

F/O T. Shannon: Fire Official's report for November 19, 2024– December 16, 2024 was read aloud, a copy is attached

President's Report – Comm. Paul

N/A

Borough of Lindenwold – Councilman Morrissey

Mr. Morrissey: Last meeting you said you were planning on going to the Planning Board in January? My question is this, you put it out to the planning board & they make changes to the design, won't it affect the bid?

Sol. Catalano: There are ways to make change orders. It all does come with the process but yes this is something that the Board should be considerate of.

Comm. F. DeLucca: Mr. Solicitor, am I also allowed to respond to that?

Sol. Catalano: Sure

Comm. F. DeLucca: You are absolutely right. I have a copy of the newspaper advertisement. I am curious as to who paid for it the architect or the commission? I have questions regarding that presentation, who is representing the architect who is the vendor? Is it Parker McCay?

Sol. Catalano: No.

Comm. F. DeLucca: Well we are writing checks to Parker McCay and to you.

Sol. Catalano: You are writing checks for me as my role of Solicitor for this board. Parker McCay represents this fire district as an applicant before the planning board. We are using our architect as our vendor, as you stated to support this fire districts application to the planning board. There is no client relationship with us and the architect.

Comm. F. DeLucca: There's no doubt in my mind that it's going to occur is ligation between the fire district, this board, and the architect. Who represents the us?

Sol. Catalano: I do.

Comm. F. DeLucca: How can you represent us when you are also charging the architect?

Sol. Catalano: I don't represent the architect. I think that is your misconception.

Comm. F. DeLucca: No, it aint my misconception I've checked with 3 attorneys Jeff and they all agree that it is a conflict.

Sol. Catalano: I don't represent the architect.

Comm. F. DeLucca: I totally think you are wrong and whatever I got to do. I guess I'll start with Parker McCay to find out how they can do that. Who is Mr. Kevin Sheehan?

Sol. Catalano: Yes. Kevin Sheehan is the shareholder at the law firm who specialized in Land Use applications. He is representing the Fire District as far of the application before the planning board.

Cl. Beach: Can we pause for a second & let the Councilman finish?

Comm. Paul: Let's let the Councilman finish & then we can hash it all out in open to commissioners.

Councilman: February 6th is the closing of the bids?

Comm. Paul: I believe we open the bids at 3pm the 6th and then awarded at the next board meeting.

Comm. F. DeLucca: When does the commission see the plans?

Comm. Paul: You mean the blueprints? When he is finished with them and delivers them. You will have your own copy that the Board is paying your fee for.

Comm. F. DeLucca: Put that in writing. Give me a bill.

Comm. Paul: You requested them and you are getting your own personal copy.

Comm. F. DeLucca: Put that in writing. Give me a bill.

Solicitor – J. Catalano

No report.

Resolutions – Comm. Paul

Resolution 2024-31 To Introduce the 2025 Budget

Motion made by Comm. Weindel seconded by Comm. Hans Any questions?

Comm. F. DeLucca: Yes, I had a discussion with Tiffany about page N3(2) #10, I was wondering who we have the agreement with? Could it be an oversite? Do we contract with other entities? The answer in there is yes. 3The next portion states to include a copy. I believe it directly refers to EMS or uses that as an example. I am not aware that

the fire district has a contract with EMS. Verbally, I have heard it. We won't go there now. So, Tiffany did call the people that do the budget and we will have an answer in the next few days. As it states now, it states that we have an agreement with other entities and it fails to show that.

Roll call vote, all yes. Comm. F. DeLucca abstains

Resolution 2024-32 To establish Accounts Payable

Motion made by Comm. Weindel, seconded by Comm. Hans. Any questions? (hearing none) Roll call vote, all yes.

Resolution 2024-33 To establish Line Item Transfers

Motion made by Comm. Hans, seconded by Comm. T. DeLucca. Any questions?

Comm. F. DeLucca: Is there written document where money was transferred to and from? What was reduced & what areas were increased? What was cut? When will that come forward.

Comm. Paul: This is for the 2024 budget.

Roll call vote, all yes. Comm. F. DeLucca; no.

Resolution 2024-34 To establish Encumbrances

Motion made by Comm. Weindel, seconded by Comm. Hans. Any questions? (hearing none) Roll call vote, all yes.

Old Business – Comm. Paul

Comm. Paul: Any old business? (hearing none)

New Business – Comm. Paul

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

Motion made by Comm. T. DeLucca, seconded by Comm. Hans to go back into new business. All in favor, ayes have it.

Motion made by Comm. F. DeLucca, seconded by Comm. T. DeLucca for a request for proposal for professional services for construction management of the endeavor that we are embarking upon.

Sol Catalano: To be clear, you are making a motion authorize for an RFP for a construction manager?

Comm. F. DeLucca: Yeah, let's put it out there.

Comm. Hans: We've talked about it before. It's hard to find someone and its very costly. It's not a bad idea

Comm. F. DeLucca: It's an investment to cover the tax payer's dollars for 12 million dollars.

Roll call, all yes.

Comm. Paul: Alright Frank, start getting quotes.

Public Portion – Comm. Paul

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

No public wishes to speak

Motion made by Comm. Hans, seconded by Comm. T. DeLucca, to close to the public. All in favor, ayes have it.

Open to Commissioners – Comm. Paul

Comm. Paul: Happy Holidays, Happy New Year.

Comm. Hans: Merry Christmas everyone, stay safe.

Comm. T. DeLucca: Chief, when you guys do Santa; do you want to have Brandon communicate with me like we've done in the past & I'll look on social media. Would he be my point of contact?

Chief Beeler: Yes, that would be fine.

Comm. T. DeLucca: Okay, we will work collaboratively with that. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

Comm. F. DeLucca: Okay, I'd like to make a motion to make a request for proposal for a construction manager. I know we spoke about it and I believe it is very necessary I talked to numerous towns, Washington Township, Winslow. I think that is something that protect the taxpayer's interests. Need to remind we are stewards of the taxpayer's money. A nonpartisan person to oversee the project and I believe it is very, very beneficial.

Comm. Paul: We have to go back into new business to make that motion. We can do that once we close to the commissioners.

Comm. F. DeLucca: I am still not finished. You are dancing around me here. I guess was there an agreement with the Borough of Lindenwold either verbal or written regarding the fire district doing EMS services? Guess that is my question to whoever.

Comm. Paul: There is no agreement with the District and the Borough for EMS.

Comm. F. DeLucca: Okay, then how many dollars are we spending on in the new building for EMS?

Comm. Paul: We aren't spending anything. They have offices. We agreed to house them in the new building and that is why the Borough gave us the ground. Once the building gets done, they would be housed there so it would free up their building on Walnut Avenue.

Comm. F. DeLucca: You just said that there was no agreement and now you are saying that there is an agreement. Which way was it Rich?

Comm. T. DeLucca: Where is the copy of the agreement?

Comm. Paul: The Borough should have it.

Comm. F. DeLucca: I have a copy of it, and it doesn't state anything either verbally or written whether the Fire District & what you just stated whether they would give us the ground & the building, if we took over the EMS or housed the EMS so the Borough could sell that building. Where is that written?

Comm. Paul: I don't think the Borough is selling that building Frank.

Comm. F. DeLucca: What did you just say Rich? Am I hearing funny?

Comm. Paul: That would be up to the Borough to sell the building.

Comm. F. DeLucca: Well what did you just say? What did you say a few minutes ago Rich?

Comm. Paul: That we were going to house EMS in our building and when it was time to make an agreement we would.

Comm. F. DeLucca: What is it costing us now?

Comm. Paul: Nothing. We don't write any checks to the Borough for EMS.

Comm. F. DeLucca: But yet you have it included in the proposal. I am not going to debate any more over this Rich. You've said it and now you are denying it.

Comm. Paul: I am not denying anything Frank.

Comm. F. DeLucca: Well, somebody did. Okay. Again moving on. I have to go back to the issue with the Solicitor I feel it's a conflict. I will investigate that and also I strongly context the bill from the architect which is one line for like \$75,000 and I did question you earlier and you said that for the work and but yet he hasn't don't the work. I don't know why we pay bills in advance when the work hasn't been done especially \$75,000. Back to the newspaper advertisement, if the Board has not seen the blueprints and agreed to the final concepts of the new building, how can you put it out to bid for the contractors? Do you go out and buy a new car and say yeah I'd like to buy a new car you write specs on it and it is approved by whoever is spending the money and need I remind everyone it is the board why is spending the money.

Comm. T. DeLucca: In regards to the agreement, Chief Beeler and I were talking about that, because he was looking into getting a copy as well so I reached out to Mr. Capozzi, and he said that he checked with Craig and indicated that he forwarded a copy of the EMS agreement to Rich Paul about 2 weeks ago this was on November 14th.

Comm. Paul: That agreement was contract that was signed by Mayor and Council to provide EMS services for the Borough of Lindenwold. It had nothing to do with the Commission. It was a contract between Jefferson Hospital and the Borough, I believe you were Mayor at the time.

Comm. T. DeLucca: Shouldn't we have something in writing? Something in an agreement?

Comm. Paul: We aren't taking over EMS.

Comm. T. DeLucca: I understand that. I understand that EMS is under Jefferson. What I am asking is, why we are housing them? Shouldn't there be some type of an agreement that we will be housing them in our building? Not taking them over.

Comm. Paul: We can have a Commissioner, the Chief, Deputy Chief go meet with EMS. They have the room if they want to come with us.

Comm. T. DeLucca: If they want to? But they are coming with us. Correct?

Comm. Paul: Yeah, eventually.

Comm. T. DeLucca: Shouldn't we have something in writing stating that before we allot them the space? 5

Comm. Paul: We have to go meet with them in order to discuss it.

Comm. T. DeLucca: When are you going to discuss it? When the building is built?

Comm. Hans: I don't think anything is set in stone. If they don't come, we will just have an extra bay?

Comm. T. DeLucca: So, we are just going to have extra bays? Okay.

Comm. Hans: Maybe put fire prevention there. I don't know.

Comm. T. DeLucca: Put fire prevention in the bay? Sure makes sense.

Comm. Hans: One of the trucks.

Comm. Paul: Anything else Commissioner DeLucca?

Comm. F. DeLucca: I guess this is for the building committee, Wayne have you ever measured the gym?

Comm. Hans: Yes, I have when we first took it over for the insurance. I measured it

Comm. F. DeLucca: Does our existing apparatus fit?

Comm. Hans: That I don't know Frank. I didn't measure it for apparatus.

Comm. F. DeLucca: Do you think we should probably take a look? Shouldn't that be investigated?

Comm. Hans: I know it was talked about with the architect. The architect felt we should tear everything down all at one shot.

Comm. F. DeLucca: No what the architect is saying is that he makes more money if we do it that way. Is that correct?

Comm. Hans: That I can't answer.

Comm. F. DeLucca: Wayne, is the architect going to make more money if we tear it down?

Comm. Hans: He is going to make a percentage. Yes, no doubt about it.

Comm. F. DeLucca: Something don't smell good. Okay. Lastly, I will tell you all, the state of New Jersey has an Office of Comptrollers that we should take a look at and do some research. I have spoken to them, after the holidays I think they are very anxious to take a look at what is happening here at the Lindenwold Board of Fire Commissioners, I'm done. Merry Christmas.

Adjourn - Comm. Paul

Motion made by Comm. Weindel seconded by Comm. Hans to adjourn the meeting at 7:33.

Any questions? (hearing none) All in favor, ayes have it.

Lindenwold Fire District No.1
Balance Sheet
As of December 16, 2024

	Dec 16, 24
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1000 · CASH	
1011 · TD Bank Money Market Acco...	1,194,858.89
1013 · TD Bank Money Market Capital	2,571.66
1015 · General Checking 3	402,124.29
1016 · Investment NJ ARM	2,127,562.01
1017 · Building- NJ ARM	10,354,548.59
1020 · TD Bank Payroll Checking	22,109.61
1030 · TD Bank LEA Dedicated Pen...	5,578.36
1040 · TD Bank LEA Trust Penalty	14,696.99
1090 · Petty Cash	200.00
Total 1000 · CASH	14,124,250.40
Total Checking/Savings	14,124,250.40
Total Current Assets	14,124,250.40
TOTAL ASSETS	14,124,250.40
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	0.00

2024-31

2025 FIRE DISTRICT BUDGET RESOLUTION

Lindenwold Borough FD No. 1

FISCAL YEAR: January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget for Lindenwold Borough FD No. 1 (the 'Fire District') for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2025 has been presented before the Board of Commissioners of the Fire District at its open public meeting of December 16, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the budget as introduced 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 introduced reflects Total Revenues of \$2,341,093.00 which includes an amount to be raised by taxation of \$1,286,418.00 and Total Appropriations of \$2,341,093.00; and

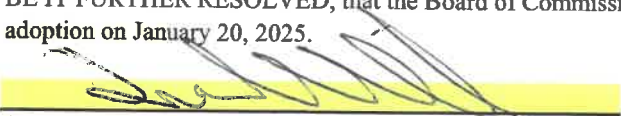
WHEREAS, the amount to be raised by taxation to support the district budget shall be the amount to be certified to the assessor of the municipality to be assessed against the taxable property in the district, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:14-79. Such amount shall be equal to the amount of the total appropriations set forth in the budget minus the total amount surplus and miscellaneous revenues set forth in the budget; and

WHEREAS, in calculating the amount to be raised by taxation, the Fire District has taken into account the assessed valuation of taxable property in the Fire District;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of the Fire District, at an open public meeting held on December 16, 2024 that the Annual Budget, including all related schedules, of the Fire District for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2025 is hereby approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the anticipated revenues as reflected in the Annual Budget are of sufficient amount to meet all proposed expenditures/expenses and all covenants, terms and provisions as stipulated in the Fire District's outstanding debt obligations, capital lease arrangements, service contracts, and other pledged agreements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fire District will consider the Annual Budget for adoption on January 20, 2025.


(Secretary's Signature)

12/16/24
(Date)

Board of Commissioners Recorded Vote

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Richard J Paul, Jr.	X			
Tammy Delucca	X			
Frank Weindel	X			
Wayne Hans	X			
Frank Delucca, Jr.			X	

RESOLUTION

2024 - 32

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

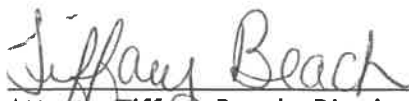
WHEREAS, The Board of Fire Commissioners desires to establish accounts payable to fund all expenditures for pending contracts of purchases and services from the year 2024 budget.

NOW THEREFORE, It is herein resolved and approved that an accounts payable account be and is hereby established for the 2024 budget by the Board of Fire Commissioners, in accordance with the attached schedule.

Dated: 12/16/2024



Richard J Paul Jr., Chairman



Attest: Tiffany Beach, District Clerk

RESOLUTION

2024 - 33

LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

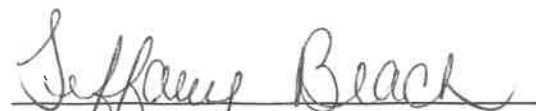
WHEREAS, The Board of Fire Commissioners has determined the necessity of making end of the year line item transfers, and

WHEREAS, the laws of the State of New Jersey permits said transfers,

NOW THEREFORE, It is herein resolved and approved, that line item transfers, in accordance with the attached schedule and is hereby approved.

Dated: 12/16/2024


Richard J Paul Jr., Chairman


Attest: Tiffany Beach, District Clerk

RESOLUTION

2024 - 34

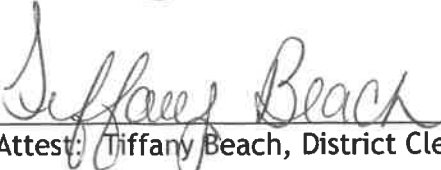
ENCUMBRANCES

WHEREAS, The Board of Fire Commissioners desires to establish an encumbrance schedule to fund all expenditures for pending contracts of purchases and services from the year 2024 budget.

NOW THEREFORE, It is herein resolved and approved that an encumbrance account be and is hereby established for the 2024 budget by the Board of Fire Commissioners, in accordance with the attached schedule.

Dated: 12/16/2024


Richard J. Paul Jr., Chairman


Attest: Tiffany Beach, District Clerk



LINDENWOLD FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Report 11/18 to 12/15

74 calls

12/7 – Stonington Ct 1300 Bldg- Dryer on fire inside laundry room- Crews extinguished quickly – TOT FM 63

12/10 – 309 Lowell Ave – Dwelling fire – Crews extinguished quickly – TOT FM 63 for invest

12/11 – Driftaway café Gibbsboro Rd- Called for an alarm sounding- Found a smoke condition inside- Pile of smoldering rags- TOT FM 63

In conjunction with the borough, we hosted the annual Christmas parade on December 6th with no issues

On 12/12 we met with the School board in regards to the new school building and radio coverage. Thanks to FM63 for assisting

We applied for the AFG grant for the portable radio replacement with the alliance. We were denied for that. We were able to find out what we were denied for and after more research we were able to fine key information regarding the original radios we received. We will apply again for this as we feel we have a better than average chance now. We also applied for the Gary Sinise foundation grant and were denied. Chief Cheeseman, Chief Freiling and myself discussed micro grant opportunities for the upcoming year to try for.

We will be escorting Santa around town again this year on December 21st.

Training

Several meetings are ongoing regarding shoring up our schedule for mandatory training for 2025.

We have 2 members completing Fire 1

Lieutenant Miller emailed everyone regarding streamlining training certifications and Driver License's to ensure all information is accurate and up to date.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

12/16/2024

November 19, 2024 to December 16, 2024

Inspections Completed:

Parc One Apartments
MLG Realty LLC
Premier Plaza
Pine Ridge Apt
Wawa Food Store
Summit Place
Hope Residential
Little Lights Day Care
Wawa Food Store (whp)
Don Tequila
Oaks Integrated Care

22

Laurel wood Center
Towne Center
Spruce Apartments
Wawa Gas Pumps
Forever Young
Paul's Tavern
Dollar Tree Store
Wawa Gas (whp)
Walgreens
La Esperanza
Stonington Court

Re- Inspections:

Metro by T-Mobile
Lindenwold School 4
Lindenwold Middle School
Los Primos
Linden Lakes Senior
Woodland Village
Boy Scouts of America
Little Lights Day Care

15

Lindenwold Bd of Ed
Lindenwold School 5
Lindenwold High School
Our Lady of Guadeloupe
Mamma Rosa
Oh- Drama Hair
Deterdings Store

Complaints Received 1

Stonington Court- Fire Alarm Issue