

Board of Fire Commissioners

Gloucester Township Fire District Six
1946 Williamstown Road
Erial, NJ 08081
(856) 435-0700

Chairman	Vice Chairman	Treasurer	Secretary	Commissioner
George L. Brown	Brian Robinson	Steven M. Funkhouser	George W. Flinn	Derek Grier

Minutes for Regular Meeting August 24, 2023

Flag Salute

Call to Order

Public meeting called to order at 18:32 hours.

Sunshine Law - In accordance with the New Jersey Sunshine Law, section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 P.L. 1975, this meeting is open to the public. The public portion will follow the regular business of the Board. Notice of this meeting was posted on the Fire District bulletin board designed for that purpose.

Roll Call

GRIER	Present
ROBINSON	Present
FLINN	Excused
FUNKHOUSER	Present
BROWN	Present

Also present: Chief Brown, Solicitor Carlamere, Administrative Clerk Evans.

Presentation of Minutes

Motion made by Comm. Robinson, seconded by Comm. Grier to approve the previous months minutes as they are available to the public upon request.

Roll Call Vote

GRIER	Yes
ROBINSON	Yes
FLINN	n/a
FUNKHOUSER	Yes
BROWN	Yes

Correspondence

Adm.Cl.Evans said all have been distributed.

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Funkhouser read the Treasurer's Report into the record:

William Penn General Account	\$2,723,529.62
William Penn Payroll Account	\$46,292.58
Expenditures August 24, 2023	\$82,792.52
Bills attached for approval	\$82,792.52

Motion made by Commissioner Robinson, seconded by Comm. Grier to accept the Treasurer's Report as read and monthly bill list.

ROLL CALL VOTE

GRIER	Yes
ROBINSON	Yes
FLINN	n/a
FUNKHOUSER	Yes
BROWN	Yes

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMISSIONER BROWN:

Computer Services – Little headway was made on the phone and wireless projects etc. Atlantic City Electric is supposed to guarantee. Comm. Flinn is not here to review. There were no reported power outages in the building at the time. There will be manual backup testing on the generator on a monthly basis. We were losing the wireless 7-10 times a week since it was put in. That's unacceptable when everything runs wireless. The board approved \$3,000 for the electrician to check, nothing substantial yet but we're still seeing problems. The wireless vendor agrees at this point it's a Comcast problem.

Fire Prevention – The date is October 12th at Lowe's. The Fire Official has to attend his Fire Prevention that night. Ff. Craig will take his position in assisting setting up our Fire Prevention.

IAFF Contracts – We have to notify them of contract renewal. The Union has to be notified by I believe September 1st. It says "the contract will automatically renew year to year thereafter unless your party should notify the other in writing before 120 calendar days prior to the termination date." It further states that "in the event such notice is given, negotiations shall begin no later than 90 calendar days prior to termination." We will get with Ff. Craig and whoever is their second person.

Liaison to the Fire Company – Any new members to the Fire Company? (hearing none)

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON:

Personnel - Comm. Robinson wanted to make note prior to Comm. Grier speaking on the Apparatus report that he read it twice today and it was well done. That and the Chief/Administrator report was outstanding.

National Night Out worked out really well at the park. Thank everyone who came out. Thank the wives and friends who assisted. It worked out well. Other than that, I have nothing else to report.

COMMISSIONER FUNKHOUSER:

Building Maintenance – Comm. Funkhouser would like to defer to the Chief's Report for Building Maintenance. The generator and air conditioner were repaired. No word from Mr. Rodgers on the roof. Sol.Carlamere said he hasn't seen any communication on the roof project in the Township.

COMMISSIONER FLINN:

No report.

COMMISSIONER GRIER:

Apparatus – Talked to Campbell’s about the truck. They will get back next week on the wiring. I defer to the Chief’s Report for the rest of my report.

Comm. Brown said it’s important that a document’s been started, and more importantly is it sounds like there are some things we’d like to replace next year and to submit in next year’s budget. Have a decision in September of what you want to do in 2024 to get approved by the voters before then if we’re going to buy anything in 2024. Is that right?

Sol. Carlamere said correct.

Comm. Brown said we need figures, a not-to-exceed number and when we would have the election, by the next meeting, and what’s next. I’d like to have the Resolution, even if we make it tonight, that says we’re going to buy a new Utility next year, a not to exceed amount, and we’re not doing anything further other to get the Administrative and Electoral things in motion because they take a couple months.

Comm. Grier would also like to add he looked at the number of response time and they look pretty good.

Comm. Brown said they look really good, nice job. Our response time is substantially better than some other Districts that we won’t name, and I think that’s a great thing.

Motion made by Comm. Robinson, seconded by Comm. Grier to purchase a new Utility vehicle as specified in the Chief’s Apparatus Report, not to exceed \$100,000 with a fine tuning next month, and that will trigger the other processes we have to get done in order to get that approved by the voters in order to get it on the budget.

ROLL CALL VOTE

GRIER	Yes
ROBINSON	Yes
FLINN	n/a
FUNKHOUSER	Yes
BROWN	Yes

FIRE CHIEF/ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

On the PPE issue, Morning Pride was contacted as one of the three vendors we are considering. The meeting was opened to anyone to view the demo. I will issue a final report after I speak with the other two vendors we’re considering.

A special thank you goes to the duty crew that was here this past weekend, for the cleaning and organizing of the Station. Also he is working with Capt. Kramer on quotes to get the signs made for the parking lot and around the property.

Motion made by Comm. Robinson, seconded by Comm. Grier to accept the Chief’s Report.

ROLL CALL VOTE

GRIER	Yes
ROBINSON	Yes
FLINN	n/a
FUNKHOUSER	Yes
BROWN	Yes

SOLICITOR REPORT

Sol.Carlamere said he has nothing to report.

RESOLUTIONS

Adm.Cl.Evans said none at this time.

OLD BUSINESS Comm. Brown:

- 1) Fire Prevention – an update was given.
- 2) Wireless phone system and electrical – an update was given.
- 3) Roof project – somewhat of an update and when the follow up will be.
- 4) Computer room has been done pending this electrical problem.

NEW BUSINESS Comm. Brown:

Is there any New Business? (hearing none)

PUBLIC COMMENT Comm. Brown:

Is there anything from the Public? (hearing none)

CLOSED SESSION

Comm. Grier asked for Closed Session. **R – 25 – 23**

Sol.Carlamere said you should discuss Personnel Closed Session to maybe just give the report that you want to discuss in Closed Session. Any verbal comments you can give, I don't know what the issues are, but it should be in Closed Session to discuss those issues.

Motion made by Comm. Robinson, seconded by Comm. Funkhouser to enter Closed Session to discuss the Volunteer Contract at 19:02 hours.

ROLL CALL VOTE

GRIER	yes
ROBINSON	yes
FLINN	n/a
FUNKHOUSER	yes
BROWN	yes

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION 19:12 HOURS

Let the record show the Board has come back from Closed Session at 7:10pm.

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

GRIER	Present
ROBINSON	Present
FLINN	Excused
FUNKHOUSER	Present
BROWN	Present

Also present: Chief Brown, Solicitor Carlamere, Administrative Clerk Evans.

Comm. Brown said to Ff. Craig that September is the month that opens up negotiations. The Board has addressed that and you will get the letter required in the contract within the next week or so.

Ff. Craig said OK that's good.

Comm. Brown said while the Board was in Closed Session and discussed the contract presented by the Volunteers, and the Board would like to approve that at this time.

Motion made by Comm. Robinson, seconded by Comm. Funkhouser to approve the Volunteer Firefighter Independent Service Agreement that was presented to us this evening.

ROLL CALL VOTE

GRIER	yes
ROBINSON	yes
FLINN	n/a
FUNKHOUSER	yes
BROWN	yes

ADJOURN

Motion by Comm. Robinson, seconded by Comm. Funkhouser to adjourn the meeting at 19:14 hours. Motion Carried.

ROLL CALL VOTE

GRIER	yes
ROBINSON	yes
FLINN	n/a
FUNKHOUSER	yes
BROWN	yes