

Pine Hill Fire District #1  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
July 11, 2019

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Waddington at 7:30 P.M. Chairman Waddington led the salute to the flag and read the Open Public Meetings Act.

**Roll Call:** Commissioner Davis – *present*, Commissioner Hassett – *present*, Commissioner Waddington – *present*, Commissioner Wakeley – *present*, Commissioner Warrington – *present* (*Commissioner Warrington arrived at 7:41 p.m.*)

**Other Officials Present:** Chief William Dukes Sr., Deputy Chief John Greer, Solicitor David Carlamere, PHFD President Joe Pfeiffer, PHFD VP Steve Rabchuk

**Minutes:** Chairman Waddington asked if there were any questions regarding the June 6<sup>th</sup> regular and closed session minutes. There were none. A motion to approve the minutes for June 6, 2019 was made by Commissioner Hassett and seconded by Commissioner Davis. Motion passed with three yes votes. Chairman Waddington abstained. Commissioner Warrington had not arrived yet.

**Treasurer's Report:** Chairman Waddington asked if there were any questions regarding the Treasurer's Report for January 2019. There were none. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Hassett. Results of Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Davis – yes, Commissioner Hassett – yes, Commissioner Waddington – yes, Commissioner Wakeley – yes. Motion passed with four yes votes.

**Communications List:** Chairman Waddington explained the communications listed on the agenda and asked if there were any questions. There were none.

**Old Business:**

**Committee Chair Reports:**

- **Fire Equipment and Apparatus Liaison:** No report
- **Community Relations Liaison:** No report
- **Information Technology and Equipment Commissioner:** Chairman Waddington explained that due to a lightning strike, the Sonitrol Access System and the Comcast modem were damaged. Comcast replaced the modem for no charge. Chairman Waddington also report the Board of Fire Commissioners' intention to purchase two new computers which will be used by the two new firefighters recently hired.
- **Insurance Fund Commissioner:** No report
- **Fire Prevention Commissioner:** No report

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**NEW BUSINESS:** Chairman Waddington asked if there were any questions regarding the payment of bills. There were none.

- **Resolution 19-21:** Approval and payment of bills

A motion to approve resolution 19-21, as the bills were in order, was made by Commissioner Hassett and seconded by Commissioner Davis. Results of Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Davis – yes, Commissioner Hassett – yes, Commissioner Waddington – yes, Commissioner Wakeley – yes. Motion passed with four yes votes.

Chairman Waddington explained the need to renew the Fire District's membership in the First Responder Joint Insurance Fund and emphasized the savings alone on our worker's compensation insurance would be beneficial to the fire district. Chairman Waddington asked if there were any questions regarding Resolution 19-22. There were none.

- **Resolution 19-22:** Renewal of Membership in the First Responder Joint Insurance Fund

A motion to approve Resolution 19-22 was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Wakeley. Results of Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Davis – yes, Commissioner Hassett – yes, Commissioner Waddington – yes, Commissioner Wakeley – yes. Motion passed with four yes votes.

**FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:** See attached report. Chief Dukes explained the need to apply for SAFER grants and said that he contacted a company (Vickers Consulting) with experience in successfully applying for these grants. Chief Dukes explained the costs and suggested that we pursue these grants. Chairman Waddington expressed his opinion and stated that we should begin the process. Note: Commissioner Warrington arrived at this point in the meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Hassett and seconded by Commissioner Davis to give Chief Dukes the authority to enter into an agreement with Vickers Consulting Services in order to apply for two SAFER grants. Results of Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Davis – yes, Commissioner Hassett – yes, Commissioner Waddington – yes, Commissioner Wakeley – yes. Commissioner Warrington – yes. Motion passed with five yes votes.

**FIRE OFFICIAL'S REPORT:** See attached report.

**FIRE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR' REPORT:** See attached report

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Chairman Waddington asked for a motion to approve all reports presented if there were no questions. A motion to accept the reports from the Fire Chief, Fire Marshal and Administrator which were presented at the meeting was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Hassett. Motion passed with five yes votes.

**OPEN THE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC:** Chairman Waddington asked for a motion to open the floor to the public. A motion to open the floor to the public was made by Commissioner Wakeley and seconded by Commissioner Davis. Motion passed with five yes votes.

Walt Davis – 1 Franklin Ave. asked to address the commission.

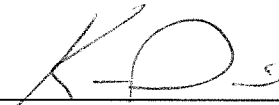
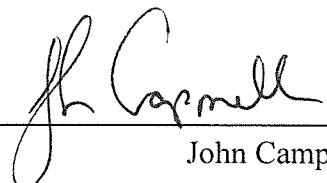
1. Mr. Davis asked what Chairman Waddington mentioned regarding communications from Capital One. Chairman Waddington said that Capital One assigned the remaining payments on a lease to another bank.
2. Mr. Davis asked about the lightning strike and said that Comcast's grounding techniques have changed. Chairman Waddington said that Comcast repaired the damage at no cost.
3. Mr. Davis asked about something that was mentioned at the last meeting about the governor taking money from the relief association. Chairman Waddington explained that the Fireman's Relief Association provides life insurance to firefighters and they have a firefighter's home in North Jersey. Commissioner Hassett explained the history Fireman's Relief Association and how they get their funds. Chairman Waddington explained that the governor wanted to take \$33 million from the fund but has since backed off the idea.
4. Mr. Davis said that he is confused about the 155' of ladders. Chief Dukes explained that fire trucks are required to have 115' of ground ladders but he increased Pine Hill's fire trucks to have 155' of ground ladders.
5. Mr. Davis asked how high the Ladder Truck can reach. Chief Dukes said 95 feet.
6. Mr. Davis asked about the RUST complaint at the last meeting. Chief Dukes said that he met with those in charge of the RUST program and addressed the problems.
7. Mr. Davis said that firefighters are falling through roofs and asked what's the policy. Chief Dukes explained that the decisions to put firefighters on roofs are made by Officers with years of training and experience. This issue was discussed further.

**CLOSE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC:** Chairman Waddington asked for a motion to close the floor to the public if there were no other questions. There were none. A motion to close the floor to the public was made by Commissioner Warrington and seconded by Commissioner Davis. Motion passed with five yes votes.

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**ADJOURNMENT:** Chairman Waddington asked if there were any other issues. There were none. A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Warrington and seconded by Commissioner Wakeley. Motion passed with five yes votes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

  
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Kenneth Davis  
Commission Secretary  
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John Campanella  
Fire District Business Administrator