

**December 27, 2018**

The Township Committee met on the above date with Mayor Romeu calling the special meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Roll call was taken showing present: Mayor Rita Romeu, Deputy Mayor Jeremy Liedtka, Committeewomen Andrea Katz and Denise Koetas-Dale. Also present Katelyn McElmoyl, Township Attorney; Chief/Township Administrator Kyle Wilson and Township Clerk Caryn Hoyer. Committeeman Sam Davis was absent.

The Open Public Meetings Act statement was read and compliance noted.

**AGENDA MATTER(S) REQUIRING RECUSAL(S)**

None

**PRESENTATION AND PUBLIC HEARING ON FIRE DISTRICT CONSOLIDATION**

Ms. McElmoyl explained why Mr. Wilson is going to give his presentation for the second time. This fire district consolidation propose will be the first in the state implemented under a statute adopted in 2016. It was strongly recommended that we have the public hearing and a specially advertised meeting. Additionally, she stated, we have an appearance in front of the Local Finance Board on January 9, 2019.

Brian Wilson, representing the joint group of fireman from the Union Firehouse and Chesterfield Fire House as well as representatives from each of the Fire Commissioners, read through the PowerPoint presentation. (See attached presentation)

Ms. Katz asked if they plan to go into one building. Mr. Wilson replied yes, hopefully within the year if all goes well. Ms. McElmoyl reported that the total budget is being decreased this year by \$52,000.00 from last year's two separate budgets through proposed consolidation. Additionally, two more vehicles have been identified as part of the fleet reduction since Mr. Wilson's first presentation in September 2018, further cutting costs.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE COMMITTEE**

Mr. Liedtka made a motion seconded by Ms. Katz to open to public. All were in favor.

Shreekant Dhopte from 18 Donlonton Circle asked if the fire districts followed the electoral districts. Ms. Hoyer replied yes.

Jackie Halaw from 207 Ellisdale Road thanked all of the fireman for their services. Ms. Halaw is in full support of the consolidation. Ms. Halaw asked when the Crosswicks Fire house will go back to the Board of Education. Chief Wilson replied once the building is vacated from the fire use then the BOE can do what sees fit. Ms. Halaw asked if there is a lot of work that needs to be done to the building prior to returning it to the BOE. Ms. Halaw asked about an agreement between the BOE and Union Fire Company. Ms. Koetas-Dale suggested she reach out the Fire Commissioners after the February elections.

There being no further comment, Mr. Liedtka made a motion seconded by Ms. Koetas-Dale to close public comment. All were in favor.

Ms. Koetas-Dale made a motion seconded by Ms. Katz to ratify previously-adopted Resolution 2018-9-1 and to send "RESOLUTION OF THE CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE APPROVING THE PROPOSED CONSOLIDATION OF THE CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICTS #1 AND #2, AND AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE LOCAL FINANCE BOARD FOR FINAL APPROVAL PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40:A:14-90.2" to the Local Finance Board. All were in favor.

With no further comments, Mr. Liedtka made a motion seconded by Ms. Koetas-Dale to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Fryc, RMC  
Deputy Township Clerk