

**MOUNT LAUREL FIRE DISTRICT #1
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

February 16, 2010
Fire Department Headquarters Station
Meeting Minutes #5

IN ATTENDANCE:

1. Commissioner Cornue
2. Commissioner Nash
3. Commissioner Roura
4. Commissioner Shestack
5. Administrator Jones
6. Deputy Chief Colucci
7. Solicitor Braslow

NOT PRESENT:

1. Commissioner Shapiro
2. Chief of Department Gallos

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Shestack at 7:31 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence observed.

The public announcements were read by Commissioner Roura.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

There were no meeting minutes ready for approval by the Board.

RESOLUTIONS:

- Resolution #2010-23 "Appointment of Mark I. Heier to Active Membership in the Fellowship Fire Company #2 and the Mount Laurel Fire Department". Commissioner Cornue made a motion to approve the resolution, which was seconded by Commissioner Nash. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.
- Resolution #2010-24 "Appointment of David Heier to Active Membership in the Fellowship Fire Company #2 and the Mount Laurel Fire Department". Commissioner Cornue made a motion to approve the resolution, which was seconded by Commissioner Nash. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.
- Resolution #2010-25 "Appointment of Erik Pedersen to Active Membership in the Masonville Fire Company #1 and the Mont Laurel Fire Department". Commissioner Cornue made a motion to approve the resolution, which was seconded by Commissioner Nash. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

Commissioner Nash reported that we have paid installment #1 (\$68,630) of our insurance coverage this month to the FIRST Responder Insurance Fund. Commissioner Shestack added that this is 1 of 3 equal payments that we will make. Commissioner Nash had a few questions for Administrator Jones about several other minor invoices which were satisfactorily answered. Commissioner Cornue made a motion to approve the payment of the monthly bills totaling \$126,925.29, which was seconded by Commissioner Roura. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

COMMENTS FROM DIVISION #1 CAPTAIN (or his designee):

None.

COMMENTS FROM DIVISION #2 BATTALION CHIEF (or his designee):

Lieutenant Einstein reported that including the new members that were sworn in tonight, since the October membership recruitment drive we have added 6 new Senior Firefighter members, 10 new Junior Firefighter members and 5 new Explorer members for a total of 21 new members. He added that the Recruitment & Retention Committee has been meeting and hopes to present their plan for the year at the next Board meeting. He thanked the Board for their support of these efforts.

COMMENTS OF IAFF LOCAL 4408 PRESIDENT (or is designee):

None.

MONTHLY REPORT BY FIRE OFFICIAL:

Commissioner Nash noted that there is an addition error in the financial section of the Fire Officials' report. Commissioner Shestack added that it appears that 1 section was not included in the total. Commissioner Cornue noted that it appears the Fire Official is trying some new and different approaches in resolving issues in the Bureau.

MONTHLY REPORT BY ADMINISTRATOR:

The Administrator had submitted his monthly report to the Board for their review prior to the meeting. Commissioner Shestack asked if the total expenditures for 2009 included all encumbrances and Administrator Jones replied that it did.

MONTHLY REPORT BY DEPUTY CHIEF:

Deputy Chief Colucci reported that his report was not submitted with the Chief of Department's report, but he will submit one next month.

MONTHLY REPORT BY THE CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT:

Deputy Chief Colucci reported that Chief of Department Gallos had not submitted a monthly report this month but that the monthly reports of the Fire Official, Mechanic and Captain McCorkle's monthly reports were submitted and provided to the Board in their packet. Commissioner Cornue complimented Captain McCorkle on his report. Deputy Chief Colucci reported that Chief of Department Gallos has submitted the 12/19/09 snowstorm expense report to FEMA and is finalizing the 2/5/10 snowstorm expense report for submission.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TRAINING:

- Commissioner Nash had nothing to report.

LONG RANGE PLANNING:

- Commissioner Nash had nothing to report.

EQUIPMENT:

- Commissioner Roura had nothing to report.

BUILDING & GROUNDS:

- Commissioner Roura had nothing to report.

FIRE PREVENTION:

- Commissioner Shapiro was not present.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

- Theresa Maschke reported that the fire truck rides promised to the winners of the 'Fired up for Literacy' reading program are taking place this week.

INSURANCE:

- Commissioner Shestack had nothing to report.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

- Commissioner Shestack had nothing to report.

FINANCE:

- Commissioner Shestack noted that by this time next week we will know whether we have a budget or not.

PERSONNEL:

- Commissioner Cornue had nothing to report in Open Session.

LABOR / MANAGEMENT RELATIONS (combined):

- Commissioner Cornue had nothing to report in Open Session.

OTHER MATTERS:

- None.

COMMENTS OF FIRE DISTRICT PROFESSIONALS:

Solicitor Braslow updated the Board on the new legislation that he reported on last month. It has been clarified that the law requires that an officer or a member of a fire company serving as an elected member of the governing body recuses themselves on any votes taken by the governing body that involve the fire company.

He reported that there has been a minor change in the public contract bidding laws bids that now allows bidders to provide a copy of their Business Registration Certificate prior to the award of the bid rather than as a part of the bid package, which used to be grounds for automatic rejection of the bid. The bidder has to be registered at the time of the bid, but now has additional time to provide a copy of the certificate.

He reported that there is another new law that becomes effective on 1/1/11 and involves Qualified Purchasing Agents (QPA's). Any government entity not employing the services of a QPA, which very few Fire Districts have, or contracting for one through a shared services agreement, will have their bid threshold frozen at \$17,500. The bid threshold is currently \$21,000 and increases to \$29,000 with adjustments every 5 years if you have a QPA. The limitation also impacts the written quote threshold amount, which is 15% of the bid threshold figure. The Local Finance Board will be coming out with more details on this in the near future.

COMMENTS OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Nash asked Administrator Jones what his assignment is for Election Day next Saturday and Administrator Jones replied that he will discuss this informally with the Board members to determine their availability following the meeting.

Commissioner Cornue complimented Battalion Chief Kirvan, Deputy Chief Colucci and everyone else that worked on the "Fire Forum" presentation last Saturday. Commissioner Nash noted that it is pretty sad when only 2 residents take the time to show up for an important presentation that is critical to understanding our financial situation. He wondered if it was worth all of the time and effort for such a poor showing and felt that perhaps we should focus on other methods of presenting important information to the public.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None.

Resolution #2010-26 "Closing of Meeting Pursuant to Open Public Meetings Act". Commissioner Cornue made a motion to approve the resolution, which was seconded by Commissioner Nash. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

THE OPEN SESSION ENDED AT 8:21 PM.
A CLOSED SESSION BEGAN AT 8:32 PM.
THE CLOSED SESSION ENDED AT 10:45 PM.
THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:46 PM.