

**MOUNT LAUREL FIRE DISTRICT #1
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING / WORK SESSION**

April 4, 2011

Fire Department Headquarters Station

Meeting Minutes #7

IN ATTENDANCE:

1. Commissioner Cornue
2. Commissioner Nash
3. Commissioner Roura
4. Commissioner Shapiro (arrived at 8:08 PM)
5. Administrator Jones
6. Deputy Chief Colucci

NOT PRESENT:

1. Commissioner Shestack (work)

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Cornue at 8:06 PM.

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

The Public Announcements were read by Commissioner Roura.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution #2011-17 "Appointment of Devin Vasoya and Antonio J. Gray as 'Explorer' Members of the Mount Laurel Fire Department". Commissioner Nash made a motion to approve the resolution, which was seconded by Commissioner Shapiro. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

MONTHLY REPORT OF THE FIRE OFFICIAL: Deputy Chief Colucci reported that Fire Marshal Kownatsky wanted to know if a resolution was needed in order for the Bureau of Fire Prevention to be accepting credit card payments. Commissioner Shapiro and Administrator Jones both felt that a resolution was not required.

MONTHLY REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF: Deputy Chief Colucci thanked the Board and members of the Department for their support at Battalion Chief Jones' Pass & Review ceremony and reported that it went well. Commissioner Cornue stated that from the photos and Commissioner Shapiro's comments, it appeared to be a very nice recognition of his dedicated service. Deputy Chief Colucci specifically recognized Captain Evans, Firefighter Moyer and Lieutenant Pine for a job well done. Commissioner Nash apologized for not being there, which happened because he forgot to note the event to his main calendar.

Commissioner Roura asked if the new apparatus specifications would be out for bid by mid-April. Deputy Chief Colucci reported that he hoped to have all of the vehicle specifications in hand this week so that the Committee can sit down with the KME representative for a final review next week and presentation to the Board at the next meeting. He was hoping to have the specifications out to bid by May 1.

Commissioner Nash asked him for an explanation of the 'Fire Forum' notice that was in his monthly package. Deputy Chief Colucci replied that Battalion Chief Collier had an idea to host a "leadership" seminar presented by a guest speaker that would be beneficial to our officers and officers of mutual aid Departments. The guest speaker was Chief Dennis Rubin from the Washington DC Fire Department, who had addressed the Burlington County Fire Chiefs Association annual dinner in January and was well received. Our goal is to share the cost with mutual aid Departments that wish to participate so that their officers can work with us more effectively. So far, we have a solid commitment from most of them and the cost will be about \$600 per Department. This will be a full day seminar with breaks in the morning and afternoon. If it goes well, he hoped to host other seminars using this same approach.

OTHER MATTERS: Commissioner Nash asked Deputy Chief Colucci about the status of the proposed plans for the Station 362 WTC Memorial. Deputy Chief Colucci replied that he had included a brief report on the projects' progress in his monthly report and had preliminary conceptual drawings with him. The Committee will be meeting again soon to discuss funding and site plan issues. He complimented Garrison Architects for a nice job on the conceptual designs that came from the ideas of the members in attendance at the first meeting.

Administrator Jones reported that the Township has decided not to put a referendum question on the 4/27 election ballot. Instead, they will be taking advantage of a new state law that allows them to separate the funding for the library from the municipal budget and place it as a separate line item on the tax bills. The separate "library tax" will equal 6.4 cents and allow them to close their deficit to under \$1 million, which the Township Manager has indicated she would cover using surplus funds, eliminating the need for them to present a referendum question to the residents. The end result is that residents will see a net 3.3 cent tax increase in their municipal services tax rate.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

Resolution #2011-18 "Closing of Meeting Pursuant to Open Public Meetings Act". Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the resolution, which was seconded by Commissioner Shapiro. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

**THE OPEN SESSION ENDED AT 8:22 PM.
A CLOSED SESSION BEGAN AT 8:33 PM.
THE CLOSED SESSION ENDED AT 9:34 PM.**

Commissioner Nash made a motion to give Deputy Chief Colucci authorization to certify the Civil Service "Firefighter" list, which was seconded by Commissioner Roura. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Deputy Chief Colucci noted the recent passing of Masonville Life Member Walter Dougherty, Sr.. He had no information on funeral arrangements, which would probably be held in Florida where he had lived. Administrator Jones added that he's been living in Ocala for at least the last 10 years and that their son lives in Texas.

Commissioner Nash made a motion to adjourn the meeting that was seconded by Commissioner Roura. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:36 PM.