

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

March 16, 2010

Fire Department Headquarters Station
Meeting Minutes #8

IN ATTENDANCE:

1. Commissioner Nash
2. Commissioner Cornue
3. Commissioner Shestack
4. Commissioner Roura
5. Commissioner Shapiro
6. Chief of Department Gallos
7. Administrator Jones
8. Deputy Chief Colucci
9. Solicitor Braslow
10. Counsel Biviano

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Shestack at 7:30 PM.

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

The public announcements were read by Commissioner Shapiro

Commissioner Shestack stated that for the next 6 weeks he will be traveling on business and will be unable to attend Board meetings or to his elected duties as Chairman. Therefore, he is appointing Commissioner Cornue as the Acting Chairman during this period, beginning with the meeting tonight.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Special Meeting of August 25, 2009
A motion to approve the minutes of this meeting was made by Commissioner Roura and seconded by Commissioner Shapiro. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.
- Regular Meeting of September 15, 2009
A motion to approve the minutes of this meeting was made by Commissioner Roura and seconded by Commissioner Shapiro. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.
- Special Meeting of October 6, 2009
A motion to approve the minutes of this meeting was made by Commissioner Roura and seconded by Commissioner Shapiro. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.
- Special Meeting of October 17, 2009
A motion to approve the minutes of this meeting was made by Commissioner Roura and seconded by Commissioner Shapiro. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution #2010-31 "Appointment of Matthew R. Gardner to Active Membership in the Fellowship Fire Company #2 and the Mount Laurel Fire Department". Commissioner Shestack made a motion to approve the resolution, which was seconded by Commissioner Roura. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Resolution #2010-32 "Appointment of David M. Dunaif to Active Membership in the Fellowship Fire Company #2 and the Mount Laurel Fire Department". Commissioner Nash made a motion to approve the resolution, which was seconded by Commissioner Roura. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Commissioner Cornue stated that because the Board anticipated a long agenda tonight; the Board would move up the PUBLIC PARTICIPATION agenda item and allow the public to make comment.

Commissioner Cornue asked the Board if there was a motion to rescind the layoff plan. Commissioner Nash made a motion to rescind the layoff plan that was seconded by Commissioner Shestack. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Commissioner Roura advised the public of the ground rules involving tonight's public participation and asked that speakers limit their comments or questions to 2 minutes each. He stated that at the end of 30 minutes of public participation, the Board will have an opportunity to comment and answer questions. He added that there may be some questions that the Board cannot legally answer due to their content. He then read aloud a press release that had been posted on the Fire District website this morning. In the press release, the Department thanked the public for their support of the budget on Election Day, which has allowed the Board to avoid implementation of layoffs at this time.

Mrs. Pat Frazier, 1101 Lemur Lane, stated she was very pleased to hear that there weren't going to be any layoffs and added that she voted 'yes' for the budget. She was very pleased with the level of services that the Department provides and that this service level was being maintained.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

- Commissioner Shestack made a motion to approve the monthly bills for March totaling \$207,993.75, which was seconded by Commissioner Shapiro. 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 congratulated Matthew Gardner on his appointment as a Senior Firefighter.

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

- President Cimino also extended his congratulations to Firefighter Gardner on his appointment and thanked the Board for providing the union with an opportunity to address them in Closed Session.

MONTHLY REPORT BY FIRE OFFICIAL:

- The Fire Official had submitted his monthly report to the Board for their review prior to the meeting. Commissioner Cornue was pleased with the progress he was reporting.

MONTHLY REPORT BY ADMINISTRATOR:

- The Administrator had submitted his monthly report to the Board for their review prior to the meeting. There were no comments or questions from the Board on his report.

MONTHLY REPORT BY DEPUTY CHIEF:

- The Deputy Chief had submitted his monthly report to the Chief of Department for inclusion in his monthly report. There were no comments or questions from the Board on his report.

MONTHLY REPORT BY THE CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT:

- Chief of Department Gallos had submitted his monthly report to the Board for their review prior to the meeting. There were no comments or questions from the Board on his report.

Chief of Department Gallos reported that he and Deputy Chief Colucci met with the County Office of Emergency Management to review the response by FEMA regarding reimbursement of expenses incurred during the 12/19/09 snowstorm. They are holding to their decision to only reimburse the Department for responses to emergency calls and not for any of the personnel costs involving overtime for standby duty. FEMA is providing 75% of the reimbursement and the State is responsible for the remaining 25%, which they have informed us they have no plans to fund.

Chief of Department Gallos added that he and Deputy Chief Colucci have a meeting with the Township Manager tomorrow to discuss the status of the "fee for service" ordinance.

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 had nothing to report.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

- Commissioner Shapiro had nothing to report.

INSURANCE:

- Commissioner Shestack had nothing to report.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

- Commissioner Shestack had nothing to report.

FINANCE:

- Commissioner Shestack had nothing to report.

PERSONNEL:

- Commissioner Cornue had nothing to report in Open Session.

LABOR / MANAGEMENT RELATIONS (combined):

- Commissioner Cornue had nothing to report.

OTHER MATTERS:

- Commissioner Shestack reported that there is proposed legislation at the State that will make it a Level 4 criminal offense for any first responder to take a picture or video of a victim at any scene with their personal camera or phone; regardless of whether it is published or not. Official photos taken by investigators assigned to the scene are exempted from the requirement.

COMMENTS OF FIRE DISTRICT PROFESSIONALS:

- Solicitor Braslow and Counsel Biviano had nothing to report.

COMMENTS OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS:

- Each Commissioner congratulated the 2 new members that were sworn-in tonight.

Resolution #2010-33 "Closing of Meeting Pursuant to Open Public Meetings Act". Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the resolution, which was seconded by Commissioner Shestack. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

**THE OPEN SESSION ENDED AT 8:15 PM.
A CLOSED SESSION BEGAN AT 8:30 PM.
THE CLOSED SESSION ENDED AT 10:00 PM.**

Commissioner Shapiro reported that Captain McCorkle has refined the financial commitments that he needs for the upcoming Burlington County Junior Firefighter Competition in May. There is a \$300 entry fee for our 2 teams and he requested \$150 for food and drink for the participants and the advisors that will accompany them. Commissioner Shestack made a motion to approve the expenses as requested by the Captain McCorkle, which was seconded by Commissioner Roura. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Commissioner Nash brought up the upcoming "30th Annual Conference on Public Sector Labor Law Relations" and whether anyone from the Board wanted to attend this year. Commissioner Shapiro stated that she attended last year with Commissioner Cornue and that it was an excellent conference. Unfortunately, she can't make it this year. Commissioner Cornue agreed that it was an excellent conference. Administrator Jones stated that although it was a little pricey, if anyone from the Board wanted to attend we have to get your registration in soon.

Commissioner Nash asked about the status of the Support Staff contract and whether there was any movement from the union on new negotiation dates. Commissioner Roura stated that he has asked them again if they could agree on a date, but he senses that the union leadership has no desire to continue negotiations on this contract until the other contracts move further along.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:15 PM.