

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

March 2, 2010  
Fire Department Headquarters Station  
Meeting Minutes #6

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

1. Commissioner Cornue
2. Commissioner Nash
3. Commissioner Roura
4. Commissioner Shestack
5. Commissioner Shapiro
6. Chief of Department Gallos
7. Administrator Jones
8. Deputy Chief Colucci

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Shestack at 7:35 PM.

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

The Public Announcements were read by Commissioner Shapiro.

Commissioner Shestack administered the oath of office to Commissioner-elect Cornue.

**Reorganization of Officers and Committee Chairpersons:**

Commissioner Nash made a motion to maintain the current slate of Officers and Committee Chairs, which was seconded by Commissioner Shapiro and unanimously approved by the Board.

**Comments of Fire Commissioners:**

Commissioner Shapiro apologized for not being at last night's presentation and asked for a quick review before the meeting ends.

Commissioner Nash asked the Board if they wanted to review his PowerPoint presentation now or later in the meeting. The Board briefly discussed it and decided to have him present it at the end of the meeting.

Commissioner Cornue congratulated and thanked everybody for working hard at getting the voters out and passing the budget and the referendum. He asked if we should run an advertisement in the newspaper to thank the community for their support. Commissioner Shestack wasn't sure if we could or should use taxpayer funds to do something like that. Deputy Chief Colucci reported that we did put up a thank you on the station message boards and our website.

There was a brief discussion on the new Mount Laurel Telegram newspaper that started distribution last week. Commissioner Shestack indicated that the editor had reached out to him and expressed their desire to get input from the Department. Commissioner Shapiro stated that she would take this information to the next Community Relations Committee meeting this Friday and that they might work on submitting an open "thank you" letter to the residents for them to publish.

Commissioner Shestack congratulated Commissioner Cornue on his re-election.

**Public Participation:**

Lieutenant Einstein reported that they have been working on plans for recruitment and retention. He hoped to have those plans submitted to the Board for their next Regular Meeting. He added that with the passage of the budget, they are working towards a possible banquet for 4/10 or 4/17 and are soliciting proposals from vendors.

### Adoption of Resolutions:

The Board discussed the proposed 2010-2011 meeting schedule and agreed to start the Special Meetings at 7:00 PM instead of 7:30 PM and that each Board member would take a turn at chairing those meetings. Commissioner Shapiro asked if the Board planned to continue sending representatives to Township Council meetings. She recommended an e-mail be sent to the Board members with all of the Township Council meeting dates so that Board members could sign up. Commissioner Nash proposed not having any Special Meetings during the July and August summer months so that the management staff could take time off without having to be available for special meetings. After some discussion, it was agreed that the 7/6/10 Special Meeting be eliminated.

Resolution #2010-27 "2010-2011 Special & Regular Meeting Dates". Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the resolution with changes as noted, which was seconded by Commissioner Nash. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Resolution #2010-28 "Appointment of Michael S. Chwalek as a 'Junior' Member of the Mount Laurel Fire Department. Commissioner Nash made a motion to approve the resolution, which was seconded by Commissioner Cornue. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

### Other Matters:

2010 Annual Election Wrap-Up & Critique: Administrator Jones reported that everything went pretty smoothly this year and wanted to know if anyone knew of any problems that we should address or had any suggestions about how we can do things better. Commissioner Nash mentioned that a machine at Station 361 had a glitch, but the election workers were able to fix it. He added that the only problem he encountered, and it has been a problem in the past, is that people are confused as to where they have to vote. Commissioner Roura encountered this problem at Station 362 this year where a voter was bounced back and forth between Stations 362 and 363. Commissioner Nash recommended having a pre-Election meeting next year to review what the poll officials should be doing. He also suggested that we consider mailing each resident a sample election ballot like the County does. Commissioner Roura stated that he would look into pricing on this for consideration next year.

Resolution #2010-29 "Closing of Meeting Pursuant to Open Public Meetings Act". Commissioner Nash made a motion to approve the resolution #2010-29, which was seconded by Commissioner Cornue. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

**THE 1<sup>ST</sup> OPEN SESSION ENDED AT 7:55 PM.  
THE 1<sup>ST</sup> CLOSED SESSION BEGAN AT 7:56 PM.  
THE 1<sup>ST</sup> CLOSED SESSION ENDED AT 9:36 PM.  
THE 2<sup>ND</sup> OPEN SESSION BEGAN AT 9:37 PM.**

Commissioner Nash provided the Board with a PowerPoint presentation he had prepared about the financial history of the Fire District along with trend predictions.

**THE 2<sup>ND</sup> OPEN SESSION ENDED AT 10:10 PM.  
THE 2<sup>ND</sup> CLOSED SESSION BEGAN AT 10:11 PM.  
THE 2<sup>ND</sup> CLOSED SESSION ENDED AT 10:30 PM.  
THE 3<sup>RD</sup> OPEN SESSION BEGAN AT 10:31 PM.**

The Board discussed whether there was any benefit in having Commissioner Nash present his PowerPoint to the career and volunteer membership and whether the meeting should be mandatory or voluntary. Commissioner Cornue offered to reach out to Counsel Biviano for advice on whether this is something that we should do and whether it would have any detrimental effects on negotiations.

**THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:17 PM.**