

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

June 6, 2011

Fire Department Headquarters Station

Meeting Minutes #11

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Cornue at 8:03 PM.

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

The Public Announcements were read by Commissioner Shapiro.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

- Commissioner Shapiro made a motion to approve the minutes of the 5/2/11 Special Meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Roura, who requested that the minutes be corrected to reflect his arrival at around 8:20 PM. The motion, as corrected, was unanimously approved by the Board.
- Commissioner Shapiro made a motion to approve the minutes of the 5/16/11 Regular Meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Roura. The motion was approved by the Board with Commissioner Shestack abstaining.

MONTHLY REPORT OF THE FIRE OFFICIAL:

Fire Official Kownatsky reported that Clerk/Typist Jessica Hoffman is working out well. He reported that he has secured the parking lot of Dick's Sporting Goods on Nixon Drive for the Fire Prevention Open House in October. He added that he looked into using the Costco parking lot on Centerton Road, but found that it was just too busy on weekday evenings. He reported that we will be hosting our annual summer camp at Station 363 on 7/1/11 and that Lieutenant Santone and Captain Evans were planning the event activities. Acting Chief of Department Colucci added that we expect to have approximately 170 children between the ages of 7 to 12 attending, which will be the 8th year for the summer camp program and which was expanded to a full day this year.

MONTHLY REPORT OF THE ACTING CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT:

Acting Chief of Department Colucci added that he had received a request from the Orange County Choppers (OCC) to participate in the unveiling of a new motorcycle on 6/16/11 in Point Pleasant, NJ. He explained that everyone knows that Firefighter Matt Gardner is a huge OCC fan and is involved with "Geese Chasers" here in Mount Laurel. The owner of "Geese Chasers" is a Mount Laurel resident and Matt's neighbor and had commissioned a motorcycle from OCC to promote his business. He would like us at the unveiling because he and OCC recognize how special the Fire Department is to Matt and how special OCC motorcycles are to him. Acting Chief of Department Colucci requested permission to send an engine to the unveiling to support Matt and hopefully gain some positive publicity for the Department. The TV episode featuring this unveiling will be shown on the Discovery Channel sometime in early September. The Board unanimously agreed that this was a great gesture on the part of "Geese Chasers" and OCC and granted permission to participate.

Commissioner Cornue noted a proposal by the Union to go "pink" in celebration of Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October. Acting Chief of Department Colucci explained that the Union wanted to turn the exterior lighting at Station 363 "pink", wear pink T-Shirts, hold some fundraising activities and generally get the community involved through the website and station message board signs. Commissioner Shestack suggested getting pink baseball caps. He added that the Union hoped to do this in October if the Board approved of the idea. The Board unanimously agreed that this was a great idea and authorized moving ahead with it. Acting Chief of Department Colucci agreed to keep the Board informed as to the plans as they are developed.

Commissioner Cornue asked him about his discussions with EMS Chief Pagurek about using Station 362. Acting Chief of Department Colucci explained that the discussions involved a commitment by Innova Health & Rehab to make improvements in order to house an EMS unit as part of the site plan approval of their new dialysis center. The EMS unit at Station 362 would cover the anticipated increase in call volume that the dialysis center would potentially add and decrease the response time for EMS calls in that area. EMS Chief Pagurek has spoken with the Township Manager about it and she is supportive and very receptive of the idea. He was surprised at that because of her apparent position on the EMS merger, but apparently she sees the value in having an EMS unit located there. The next step is to meet with Innova representatives and get them to follow through on their commitment, which could potentially involve a new phone system, 3rd floor carpeting, a door access control system and a security camera system. He would attempt to get them to make as many improvements as possible to minimize our out-of-pocket costs. EMS will have their own cable service installed for internet access and have offered to have Township staff do some painting on the 3rd floor. Commissioner Cornue asked if they were going to provide EMS training to our personnel as part of the agreement and he indicated that they had committed to that and for Station 362 to have access to whatever EMS supplies they keep on hand there. He believed that taken altogether, there will be some significant cost savings for us and the residents will get a better EMS response. He added that a memorandum of understanding will be drawn up at some point to outline each party's responsibilities. Commissioner Nash asked if we needed any additional insurance on our part or whether they needed to provide us with coverage for their operations. Acting Chief of Department Colucci believed that they have insurance to protect us against any damage or injuries to our personnel that might occur but that he would check with EMS Chief Pagurek.

Commissioner Cornue asked Acting Chief of Department Colucci how the building and grounds survey was going. He stated that he hadn't scheduled a walkthrough at Station 362 because Commissioner Nash wasn't currently available, Battalion Chief Kirvan was on vacation and he was bogged down with the applicant background investigations and the hiring process.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- No reports.

OTHER MATTERS:

Commissioner Shapiro reported that preparations for Chief of Department Gallos' "Pass & Review" ceremony on 6/30/11 were moving along and she had the refreshments under control. Acting Chief of Department Colucci reported that everything was on track and expected it to start between 0930 and 1000 hours.

Administrator Jones reported that he was working with the MUA engineers to finalize an agreement and easement for the well improvements that they are planning. If the Board is okay with the draft documents, he'll present it for Board approval and signoff. He did have a couple of concerns regarding the storm drain location and elevations they were showing, but it did not affect the agreement or easement. He would advise the Board as soon as they provide a start date for construction, which will impact us because it involves the only entrance to the Headquarters Station. He added that Solicitor Braslow has reviewed everything so far and was fine with it.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

- None.

Resolution #2011-21 "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 ADJOURNED AT 8:30 PM.

A CLOSED SESSION BEGAN AT 8:33 PM.

THE CLOSED SESSION ADJOURNED AT 10:02 PM.

Commissioner Roura made a motion to accept Acting Chief of Department Colucci's recommendation to hire Firefighter Thomas Cully effective 6/21/11, which was seconded by Commissioner Shapiro. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Commissioner Roura made a motion to authorize Acting Chief of Department Colucci to proceed with the hiring process for a part-time Assistant Mechanic with a courtesy notification to the Union, which was seconded by Commissioner Shapiro. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Everyone urged Firefighter Andrew Einstein to be safe on his pending military deployment to Afghanistan.

Commissioner Roura made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Shapiro. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:07 PM.