

MOUNT LAUREL FIRE DISTRICT #1
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 16, 2015
Fire Department Headquarters Station
Meeting Minutes #17

IN ATTENDANCE:

1. Commissioner Ridenour
2. Commissioner Roura
3. Commissioner Shestack
4. Commissioner Hamilton
5. Chief of Department Colucci
6. Deputy Chief Burnett
7. Administrator Jones
8. Solicitor Braslow

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Shestack at 8:01 PM.

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

Public announcements were read by Commissioner Hamilton.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution #2015-63 "Appointment of James Clutter to Fill an Interim Vacancy on the Board of Fire Commissioners". Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Roura. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board. Commissioner Shestack administered the oath of office.

Commissioner Shestack announced that the Award Presentation & Recognition for the July 2015 CPR Save Award scheduled for this evening has been rescheduled for the 12/21/15 Regular Board meeting.

Junior Firefighter Caleb Demree presented the school project video that he made to the Board.

The Board took a brief recess at 8:31 PM so that his family could take pictures. The Board reconvened the meeting at 8:48 PM.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

Commissioner Roura reported that he had reviewed the monthly bills for November and noted that a large construction project payment was included this month. Commissioner Ridenour made a motion to approve monthly bills totaling \$593,297.76 that was seconded by Commissioner Hamilton. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

MONTHLY REPORT BY ADMINISTRATOR:

Administrator Jones reported that he was still waiting on our 2016 employer pension share amount from the State, which was supposed to be out at the end of last week. This big number is holding up completion of the 2016 Budget Proposal and hopes that he will get it this week so that he can get the Board members their copies of the budget.

BOARD QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT:

Chief of Department Colucci recommended that the Board would accept and approve the annual banquet proposal from Bradford Estates, who held their price from last year. Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the annual banquet proposal as recommended by the Chief of Department that was seconded by Commissioner Ridenour. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance – Commissioner Roura reported that the Committee met last week to discuss the 2016 Budget Proposal and as mentioned by Administrator Jones, once the pension number is received we will fine tune it in order to keep the tax rate stable again this year.

Buildings & Grounds – Commissioner Ridenour reported that the construction projects are going well and that Administrator Jones has been very diligent in keeping him informed. He added that on 12/10/15 we'll go before the Township Zoning Board for approval of our Station 362 emergency generator and dumpster enclosure minor site plan application. He advised that Administrator Jones has been working on proposals for the replacement of kitchen grease traps at Stations 361 and 363 because they are beginning to rust out. We are looking into using better materials such as plastic or stainless steel.

He noted that he had visited Station 361 last week after we had significant rain and experienced a number of roof leaks in the dayroom/office area. It appears that the new HVAC unit roof curbs were not adequately flashed into the roof and water found its way in, collapsing ceiling tiles and getting into several walls. The roofing contractor and the general contractor were on location putting up plastic to catch the water and trying to seal up the roof leaks and have acknowledge that they are responsible for any damage that resulted from the leaks. Chief of Department Colucci did not feel that they were doing all that they could in the cleanup at this point and had been told that there was a musty odor in that area of the building. He wanted them to open sections of 3 walls and to make sure that they address any moisture that is found. Administrator Jones added that there is a project meeting tomorrow at Station 361 and that this is the top item on the agenda.

COMMENTS OF FIRE DISTRICT PROFESSIONALS:

Solicitor Braslow reported that he has a conference call tomorrow with the staffs of Legislative Services and Assemblyman Dancer to review the final amendments to the election bill that has been in Committee for some time. He doesn't think that there will be anything in them that will adversely impact our election and felt that they would be willing to address issues that he brings up.

COMMENTS OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioners Roura, Ridenour and Shestack congratulated new Commissioner Clutter on his appointment and welcomed him aboard.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None.

Resolution #2015-64 "Closing of Meeting Pursuant to Open Public Meetings Act". Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Roura. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Before the Board went into Closed Session, Commissioner Roura asked Solicitor Braslow to provide Commissioner Clutter with a brief overview of the Open Public Meetings Act, specifically what kind of things that the Board is able to discuss in Closed Session.

**THE OPEN SESSION ENDED AT 8:31 PM.
A CLOSED SESSION BEGAN AT 8:32 PM.
THE CLOSED SESSION ENDED AT 8:39 PM.**

Resolution #2015-65 "Approval of Amendments to Support Staff Shop Collective Bargaining Agreement 2015-2016". Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Commissioner Ridenour. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Commissioner Roura made a motion to approve Chief of Department Colucci's request to attend a course by the Emergency Management Institute if his application is approved by FEMA, which was seconded by Commissioner Ridenour. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Chief of Department Colucci asked Commissioner Shestack who would be Commissioner Cornue's replacement on the Volunteer Labor Management Committee and Commissioner Shestack replied that he will fill in for the time being.

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

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:50 PM.