

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No. 1, was held on the above date at Hose Company No. 1. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Giorgi with Commissioners Moriuchi, Fisher, Bowman and Bixby present. Also present were Administrator Chesner, Chief Constantine, Asst. Chief Green and Fire Police Captain Keyes.

Chairman Giorgi opened the meeting by reading the following "Open Public Meetings Act" by title only;

Public Notice of this meeting, pursuant to the "*Open Public Meetings Act*," has been given by the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No. 1, of the Township of Moorestown in the following manner; by posting written notice on the Public Meetings Act bulletin Board in Town Hall on March 9, 2008, and entering the same in the official book of the Fire District in the Municipal Library; mailing written notice to the official newspaper, the Burlington County Times on March 9, 2008; filing written notice with the Clerk of the Township of Moorestown on March 9, 2008; filing written notice with the Clerk of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No. 1; and mailing written notice to each person who has requested copies of the schedule of meetings and who has prepaid the fixed charge for such service.

Following that, Chairman Giorgi led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, after which he indicated the emergency exits.

MINUTES:

None.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairman Giorgi recognized the correspondence from Training Officer Bickmore indicating that Michael J. Warren's membership status changed from probationary to active, the correspondence from Edwin R. Jones, Sr. of the Moorestown Exempt Firemen's Association requesting appropriations of monies for hosting their meeting on August 31, 2009, the correspondence from Fire Official Mahhs Knobbs and Worrell seeking permission to ask Town Council for an increase in local registration fees and the correspondence from Michael Niznik, Loss Control Coordinator of SelecTech, on our results of the PAIC survey of both fire stations.

Chairman Giorgi also recognized the correspondence that he and Administrator Chesner sent to Township Manager Christopher Schultz updating Mr. Schultz and Town Council on the consolidation of the Fire District and Emergency Squad, the correspondence to the presidents of Relief Engine Co. and Hose Co. concerning fundraising activities for the companies and the correspondence to President Stella Hearn of the Moorestown Ladies Auxiliary requesting her to meet with the chairman and administrator.

Chairman Giorgi announced that tonight's meeting was a budget workshop meeting.

BIDS & QUOTATIONS:

None.

RESOLUTIONS:

None.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Treasurer Bowman briefly explained the Cash Management Fund and informed the Board that he and the administrator were reviewing its performance to see if that was the right place to keep our surplus money. There were no comments from the four other Commissioners.

PUBLIC SESSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

On a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Moriuchi, the regular meeting was recessed at 7:38 p.m. and the 2009 Budget Work Session convened at 7:39 p.m.

During the workshop session, the commissioners agreed that they would not increase their salaries for 2009. Chairman Giorgi asked Administrator Chesner to draft a resolution regarding the commissioner's salaries for the next regularly scheduled meeting in October. Administrator Chesner stated that once the resolution's approved by the Board, he will draft a letter and send it to Township Manager Christopher Schultz along with a copy of the resolution for final approval by Township Council.

Administrator Chesner reviewed the budget documents found in the Commissioner's packets. Included in the packets was an overview of the budget line items, past tax rates, and key areas that the Board will need to look into for the 2009 Budget. Also, he briefly reviewed the current revenues and expenditures to date.

Training Officer Bickmore reviewed the training budget and a brief discussion took place as to the total number allotted for the FDIC Conference in Indianapolis as well as the two slotted positions for the FDSOA Safety Seminar and PPE Symposium scheduled for March 2009.

Chief Constantine reviewed his proposed budget and a discussion took place concerning the various consumables line item and the amount of pagers that are being asked for in the 2009 Budget. Attention was also given to the purchase of wildland firefighting equipment in 2008 and whether or not the District should delay such a purchase so that those funds can be utilized to help purchase additional air packs. Chief Constantine stated that the equipment would cost approximately \$2,300.00.

Health and Safety Officer Bickmore reviewed the proposal concerning in-house PPE testing in accordance with NFPA 1851. A brief discussion took place which involved the price to perform such a test in-house versus sending the PPE to an outside vendor and the replacement cost for those pieces of the turn-out gear if they are found to be in need of replacement. Health and Safety Officer Bickmore asked the Board to think about how they would like to proceed with this proposal.

Administrator Chesner reviewed Fire Official Worrell's submitted budget. The commissioners asked that Administrator Chesner ask Fire Official Worrell to clarify the \$2,000 allotted for the FDIC conference and to explain whether that included the fire prevention conference he attended in 2008; they also need clarification on the \$1,300.00 allotted for uniforms and badges.

Chairman Giorgi asked that the Board give some thought to the annual dinner and picnic and the monies that we have been spending on both of these line items; should we cut back on the dinner or possibly eliminate the picnic. Also, he asked Commissioner Bixby to be prepared to discuss the figure that he would like to see in the recruitment and retention line item including the possible pay-per-call program. Chairman Giorgi asked the commissioners to give some thought to our fuel usage over the years and asked if they felt we should continue supplying diesel and gas to the Emergency Squad.

A brief discussion took place on the purchase of the new engine and whether we should consider leasing or buying the same with the monies that we have in reserve. After considering recent conversations that he has had with members, Commissioner Fisher commented that we may want to revisit our plan for the station on the east-end. The station planning committee was asked to meet and discuss whether there is a need at this time to move forward with the station.

On a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Bixby, the 2009 Budget Work Session was adjourned at 10:22 p.m. and the regular meeting reconvened and adjourned at 10:23 p.m. without further official action.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred T. Moriuchi
Secretary/Clerk