

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 FP Lieutenant Boileau.

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.

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On a motion by Commissioner Bowman, seconded by Commissioner Bixby, the minutes of the October 28, 2008 meeting were approved by the five Board members present.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairman Giorgi recognized the correspondence from Administrator Chesner to Township Manager Christopher Schultz asking Town Council to approve the Commissioner's Salaries for 2009. Chairman Giorgi also mentioned the courtesy notice from Township Clerk Patricia Hunt informing the fire district of the ordinance establishing a Historic Preservation Commission, and he mentioned the letter received from Vice President Josh Hall of Relief Engine Company seeking approval to run another fundraiser for the Ahrens Fox Restoration Fund. After a brief discussion concerning the proposed fundraiser, the Board advised Administrator Chesner to write a letter to Relief Engine Company expressing the Board's support.

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

BIDS & QUOTATIONS:

None.

RESOLUTIONS:

None.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner Bixby stated that everything is ready for the Annual Dinner this Saturday, November 8th at the Double Tree in Mount Laurel. FP Lieutenant Boileau stated that he has two door prizes for the evening; both were donated by Wegman's Food Market. There were no further comments.

PUBLIC SESSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

On a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Moriuchi, the regular meeting was recessed at 7:40 p.m. and the 2009 Budget Work Session convened at 7:40 p.m.

Administrator Chesner reviewed the budget documents and the changes made from the previous Board meeting. He also advised the Board that the Supplemental Fire Services Grant that the district receives every year was in the amount of \$6,422.10 for 2008. This year the amount decreased because of State budget cuts; during the last few years we received \$6,692.00.

Commissioner Bowman asked if we could cut the office machines and equipment line item in half for the 2009 Budget. Administrator Chesner stated that we could hold off a year on purchasing computers for district personnel to allow this cut; the remaining Board members were in favor of this decrease.

Commissioner Bixby indicated that he would like the recruitment and retention line item to remain at \$40,000 for the pay-per-call proposal in 2009; the remaining Board members agreed.

The Board asked Administrator Chesner to contact Fire District Solicitor Tom Barron and the Fire District's Auditor, Bowman and Company, to discuss the possibility of utilizing the reserve fund balance for apparatus to purchase new air-packs in 2009. They also would like Administrator Chesner to ask, if the Board decides to purchase the new engine in 2010, how this would be done since the district placed a referendum on the ballot in 2008 asking approval to purchase the new engine in 2009, which was ultimately approved by the voters of Fire District No.1. They also wanted information concerning paying over-time for certain employees and the policies that would need to be in place if the Board decides to move in that direction. Administrator Chesner stated that he would reach out to both the solicitor and auditor and report back to the Board during the meeting scheduled for November 18th.

On a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Bowman, the 2009 Budget Work Session was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. to enter into an Executive Session which convened at 8:55 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-13), the public shall be excluded from that portion of the meeting involving personnel matters.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the discussion of such subject matter in the Executive Session can be disclosed to the public at such time as is appropriate without prejudice to the interest of the Commissioners of Fire District No. 1 in the Township of Moorestown.

On a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Bixby, the Executive Session was adjourned at 11:14 p.m. The regular meeting reconvened and adjourned at 11:15 p.m. on a motion by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Moriuchi. No official action was taken.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred T. Moriuchi
Secretary/Clerk