

SAMPLE BALLOT

FIRE DISTRICT ELECTION BALLOT
Fire District No. 1
Township of Moorestown, Burlington County
FEBRUARY 20, 2010

Polling Place:
 Emergency Services Building
 261 W. Main Street Karl A. Shelley, Clerk

To vote for any person whose name appears on this ballot, mark a cross (x), plus (+) or check (✓) with ink or pencil in the place or square at the left of the name of such person.

For membership to the Board of Fire Commissioners - Full Term. **Vote for TWO**

- Peter R. Bowman**
- Eric John Pluckhorn**
- Samuel J. Schlindwein**
- Howard Schuster**
-
-

To vote for any proposition appearing below on this ballot, mark a cross (x), plus (+) or check (✓) with ink or pencil in the square to the left of and opposite the word **YES**.

To vote against any proposition appearing below on this ballot, mark a cross (x), plus (+) or check (✓) with ink or pencil in the square to the left of and opposite the word **NO**.

- YES** Shall the sum of One Million Seven Hundred Forty Six Thousand One Hundred Fifty One Dollars (\$1,746,151.00) be raised by taxation for the following general operating expenses?
- NO**

OPERATING APPROPRIATIONS:	
ADMINISTRATION	\$ 391,831.00
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	1,067,920.00
OPERATING APPROPRIATIONS OFFSET	
WITH REVENUES	233,427.00
LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM	45,000.00
CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS	458,896.00
RESERVE FOR FUTURE CAPITAL OUTLAYS	50,000.00
DEBT SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS:	
GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND PRINCIPAL	211,000.00
GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND INTEREST	41,503.00
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$ 2,499,577.00

LESS TOTAL REVENUES AND FUND BALANCE UTILIZED **\$ 753,426.00**

AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION **\$ 1,746,151.00**

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS:
 R. Max Fisher, Chairman
 Stephen H. Bixby, Vice Chairman
 Karl A. Shelley, Secretary/Clerk
 Peter R. Bowman, Treasurer
 Eric J. Pluckhorn, Asst. Secretary/Treasurer

DISTRICT OFFICE PERSONNEL:
 Christopher M. Chesner, District Administrator
 Angie E. Williams, Administrative Clerk
 Robert J. Worrell, Fire Official/Fire Marshal
 Richard V. Bickmore, Sr., Training Officer
 Ritchie B. Bowman, Fire Apparatus Mechanic
 Pamela A. Longo, Senior Clerk Typist
 Brenda M. Wolfe, Clerk
 Kenneth J. Schweiker, Fire Prevention Specialist/
 Assistant Fire Marshal
 Carl L. Githens, Jr., Building Maintenance Worker

FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS:
 Anthony S. Green, Chief
 Thomas B. Poole, Asst. Chief
 Peter D. Witkowski, Battalion Chief/Station 311
 Jeffrey D. Nutt, Battalion Chief/Station 312
 Edgar R. Thomas II, Captain/Station 311
 Christopher M. Chesner, Captain/Station 312
 David E. Chezem, Lieutenant/Station 311
 Christopher Konzelmann, Lieutenant/Station 312
 Thomas E. Keyes, Jr., Fire Police Captain
 Jeffrey Boileau, Fire Police Lieutenant
 Frances C. Collins, Fire Police Lieutenant

ACTIVE FIREFIGHTERS:
 Richard V. Bickmore, Jr.
 Richard V. Bickmore, Sr.
 Stephen H. Bixby

Richard M. Booth, Jr.
 Danny Borrero
 Peter R. Bowman
 Ritchie B. Bowman
 James T. Clancy Jr.
 Jonathan S. Clifford
 Peter D. Clifford
 Patrick L. Collier
 William David Constantine, Jr.
 William David Constantine, Sr.
 Ernest J. Dimeo III
 Andrew V. DiPaola
 Jon E. Every-Clayton
 Thomas C. Fischer
 R. Max Fisher
 Michael J. Furey
 Joseph J. Giorgi
 Joseph J. Giorgi III
 Carl L. Githens, Jr.
 Jeff S. Gullo
 Joshua R. Hall
 Craig M. Holzinger
 Michael S. Johnson
 Douglas R. Lynch
 David J. Mann
 Kevin R. Middleton
 Jason M. Miller
 Kyle T. Mohen
 Naoji Moriuchi
 Douglas T. Oyama
 Eric J. Pluckhorn
 Juan M. Santiago, Jr.
 Samuel J. Schlindwein
 Johnathan P. Schweiker
 Kenneth J. Schweiker
 Andrew C. Stowell

Rev. Philip W. Stowell
 Kjell G. Tornberg
 Michael G. Toscani
 Matthew J. Walsh
 Michael J. Warren
 James R. West
 Dean A. Wiltshire

FIRE POLICE MEMBERS:
 Jessica L. Friedel
 Steven Hearn, Sr.
 Elizabeth S. Peterson
 Charles Howard Schuster
 Jeffrey A. Tait

JUNIOR AUXILIARY:
 Bradley R. Holden
 Leif I. Tornberg
 Joseph P. Toscani

RESERVE MEMBERS:
 Arthur J. Collins, III
 Patrick Curran
 Walter L. Evans
 Ryndi A. Green-Coneby
 Ralph Kohart
 James O. Lawler
 Gregory D. Leonberg, Sr.
 Douglas Robertson
 Jeffrey T. Wolfe
 Steven P. Wolfe
 Robert J. Worrell

OUR NEWEST FIREFIGHTERS

In 2009 the Department was fortunate to add four more fully trained and qualified firefighters to the roster:

Firefighters David Mann, Thomas Fischer, Johnathan Schweiker and Matthew Walsh graduated from the Burlington County Fire Academy.

The Department also welcomed three new members, Bradley Holden, Bradley Kenney and Robert O'Donnell.

Congratulations to our newest firefighters for their dedication and effort.



WINTER 2010 NEW JERSEY'S OLDEST FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT VOLUME 11 • ISSUE 1

CALENDAR

- February 20, 2010** Annual Fire District Election
 Polling place: **Emergency Services Building, 261 W. Main Street, 2-9pm**
- March 31 - April 3, 2010** Relief Engine Co. Easter Flower Sale
- October 8, 2010** Fire Prevention Open House, 7-9pm

Letter from the Board Chairman

Did you see the flag across Main Street?

This past New Year's Eve, the Moorestown Fire Department and the Moorestown First Aid and Emergency Squad lost a very beloved member. Albertus "Bert" Maurer had been a volunteer firefighter in Moorestown for 63 years. That's right... 63 years! What's more, before moving to town he was a member in Burlington for 10 years. He was also a charter member of the Emergency Squad. Can you imagine 73 years of active volunteer service to your community? It was our privilege to serve as "Bert's" Honor Guard on that Saturday morning. The ladder trucks arched across the street, the display in front of his station on Main Street, and the fire engine hearse were all part of a formal farewell.

Bert saw great changes in the fire service during his years. Just think about the changes in vehicles over those 73 years. When he began his service, motorized trucks were still in their early stages of development, and many still had solid rubber tires! Now we have pumping engines capable of moving more than 1,500 gallons per minute to extinguish fires and protect adjacent properties. We have ladder trucks that can reach more than 100 feet in the air to rescue a victim from an upper-story window or apply a water stream deep into a commercial building.

Back then personal protective equipment consisted of rubber boots and coats, with a leather helmet. While the leather helmet still remains an effective choice for some, our outer protective clothing is now made of fire-resistant fabric, and is insulated against the higher heat developed by today's synthetic building materials.

The self-contained breathing apparatus that we wear to protect ourselves from smoke and toxic gases did not exist 70 years ago. In fact, it wasn't until the mid-1970's that the department had more than 1 or 2 sets of this equipment. Now we have enough to ensure the safety of all of our first-responder crews, and the ability to refill the air bottles on the fire scene allows for extended operations.

The field of communications has seen the greatest changes in the past 70 years. Radios had not been invented back then, and the alarm system in town was comprised of pull-boxes on street corners that activated signaling bells on the roofs of the fire stations. Now we have high-tech communications between trucks, field commanders and firefighters. Our members are alerted and dispatched over individual pagers.

We have professional training and education for our officers and firefighters that was not available until recent years. Instead of an extended period of on-the-job training, new members come to us with a good basic knowledge of fire behavior, tactics, tools and techniques.

Although Bert saw great changes in his life, some things have remained constant. The citizens of Moorestown are still served by a loyal and dedicated group of volunteers that are committed to protecting the lives and property of their neighbors. One other thing has remained, too.

Throughout all of the years, the residents of Moorestown have seen the benefit in providing their department with the tools and equipment needed to do the job. We thank you for that, and urge you to come out to vote on the 20th of February, and support our 2010 Budget.

Stay safe.

Max Fisher
Board Chairman

ANNUAL FIRE DISTRICT No. 1 ELECTION
Saturday, February 20, 2010

The annual election for the voters of the Fire District to approve the 2010 Annual Budget and elect two Fire Commissioners will be held on Saturday, February 20, 2010 at the Emergency Services Building (Hose Co. No. 1) located at 261 W. Main Street. The polls are open from 2:00 pm to 9:00 pm as established by State law. Entrance to the polling place is through the rear of the building by the entrance driveway.

The registered voters of the Fire District will be asked to elect two individuals to membership for a three-year term on the Board of Fire Commissioners. Incumbent Fire Commissioners Peter R. Bowman and Eric J. Pluckhorn are running in addition to Samuel J. Schlindwein and Charles Howard Schuster for the full three-year terms.

This year's budget asks for \$1,746,151 to be raised by taxation resulting in a tax rate of .048 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation. This rate includes debt service for a building improvement authorization approved by the voters on December 28, 2002 and the purchase of three pieces of fire apparatus approved by the voters on September 20, 2003.

The owner of a 2009 average assessed home of \$537,100 will pay \$257.81 in fire taxes in 2010; this is a \$10.74 increase from 2009. The budget is subject to final adoption upon voter approval.

Vote by Mail Ballot applications are available at the Burlington County Clerk's office (609-265-5122) or on the Moorestown District No. 1's website @ www.moorestownfire.org.



Moorestown Fire Department
 261 West Main Street
 Moorestown, NJ 08057

Moorestown Hose Company No. 1
 261 West Main Street
 P.O. Box 691
 Moorestown, NJ 08057

Relief Engine Company
 222 Chester Avenue
 P.O. Box 215
 Moorestown, NJ 08057



Remember to Vote February 20th

Why should YOU consider joining the Moorestown Fire Department?

The short answer to the question posed in the title of this article is: "MONEY."

Any professional community service eventually costs the taxpayers of that community money. Moorestown is no exception.

The National Volunteer Fire Council provides a tested and validated formula that takes into account all of the things that affect a town's protection services, and then that calculator formulates an answer to the question of how much money a volunteer fire department costs a community versus a paid, full-time department.

Using that calculator, the 70 plus members in the Moorestown Fire Department, District No. 1, save the township about 5 million dollars a year in personnel, administrative and operational costs. The results of that calculation are available on page 31 of the Moorestown Fire District No. 1 Master Plan - 2008 on the department's website at <http://moorestownfire.org/htmlfiles/documents/MoorestownFDMasterPlan.pdf>.

In other words, the proposed 2010 budget is roughly 2 million dollars for Fire Department services when supported by a volunteer firefighting staff. If the town were to switch to a paid, full-time staff, the cost to our township would be almost twice as much on a yearly basis.

In many ways related to fire protection, Moorestown is very much like the rest of the United States. Of the more than one million firefighters in the United States, about 72 percent are volunteers and 94 percent of those volunteers are in fire departments that protect fewer than 25,000 people - just like Moorestown.

And so that's the short answer - you should consider joining the Moorestown Fire Department because it saves the taxpayers of Moorestown a lot of money. But that's not really the best answer. The best answer is that we think you'll probably never find another job that offers you the chance to do challenging, exciting and demanding work for the sake of preserving and bettering your community. You'll probably never find another job where you get to ride in a big red truck with lights and sirens, where everyone has to get out of your way when you go to work, and when you get to work, generally speaking, everyone is glad to see you. I can hardly think of a better job personally, that is except of course for the pay - which is zero, by the way.

There is reimbursement for mileage, clothing/uniforms, and we continue to evaluate a "pay-per-call" system, but a volunteer firefighter in Moorestown doesn't join and stay in the department for the pay. The real challenge for the fire department is to find new members so that we can continue our mission in a way that best serves this great community.

Volunteerism is down in general, and for the Moorestown Fire Department it's been especially hard because some of us now work 2 jobs, or some of us come from families where, if we have kids, both parents work. There is a lot of training involved in this department, but it's not so difficult that a 43 year old who works 9 to 5 most weekdays, with 3 kids in the local school system is unable to do it.

It does take some time out of everyone's' already busy schedule and there is undoubtedly going to be much asked of our volunteers in the future when the weather is miserable, it's dark outside and a great playoff game has just started - that's the way it's always been, and will likely always be. And it would be easy to say "Let someone else do it" or "I just won't be able to find the time" - but if it were easy to do this volunteer work, anyone could do it. Anyone, obviously, isn't able to join the department or the one third of one percent of Moorestown residents who are part of the fire department would be a bigger group. However, you should consider joining the Moorestown Fire Department because it's an ideal way to contribute to our great community in a way that few can.

It didn't happen for me right away, but within a year of completing my training, on December 5th, 2002, I was the guy who drove one of our engines to a house fire. Our engine arrived first and I, under the direction of our department's leadership, pushed the buttons and pulled the levers that put the water into the hoses and then on the fire.

I didn't even get to go into the house or into the basement where the fire was, but the guys on the end of the hoses put it out and the house was saved. After an hour or so, the homeowner came around and personally shook the hand of every firefighter there and said "thank you for saving my home" to us individually. That gesture, and the genuine gratitude expressed to each of us, was different and much more unique than any other paycheck I've ever received, in any job. And those gestures continue just about every time we arrive at someone's house for a fire alarm or at the scene of a car accident, a flooded basement, or whatever.

The firefighters in Moorestown aren't in the department for the pay, yet the service provided can be priceless for both the citizens of our town and the members of the department alike. In the end, the short answer to the title's question might be "MONEY" but the best answer is that being a volunteer firefighter in Moorestown may be the best job you ever had where you don't really make any money.

If you are a U.S. citizen over the age of 18 and a resident of Moorestown Township (or employed full time within the Township) you are encouraged to apply for membership in the Moorestown Fire Department. For individuals 16 and 17 years of age there is a Junior Auxiliary. If active firefighting is too demanding for you, there are many other important jobs within the department.

For more information, stop in at the fire district office at 261 West Main Street, or visit www.moorestownfire.org.



Moorestown Fire Department saw the end of an era on September 31, 2009 after seeing Fire Chief William David Constantine, Jr. retire after many years of dedicated service to the Fire Department. Moorestown Fire Department appreciates and acknowledges his hard work and many notable accomplishments over his years of service. He continues boarding the apparatus as a volunteer firefighter with the department.

Fire Department 2009 Incident Responses

In 2009, the firefighters of Moorestown Fire Department, Fire District No. 1 responded to 651 emergency incidents and calls for service. Of the 651 incidents, the Department responded to 51 fire type incidents ranging from an actual fire in a residence or building to leaves burning. The Department also responded 51 times along with the Moorestown Emergency Squad for motor vehicle accidents to provide rescue services or some other type of assistance.

Fire alarm activations required the Department's response 235 times. These types of activations range from malicious pull station activations to unattended cooking. Alarm system malfunctions accounted for 118 of the alarm calls. The remaining incidents were comprised of mutual aid, weather related calls and other hazardous conditions.



In Memoriam of
Past Assistant Chief
Albertus S. Maurer
October 7, 1917 - December 31, 2009

GREAT FIRE DRILL ESCAPE PROGRAM

Since 1998 all Moorestown Second Grade school children have been asked to participate in Moorestown Fire Department's Annual "Great Escape Contest".

With the approvals and cooperation of the school system in Moorestown, this contest has been an active Fire Prevention Program for the past 11 years. The children are asked every year to sit down with parents and draw a diagram of their families "Home Fire Escape Plan".

Each elementary school has one winner and out of the four elementary school winners, one Grand Prize Winner is selected by the Fire Marshals. Each school winner receives a certificate of participation.

The Grand Prize Winner receives a \$100.00 savings bond from the Moorestown Fire Department and rides on a fire truck in the Annual Moorestown Lion's Club Christmas Parade.

The Grand Prize Winner for 2009 was Baker School's Ilana Jacobs.



Shown in the picture from left to right are Asst. Fire Marshal Ken Schweiker, "Grand Prize Winner" Ilana Jacobs and to her right Fire Marshal Robert J. Worrell, the creator of the Great Escape Program.



On Saturday, December 5th, 2009, the Moorestown First Aid & Emergency Squad dedicated their newest Ambulance #3192 in Honor and Recognition of **John "Jack" T. Carney** Jack has been a Member of the Emergency Squad since 1953, serving our Community for 57 years.

The Moorestown First Aid & Emergency Squad needs you! Volunteers are an integral part of Moorestown's spirit. The Squad challenges you to become a volunteer - one who can make a difference in every day. Visit the Squad's webpage at www.moorestownems.org to learn more.

Help us to help you.

The Emergency Squad also wants to thank all those Residents and Business owners that donated to its Annual Fund Drive for 2009. Your support is greatly appreciated.