

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 7:00 p.m. by Vice Chairman Leuliette with Commissioners Shelley, Schlindwein and Bowman present. Also, in attendance was Administrator Chesner, Chief Nutt, Deputy Chief Chezem, Battalion Chief Fitzgerald and Account Clerk Jamerson.

Vice Chairman Leuliette opened the meeting by reading the following statement by title only on a motion by Commissioner Shelley, seconded by Commissioner Schlindwein;

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 8, 2023 and entering the same in the official book of the Fire District in the Municipal Library; emailing written notice to the official newspaper, the Burlington County Times on March 10, 2023. same being published on March 15, 2023, filing written notice with the Clerk of the Township of Moorestown on March 8, 2023; filing written notice with the Clerk of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No. 1, 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, and other Social Media Outlets.

Vice Chairman Leuliette led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Following that, Vice Chairman Leuliette identified the emergency exits and then asked for a moment of silence for the passing of past Board Member and Life Member of Relief Engine Co. Edwin Jones.

Vice Chairman Leuliette announced that the meeting tonight was posted as a regular meeting, but a good part of the evening would be dealing with the 2024 Budget and the preparation of the same.

Administrator Chesner noted that there were no bids or quotes to discuss.

RESOLUTIONS:

None.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Administrator Chesner asked that the Board discuss and make a motion on their 2024 salaries. After a discussion on same, a motion was offered by Commissioner Shelley and seconded by Commissioner Bowman to not increase their salaries for 2024. The Board felt that the 10% increase in the prior year was sufficient. There being no questions or further comments the motion passed unanimously by the four Board members. Administrator Chesner mentioned that he will prepare the resolution approving same for the October 24th meeting.

Commissioner Leuliette reminded everyone about Autumn in Moorestown on Saturday, October 14th. He mentioned again that we should push to have Fire Prevention Night the week following Autumn in Moorestown so we can promote the same at Autumn in Moorestown.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Public session was opened at 7:07 p.m.; with there being no comment from the public the public session was closed at 7:08 p.m.

On a motion by Commissioner Shelley, seconded by Commissioner Schlindwein, the Regular Meeting was adjourned, and the Board entered the 2024 Budget Work Session at 7:08 p.m.

Administrator Chesner gave a preliminary review of the 2024 Budget and some of the figures to date. The following was discussed in more detail during the budget workshop:

- Final rates for healthcare for the active employees were discussed; the retiree rates were yet to be released as of the date of the meeting.
- Training Budget including FDIC Conference and Firehouse Expo
- IT Budget including the replacement of computers for staff.
- Fuel Budget for both the Fire Department and Emergency Squad
- Shared Services Budget almost complete, waiting on pension figures from State of NJ
- Operations Budget:
 - Misc. equipment replacement with emphasis on the replacement of the breathing air compressor, PPE w/integrated harnesses, SCBA in 2025 and nozzles for all attack hose in the department.

Commissioner Bowman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Shelley, to enter into an Executive Session and that official action will not be taken. The budget workshop was recessed at 8:25 p.m. to enter into an Executive Session to discuss general matters brought to the attention of the Board by the Board's Solicitor.

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Sections 7 and 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12), the public shall be excluded from that portion of the meeting.

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 Shelley, seconded by Commissioner Bowman, the Executive Session was adjourned, and the Board re-entered the regular meeting at 8:39 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

On a motion by Commissioner Shelley, seconded by Commissioner Bowman, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel J. Schlindwein
Secretary/Clerk